

Equip Report
WONCA Executive Board meeting
January 2008
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• **The aim:**

The aim of EQuIP is to contribute to the achievement of high levels of quality of care for patients in family/general practice in all European countries. EQuIP will endeavour to achieve this by offering a structure for collaboration and exchange of expertise and methodology and by initiating projects on development and evaluation with regard to Quality Assurance, - Management and -Development which will be used here as the most comprehensive definition

Quality Development for general/family practice is a continuous process of planned activities based on performance review and setting of explicit targets for good clinical practice with the aim of improving the actual quality of patient care. This understanding of Quality Development focuses on a critical look at the actual performance of general practitioners and their practices rather than on competence alone. The members of EQuIP assume that this Quality Development should be the responsibility of the medical profession

Members of EQuIP base their work on Quality Development being;

- a professional responsibility
- a process
- covering all aspects of patient care
- an integrated part of medical education
- a routine part of daily practice
- patient centred
- enhancing the appropriate use of medical services.
- acknowledging the specific strategies of Family Medicine/General Practice
- making decisions explicit
- no punitive

• **New executive**

A new EQuIP executive board has been elected at the EQuIP meeting in Paris October 2007 by secret ballot

- 1 President: Joachim Szecsenyi, Germany
 - 2 President-elect: Tina Eriksson, Denmark
 - 3 Hon Secretary: Janko Kersnik, Slovenia
 - 4 Hon Treasurer: Andrée Rochfort, Ireland
 - 5 Member at large: Marianne Samuelson, France
 - 6 Member at large: Kees in 't Veld, Netherlands
- The new executive will be in office from May 2008.

• **Meetings and conferences**

Equip organises twice a year closed meetings between national representatives, and every second year an open invitational conference.

Closed meetings

during 2 days are. Meetings are organised for internal work among delegates, in relation with EquiP aims:

- Working groups
- Organisation of open meetings
- Elaboration of statements
- Participation to research networks and projects related to Quality Improvements in PHC

Open meetings/ Invitational conferences

Are aimed at spreading ideas, new methods, improvements, and networking, among PHC professionals, stakeholders, and opinions leaders in the different countries.

Next meetings

-EquiP closed meeting

Bergen, Norway: Thursday afternoon May 22nd, including Saturday May 24th 2008

-EquiP invitational conference

Bukarest, Romania: October/November 2008 (date and theme to be confirmed)

Past EquiP invitational conference

- *Barcelona, Spain: 23-25 November 2006*

Theme: The impact of Health System Reform on quality in GP/FM

Report EQUIP Barcelona meeting November 23 -24, 2006

- *European Practice Assessment (EPA) Invitational Conference*

Berlin: January 27-28 2004

In cooperation with Bertelsmann Stiftung Programme and presentations

- *EquiP Invitational Conference*

Brussels: November 11-12 2004

From Theory to Practice

- *Kranjska Gora, 13th International course Slovenia: September 7-11 2004*

Learning and Teaching about Patient Centred Clinical Care in Modern Cross-cultural Communities in General/Family Practice

- *EquiP invitational conference*

Heidelberg-Germany: November 13-15 2003

- *EquiP invitational conference*

Lisbon, Portugal: November 21-23 2002

- **First European Network Organisations Open Conference WONCA'99**

Palma de Mallorca, Spain, May 19-22 1999

- **1st Open Conference of the WONCA European Working Party on Quality in Family Practice'97**

• *Zürich, Switzerland, November 6 - 8 1997*

Quality Improvement in Family Practice: New Developments

EquiP contribution to WONCA Europe congresses

EquiP contributed to all WONCA Europe congresses in promoting QI in PHC by

- Participating in the scientific committee, and international advisory board
- Proposing Key note speakers, and organising Keynotes
- Organising work shops on major QI topics
- Contributing to abstract review
- Proposing oral presentations, posters

Main EQuIP working sub-groups, or interest groups:

- Dealing with Uncertainty in general practice
- Professional health
- Ethics of QI
- Organisational aspects contributing to QI : contribution to development of tools (Europep, Improve project, European Practice Assessment tool, Maturity Matrix)
- Integrated QI
- Use of Indicators in QI

The aims of these groups are to develop new ideas, projects, and tools, write statements, position papers, publications and interact with other working groups interested in the same area.

Information: available on EQuIP website <http://www.equip.ch>

For the future:

- Closer collaboration will be developed between EQuIP and Vasco de Gama movement by inviting an observer to closed meeting, and/or by taking part VdG / WONCA pre conferences.
- Strengthening collaboration with EURACT and EGPRN on matters related to QI matters.