



## vasco da gama movement

### **Dear Junior Doctor,**

You are reading this newsletter of our organisation just after a year of its inception as a European Network for Junior Doctors. This is a second in the series of newsletters. The first newsletter gives more details about history and inception of the movement and in this issue we report further developments.

This issue also comes at a time when we are all looking towards Kos and preparing to meet and exchange our views about our future and future of Primary Care. We hope you will enjoy reading this.

If you want to give feedback about this newsletter or discuss issues raised in this newsletter please join the VdGM discussion forum – the address given at the end of this issue.

### **Report on Meeting in Maastricht May 2005**

#### **Friday 27 May 2005**

The core group participated in two workshops called 'Across the border'. Dr. Fons Sips, dr. Yvonne van Leeuwen and prof. Jan Heyrman facilitated them. Over 60 GP tutors visited the workshops.

The 4 themes discussed were: continuity of care, patient centred care, curriculum and learning instruments and the duration of GP-specialist training.

This was an interesting technique of presentation, a fish bowl exercise. The members of the core group were the fish in the bowl and they offered their views to participants who gazed on this fish with interest and learned from this exercise.

Trainers described this exercise very informative and useful.

#### **Saturday 28 May 2005**

##### **Presentations**

1. Monica Novac (Romanian Delegate) presented a report on a recent development in Romania that has led to the establishment of a representative organisation for junior doctors (GP Trainees) in Romania. This was a joint venture of LOVAH - START MF meeting, respectively the Dutch and Romanian GP trainees' organisations. This activity developed partly a result of the meeting in Amsterdam 2004 and how shows how a representative organisation for junior doctors like VdGM can facilitate development of a representative organisation for junior doctors in a country.

2. Prof. Dr Knottnerus, member of the European Primary Care Forum and president of the Health Council of the Netherlands, presented the European Primary Care Forum project. This forum is multidisciplinary organised and was initiated by the Dutch health minister during the Dutch presidency of the EU. The report addresses future challenges in primary health care in Europe. More info on <http://www.euprimarycare.org>

## **Structure and process VdGM**

During their meeting in Maastricht the core group discussed the future structure of the organisation and agreed to continue with the existing functional structure based on taskforces. A more organised structure will be developed to meet future needs.

These task forces are as follows:

### **1. Educational Agenda Group**

Members: Frank (Germany), Donata (Poland), Majid (UK), Monica (Romania)

This group is exploring issues of education and training confronted by trainees and it aims to raise awareness of training organisations in member countries about the needs of their trainees.

### **2. Recruitment Group**

Members: Ingrid (Netherlands), Dimitris (Greece), Monica (Norway), Birgit (Denmark), Stijn (Belgium)

This group aims to address the challenges faced by trained General Practitioners in finding work and also attract young doctors towards General Practice

### **3. VdGM Image Group**

Members: Erik (Netherlands), Joao (Portugal)

Raising profile of the movement and awareness about the organisation to future members and other important organisations.

## **Roadmap to Kos**

### **Educational Agenda group**

The group has developed a questionnaire that will be sent to representatives participating in the preconference. Analysis of this pilot study will be used to stimulate group discussions in Kos.

### **Recruitment group**

The recruitment group is developing presentation material for the main conference in Kos. This will also include collecting information from participating representatives from member countries.

### **VdGM Image Group**

The image group will prepare a Kos declaration (mission statement and future plans) and a report on recent developments and achievements of the VdGM group. The group feels that they are on the course to meet most of the objectives set at the beginning of the year in Portugal.

### **Planning ahead**

In order to make the Kos preconference a success, responsibilities have been allocated to group members. Main areas of responsibilities identified are as follows:

1. Working for presentations for task forces
2. Developing structure of preconference
3. Projecting image of VdGM
4. Planning for post Kos life of VdGM
5. Establishment of Exchange group

## **Brief introduction of VdGM Group Members**

In the following series of newsletters a brief introduction of VdGM Core Group members will be offered to help learn more about people who are working for this group.

If you are interested in asking questions about activities of individual members or learning more about individual activities please contact us.

We start with the representative of Greece who is also helping us organise Pre-conference meeting for junior doctors in Kos. VdGM group is indebted to his efforts in bringing this event together.

### **KARANASIOS DIMITRIS**

Professional status - training/working:

- GP, Practicing in New Madytos Health Centre, 60 km away from Thessaloniki (2nd capital of Greece), 4 days / week.
- GP Councillor, working in "Π.Ε.Σ.Υ." (Peripheral. National. Health. System-Ministry of Health Division), 1 day / week.
- Tutor of GP trainees in their PHC Vocational Training Scheme period in my Health Centre practice.
- Trainer of unspecialized doctors of my Health Centre practice region in their one year rural practice before their specialty beginning
- Member of the "ΕΛ.Ε.ΓΕ.ΙΑ." ( "Greek Association of General Practitioners" ) Educational Committee
- Member of the Peripheral Department of Central Macedonia (North Greece) of "ΕΛ.Ε.ΓΕ.ΙΑ." , involved in educational and other activities.
- Member of EURACT and EGPRN

Professional interests apart from general practice:

- Prospective PhD student of Social / Family Medicine Clinic - University of Crete

Role in VdGM:

As a young and ambitious GP in my country I have particular interest in the development of General Practice. So I like to get involved in activities that are giving shape to primary care in Europe and in the whole world.

I believe that getting involved in a network like VdGM is a great opportunity to share my thoughts and my dreams about the future of GP/FM in Greece and in Europe. I have found working with colleagues from several European countries on issues such Education and Recruitment in GP a unique experience.

I find liaising between KOS WONCA CONFERENCE 2005 and VdGM another way to contribute to the cause of Junior Doctors and to the development and continuity of their movement. I am currently a member of the core group and a member of the "Recruitment" working group. I am also liaison person between Vasco da Gama Movement and Host Organizing Committee of WONCA Europe 2005 Regional Conference - Kos, Greece

Hobbies/social interests:

- Swimming, Diving, Winter Skiing, Motorcycle Travelling

## **Breaking news – establishment of Secretariat for VdGM**

The group unanimously approved appointment of Ingrid as secretary to the VdGM.

### **Members of the VdGM Core Group**

Birgit Pedersen, GP trainee, Denmark  
Dimitris Karanasios, GP, Greece  
Donata Kurpas, GP trainee, Poland  
Fatma Goksin Cihan, GP, Turkey  
Frank Peters, GP trainee, Germany  
Erik Teunissen, GP, the Netherlands

Ingrid vd Heijden, GP the Netherlands  
Joao Sequeira Carlos, GP, Portugal  
Majid Jalil, GP trainee, UK  
Monica Knutsen, GP trainee, Norway  
Monica Novac, GP trainee, Romania  
Stijn Festraets, GP, Belgium

### **Next Issue:**

We will bring you report on Kos pre-conference and details of the meeting.  
The land where science took birth, philosophy grew further and gods smiled we will ask for their help in successfully taking our mission further, blow winds of west in our sails to take us to our Ethica!!!!  
We will also bring you brief reports on the outcomes of survey and presentations for task forces and profile of another of our core group members.  
Do join our Yahoo Group plat form to learn more about VdGM.

To subscribe email to: **[VdGM\\_Forum-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:VdGM_Forum-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)**

VdGM secretariat: [VDGM@HAG.unimaas.nl](mailto:VDGM@HAG.unimaas.nl)

