

W03

The Vasco da Gama Movement General Meeting

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Background and Aims: The Vasco da Gama Movement is the WONCA Europe Network for New and Future General Practitioners / Family Physicians. Established in 2004, in Copenhagen VdGM will be 12 years old. Bridging the transition between Residency and being a specialised Family Doctor, VdGM has a unique role within WONCA Europe; to engage, motivate and inspire future Family Doctors to become involved in WONCA Europe activities, to provide a safe, secure and supportive environment in which future colleagues can discover their interests and passions, and to provide the connections to other Networks and Interest Groups that allow these interests and passions to flourish and yield educational and research outcomes.

Method: In the VdGM General Meeting we will outline the activities of VdGM, from the underpinning structures such as the Council, to activities that take place under the umbrella of the five core pillars; namely Research, Education and Training, Exchange, Beyond Europe, and Image. Interest Group activity will also be presented including that of VdGM SIGs in Family Violence, Gender Equity, Mental Health and Rural Practice. Liaison activity between VdGM and the other Networks will also be highlighted as will our annual prizes and the VdGM Fund. In the General Meeting we will also launch the next five year Strategic Plan for VdGM.

Conclusion: The VdGM General Meeting will provide an insight into VdGM; from its structures and governance to the myriad of activity which takes place under the VdGM banner. We hope this will enthuse and inspire new members to become involved, not just in VdGM but in the wider WONCA family.