

## **W50**

### **Get involved with WONCA – a symposium to shape policy and advocacy for WONCA World**

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**Background & Aims:** WONCA World has a presence at most regional conferences, and conducts formal business through the regional Councils and their representation. Our working parties, special interest groups, country members and young doctor movements together provide a vibrant and diverse community where activities take place between conferences and meetings – they can feed in policy ideas and new evidence to each other and to the executive representatives. This workshop wants to try a new experiment – to open up the chance to ask direct questions and put views from the floor from participants to Executive members, who will use these to reflect on current challenges for family medicine worldwide.

**Method:** This session will be hosted by the President- Elect Professor Amanda Howe, who will open with a brief set of background slides on WONCA, its activities, and current policies. These will reflect the current priorities of advocacy, improving quality, engaging members, equity, and sustainability. We will have a minimal structure for discussion but will try to give some time to all parts of the organisation as the audience requires. Attendees will be welcome to bring ideas and concerns of their own to get panel and audience feedback – these can be about family medicine as a career or discipline, not just about ‘WONCA’ itself.

**Results:** the President Elect and others on the panel will summarise the discussion after the conference and use it for reflection and potential policy formation for the biennium 2016-2018. If the model works we may also suggest it for other regional conferences.

**Conclusions:** This is a new type of ‘future consultation’ i.e. consulting direct with members on their ideas, interests and views. Let’s see what happens!