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New evidence – change of practice? A workshop about patient information, patient values and shared decision making; with place of birth as case

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Background & Aim: GPs often experience difficulties keeping up-to-date, implement new evidence and share decision making with patients. Shared decision making has lately been described as the biggest single remaining barrier to the implementation of evidence based medicine. The idea is that by learning and practicing this last step of evidence-based medicine GPs will get a tool to assist life-long patient centered evidence based practice. However, GPs in many countries have already been requested to practice shared decision making for quite a while. On the other hand, it has increasingly become clear that the route from research evidence to changes in health care delivery is a tortuous one. One important lesson from research on knowledge distribution and change in professional behavior is that discussions among peers seem to be crucial for negotiating the role of new evidence vis-à-vis the internalized, collectively reinforced, tacit guidelines that clinicians apply in their day-to-day work. The aim of the workshop is to facilitate such a discussion among GPs about reception of new challenging evidence, about how to provide proper patient information, elicit patient values, and lay the ground for shared decision making.

Method: The didactic method used in the workshop is mostly small group activities with eight participants and one or two facilitator(s) in each group.

- Lecture: Welcome and introduction to evidence and challenges – 15 minutes (plenary room)
- Small groups: Structured discussion of evidence and implementation – 50 minutes (smaller rooms or corners)
- Plenary: Summary and final discussion – 10 minutes (plenary room)

Other considerations: Between 8 and 32 participants; room with space for three groups.