

**W97**

**WONCA Special Interest Group on Conflict and Catastrophe Medicine**

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**Background & Aim:** WONCA's special interest groups comprise groups of individuals who share a common interest that is consistent with the Mission and Objectives of The Organization. In 2015, the WONCA Executive approved the formation of a Special Interest Group on Conflict & Catastrophe Medicine (WONCA SIG on C&CM). The workshop proposer is the Convenor of the SIG on C&CM.

The aim of the SIG on C&CM is to consider the impact of conflict or catastrophes upon health and health inequality. The SIG currently comprises representatives from twenty countries spanning all WONCA Regions. The Executive Committee comprises one representative from each WONCA region. A WONCA SIG on C&CM webpage has been established. 'Pre-launch' information was circulated during the WONCA Rural Health Conference in Dubrovnik (15-18 April 2014) and a workshop was held at the WONCA Europe Conference in Istanbul (22-25 October 2015).

**Method:** A brief presentation by the Convenor, then group discussions about the WONCA SIG on C&CM, health inequality and the healthcare needs of displaced persons and refugees within Europe.

**Results:** The workshop will:

- Provide useful in-country and regional contacts and networks of family medicine doctors.
- Share best practice and developments in conflict and catastrophe family medicine.
- Discuss the management of medical services during conflict or post-catastrophe in areas that have big needs but are resource poor.
- Encourage collegial discussions between countries.

**Conclusions:** Military actions, conflict and catastrophes may all adversely impact upon quality of life, universal human rights, gender equity and health inequality. The Inverse Care Law highlights how those in the greatest need often received the lowest, if any, standards of care. The WONCA SIG on C&CM provides a forum through which WONCA can lend its support to improving the quality of care of peoples of the world when they face some of life's greatest challenges.

**Key words:** Humanitarian, Conflict, Catastrophe