

Peter Tschudi, Bruno Kissling



# International Poster Prize Wonca Europe 2009

**At the Wonca Europe conference 2009 in Basel, the Institute of Family Medicine (IHAMB), University of Basel, Switzerland, awarded the "International Poster Prize Wonca Europe 2009 of the IHAMB" to the authors of the three best posters, out of 555 presented posters from three different European countries. With this award the IHAMB will promote patient-oriented primary care research – performed by and for family doctors. Congratulations to the winners.**

## Aim of the poster prize

A major concern of the Institute of Family Medicine of Basel (IHAMB) is the promotion of patient-oriented primary care research, by and for family doctors. The international poster prize should encourage family medicine physicians of all European countries to develop research ideas in their own practices, to prepare them and present them in poster format. The prizes are also designed to confer added value on posters, which at medical congresses are often condemned to a "wallflower" existence, and to ensure that their authors receive due credit for the work accomplished.

Peter Tschudi said at the award ceremony: "For the development of family medicine and our daily practice as family doctors, practice-based research is a decisive factor and an absolute must! I cannot imagine future practice without the triad practice – teaching (pre-graduate education and vocational training) – research."

## And the winners are ...

1. Prize: Attitudes towards and conceptions of a GP's work among 5th year medical students in Helsinki, Finland.

*Pitkälä K, Nevalainen M, Kuikka L, Sjöberg L, Salokkila P, Torppa M, Varonen H, Eriksson J from Helsinki, Finland.*

The study revealed that 5th year medical students take the view that it is the family doctor's primary task to identify serious diagnoses in his patients, in order to refer these patients to the relevant specialists for further treatment.

The result of this methodological, clearly and transparently conducted study with a very high response rate of 168/190, is a priori unexpected and of particular value.

It will have direct implications for the information, teaching and further education of potential, future family doctors.

2. Prize: Patients with multiple vulnerabilities in primary health care settings.

*Cabak B, Ilic D, Plecas S from Belgrade, Serbia.*

Family doctors from Belgrade address a theme that has so far received little attention: recourse to the family doctor by marginal social groups. It is an interesting fact that the primary care offer is perceived as unsatisfactory by these marginal groups, not because of economic factors or administrative obstacles but because of the unsatisfactory quality of the doctor patient relationship. Members of marginal groups do not feel trusted by their doctors and feel forced to be ashamed of their lifestyles. They do not think that their traumatic existence could be a reason for their doctors to speak to them of hope or optimism.

This study has direct implications for the daily practice of family doctors, who are urged to adopt a more emotional approach to members of marginal social groups and, in cases of obvious need, to ensure that they attend for follow-up consultations.

3. Prize: Investigating hypertension in children and adolescents of an urban area.

*Arapaki A, Mihas C, Konstantinou E, Gougousis N, Mariolis-Sapsakos T, Konstantinou M, Mariolis A from Vyronas, Athens, and Kimi, Evia, Greece.*

This poster reveals very clearly that hypertension can be diagnosed in 10% of all children aged 8–18 years. It addresses a theme of major importance for public health: hypertension and, in particular, the possibility of influencing hypertension through lifestyle changes in children and adolescents.

This has direct implications for primary care, since the finding relates to a population which is seen regularly by family doctors, for example for vaccinations, but in which BP measurements are not routinely taken. This message is especially important since in the 8–18-year age group lifestyle changes are sometimes easier to bring about and vascular lesions can be prevented at an early stage.

Correspondence:

Dr. Bruno Kissling

Chair of the organizing committee

Wonca Europe Conference 2009

Elfenuweg 6, CH-3006 Bern

kissling@primary-care.ch



ÖGAM

9. ÖSTERREICHISCHE WINTERTAGUNG FÜR ALLGEMEINMEDIZIN

16. BIS 23. JÄNNER 2010, IM HOTEL ROTE WAND, ZUG – LECH AM ARLBERG

Vorträge, Workshops, Gedankenaustausch und Diskussionen zu aktuellen Themen aus dem Alltag der medizinischen Grundversorgung und zu aktuellen Entwicklungen aus Forschung und Lehre im Fach Allgemeinmedizin. Diese qualitätsorientierte Fortbildung wird in der familiären, interaktiven und internationalen Atmosphäre zu einem ganz besonderen Erlebnis. Und es bleibt auch Zeit zum Skifahren.

[www.oegam.at](http://www.oegam.at)