

Strengthening and re-thinking future General Practice care: an agenda for research

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WONCA Europe Working Group for
Young and Future General Practitioners



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WONCA Region Europe - ESGP/FM*

How could we strengthen and re-think future General Practice care ?

- By developing an agenda for research

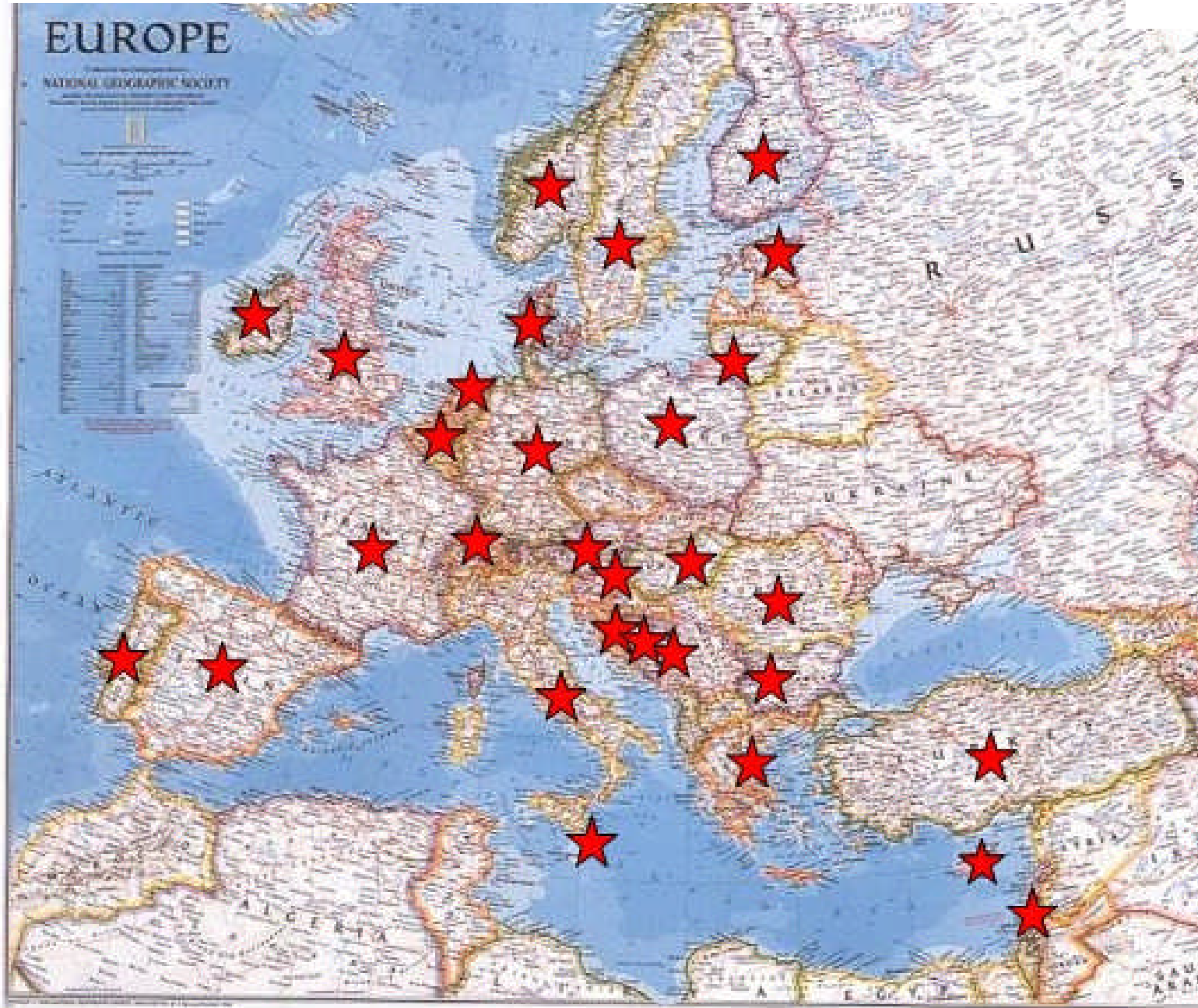
Outline of our key-note

- Place of GP/FM research: need, outcome, relation to the GP in practice
- Which context do we need for GP/FM research?
- The domain or specific content of GP/FM in Europe and developing a research agenda
- An agenda for GP/FM research in Europe

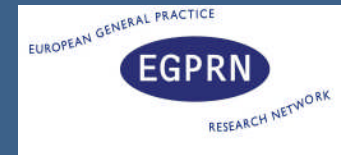
How could we strengthen and re-think future General Practice care ?

- By developing an agenda for research
- By visiting GP conferences like WONCA and EGPRN ...

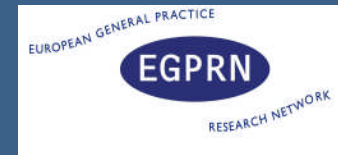
EGPRN: all over Europe



Venues: N-S-E-W



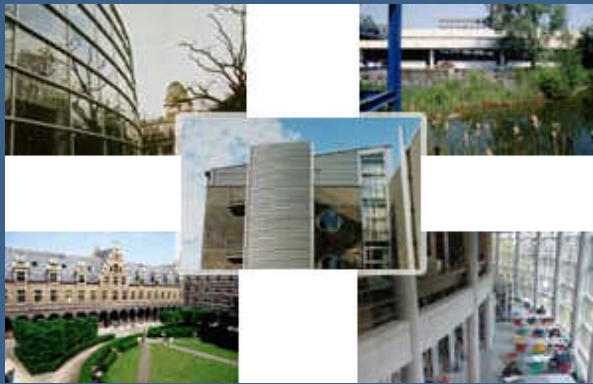
Practice visits



How could we strengthen and re-think future General Practice care ?

- By developing an agenda for research
- By visiting GP conferences like WONCA and EGPRN
- By educating (future) GPs...

At your own medical school and at international courses



How could we strengthen and re-think future General Practice care ?

- By developing an agenda for research
- By visiting GP conferences like WONCA and EGPRN
- By educating future GPs
- By working as a general practitioner

Performing better in caring, curing for your patients



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How could we strengthen and re-think future General Practice care ?

- By developing an agenda for research
- By visiting GP conferences like WONCA and EGPRN
- By educating future GPs
- By working as a general practitioner
- None of these
- All of these

Place of GP/FM and primary care research

Needs, outcomes, interaction with daily practice



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PC research in crisis ?

EDITORIAL

THE LANCET

Volume 361, Number 9362

Is primary-care research a lost cause?

“Primary care is in crisis . . . the field has failed to hold its own among medical specialties”. This is the conclusion of a group gathered under the auspices of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the deliberations of which are summarised in a series of papers published in the Feb 4, 2003, issue of the *Annals of Internal Medicine*. The notion of primary care risks being swept away, argued Lewis Sandy and Steven Schroeder, respected commentators on internal medicine. “Would it make a difference if the field were to fail?”, ask the authors of another paper.

sceptics exist. Moreover, primary care is not uniquely complex. Surgery is an immensely difficult field to investigate, and yet good progress is being made in tackling questions that were once considered impossible to answer. And the great strength of primary care is that it does not have a boundary. Family practice offers a perspective that should influence all other clinical specialties. In sum, if primary care has anything at all to do with improving a person’s health, then its contribution to that end will be measurable. Or is primary care to be accepted as

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Need for GP/FM Research

- Underpinning its claims for prevention, cure and care
- Bulk of care is delivered in primary care
- Need for research in the setting where its results are to be used
- Evidence base for decision-making in policy and practice

How to measure research output ?

- Quality: academic impact measured by citation data, discipline specific output and grants income

Australian Government Department of Education Science and Training,
Research Quality Framework: Assessing the quality and impact of research in Australia:
The recommended RQF 2006

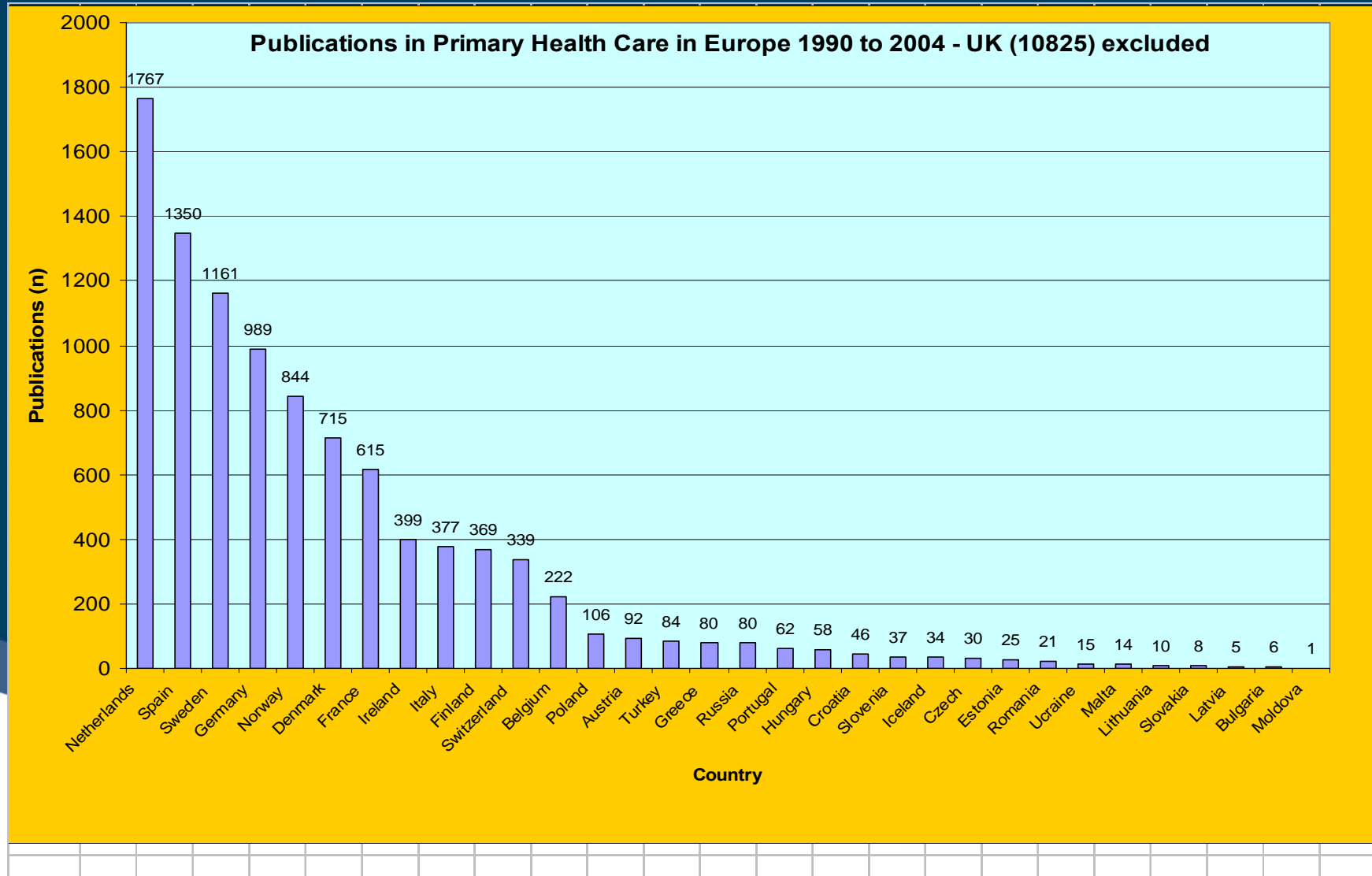
Primary Health Care Research Impact Projec. Flinders University, Adelaide Australia 2007

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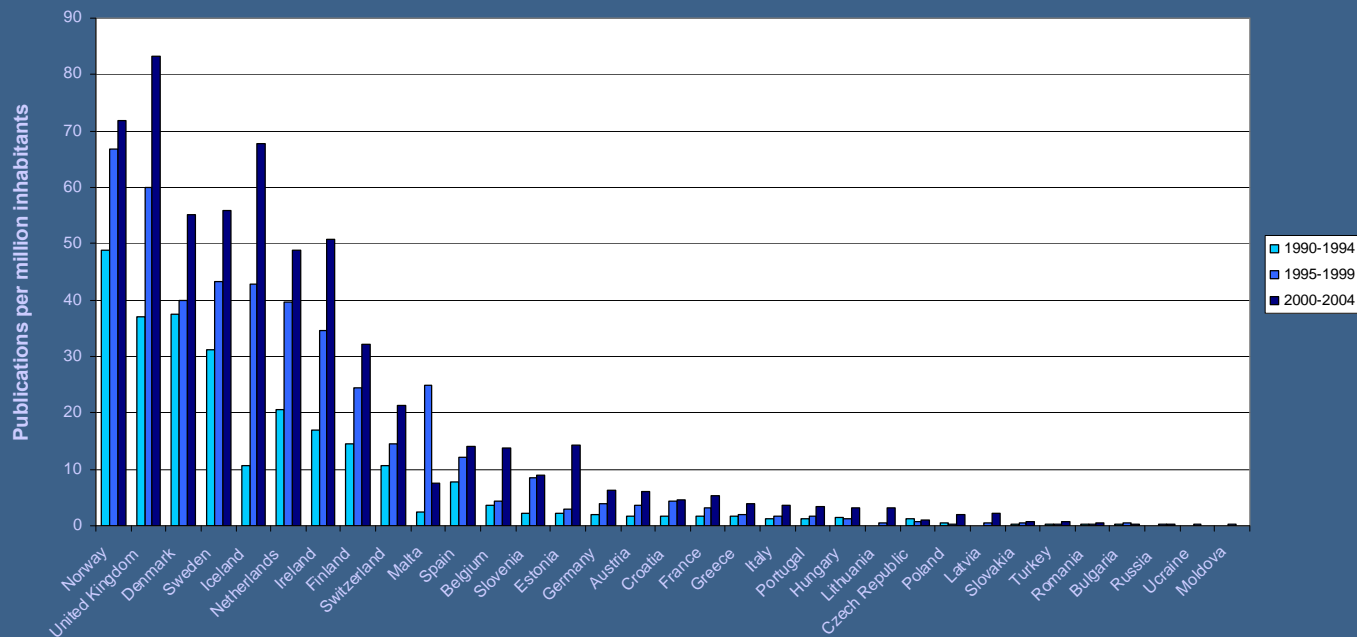


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Total number of PubMed publications 1990 - 2004



Family medicine publications in Pubmed in three different periods



Ovhed I, Van Royen P, Hakkanson A. What is the future of primary care research? *Scan J Prim Health Care* 2005; 23: 248-53

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How to measure research output ?

- Quality: academic impact measured by citation data, discipline specific output and grants income
- Impact: social, economic and/or cultural outcomes measured by knowledge production, research targetting, capacity building and absorption, informing policy and product development, health and health sector benefits, broader economic benefits, research transfer

Australian Government Department of Education Science and Training,
Research Quality Framework: Assessing the quality and impact of research in Australia:
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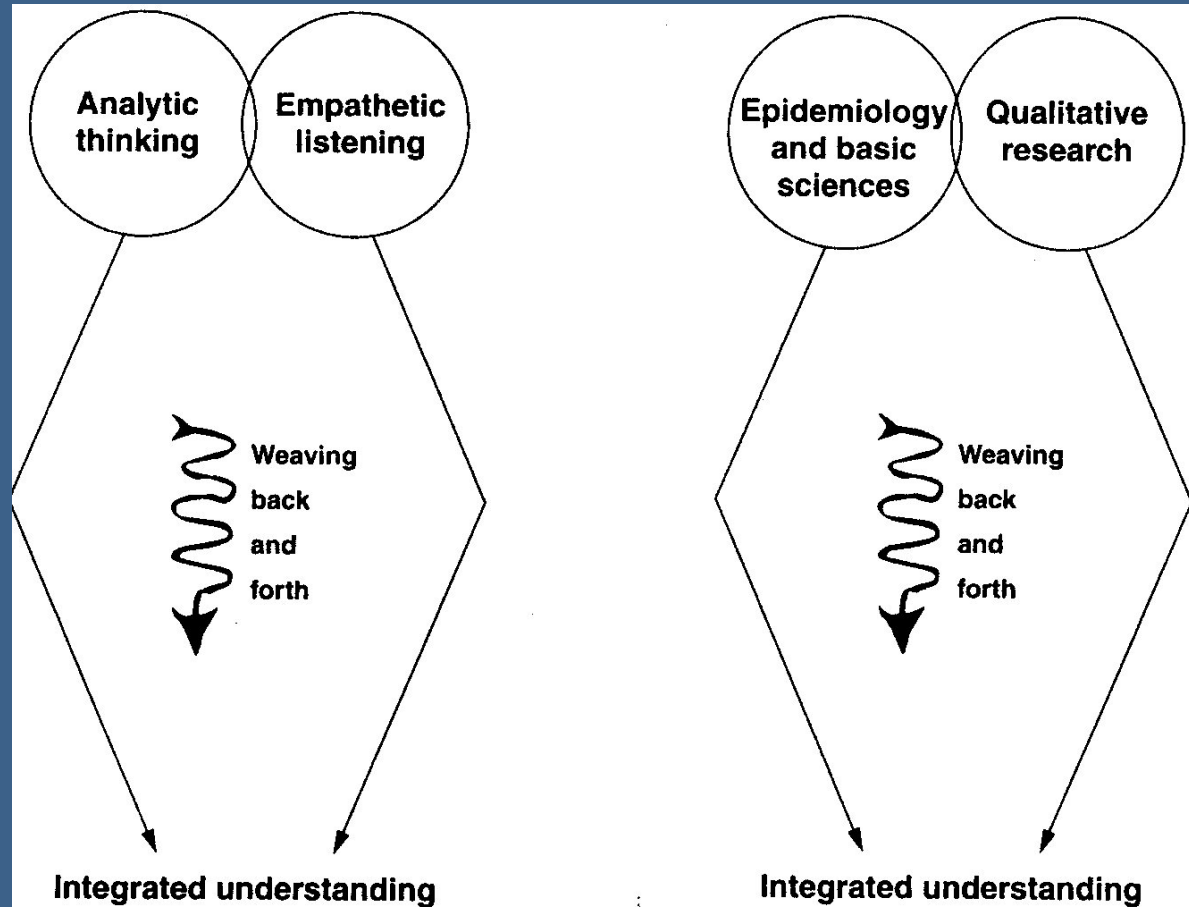
Primary Health Care Research Impact Projec. Flinders University, Adelaide Australia 2007

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Self-reflective practice: a research perspective for every GP



- *How do young GPs see the combination of clinical practice with a research perspective?*
- *Are young and future GPs prepared to combine their clinical work in practice with part-time work as researcher?*

The demands of Juniors

- Future generation of GPs knows the importance of Research.
- Creation of a research group in VdGM
- National network between seniors and juniors.



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Future prospects

- Make place for research in the vocational training.
- Encourage youngsters to take up responsibilities during their training
- Teach good quality research
- Bridge « cultural » gap



How do you think that this context can be realised ?



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Conclusions of a multiple key informant survey (14 EGPRN National Representatives)

- Not enough research capacity in most European countries (human resources, research institutions, lack of information on initiatives and modalities of funding)
- Variability in academic organization of GP/FM and its research outcomes
- Substantial variation of research themes and priorities
- Need for the creation of a clearing house

Topsever P, Rotar Pavlic D, Lionis C, Soler JK, Hummers Pradier E, Hakkanson A, Stoffers J, Van Royen P. European Research Capacity in General Practice/Family Medicine: A multiple key informant survey Submitted

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SWOT analysis: weaknesses vs opportunities and action points

- Lack of finances
- Loss of motivation and/of time availability
- Manpower problem
- Lack of time

- Collaborative research
- Involving more GPs in research
- Publication strategy
- Development of working environment

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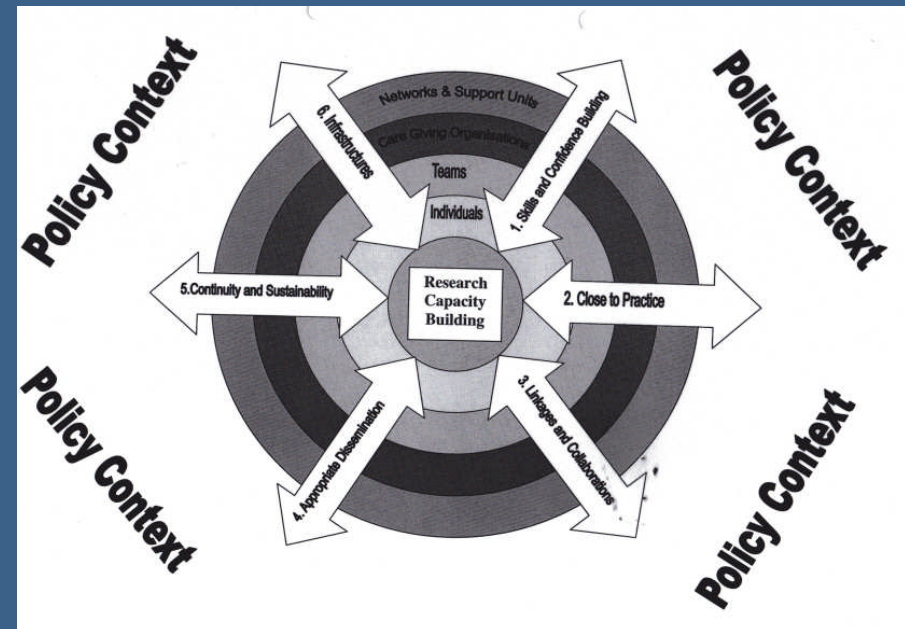


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Six principles of capacity building

Cooke JM 2005

- develop skills and confidence
- support linkages and partnerships
- ensure the research is close to practice
- develop appropriate dissemination
- invest in infrastructure
- build elements of sustainability and continuity



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What is the research agenda ?

What are the challenges for future GP/FM and primary care research ?



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A frame to develop a research agenda

- The WONCA Europe definition of GP (2002)
- Core content domains of GP/FM research



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WONCA Europe's Definition: 6 core competencies

- Primary care management
- Person-centred care
- Specific problem solving skills
- Comprehensive approach
- Community orientation
- Holistic approach

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Core content of GP/FM research

- Research on clinical issues (common diseases, chronic diseases, risk groups) incl diagnostic strategies, health promotion and long-term management
- Health services research incl. primary care morbidity registration
- Research on education and teaching

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A frame for developing a research agenda

Research domains 6 Core competencies	Research on clinical issues	Health services research	Research on education and teaching
Primary care management			
Person-centred care			
Specific problem solving competence			
Comprehensive approach			
Community orientation			
Holistic approach			

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A research agenda should:

- Be based on facts and evidence
- Focus on topics that are of relevance
- Provide a research strategy and policy
- Indicate how many of the core competencies and characteristics of GP are covered
- Point out research gaps

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Building up a research agenda

- Overview of research domains and methodology output in PHC research
- Define the evidence basis of the 2002 Definition of GP/FM
- Identify research needs, evidence gaps and new priorities
- A basis for proactive action → research policy
→ research funds

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Challenges for our profession and for future PC research

- Multi-cultural society
- Technological developments
- Genomic knowledge
- ...

Challenge 1: Research on specific competencies of the WONCA GP/FM definition

	Research on clinical issues	Health services research	Research on education and teaching
Primary care management			
Person-centred care	Individual family Longitudinal- continuity	Patient experiences- preferences Adherence- concordance	Patient-centredness in education Communication skills
Specific problem solving competence			
Comprehensive approach			
Community orientation			
Holistic approach			

Person- and patientcentredness

- Search “Primary health Care” or “Family Practice” AND “Patient centered Care”
- Results for last 10 yrs: 1836 hits
- After first selection: 79 articles
- What is already known ?
- Research gaps and agenda

Challenge 2: Translational research

- Translation process from bench to bedside and bedside to bench
- interaction and cooperation between basic researchers, clinicians, laboratory professionals and manufacturers

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Grace project : www.grace-irti.org



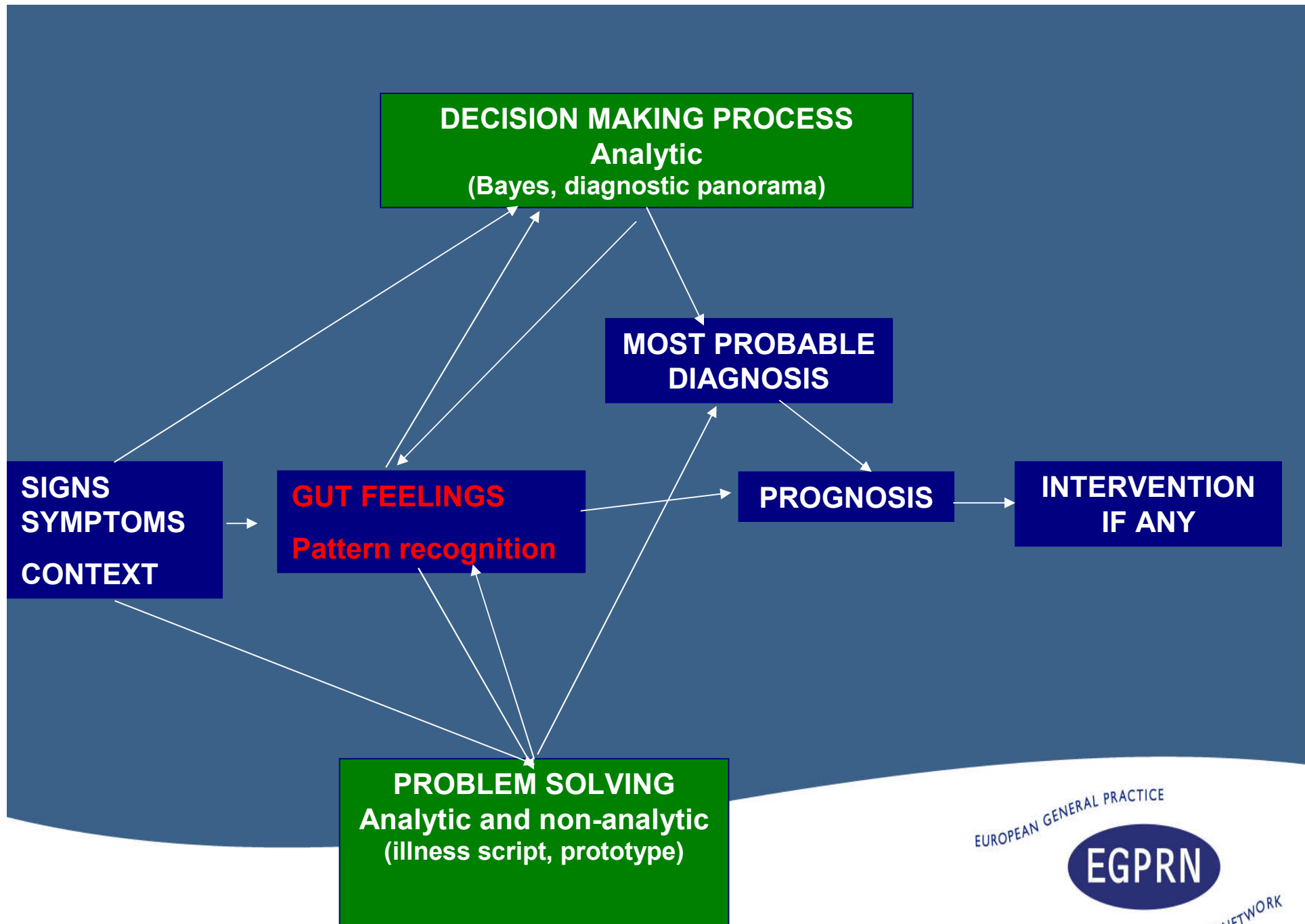
The screenshot shows the GRACE website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the text "GRACE > GRACE - Portal > GRACE - English > Homepage" and a language dropdown menu set to "English". Below the navigation bar is the GRACE logo and the tagline "Genomics to combat Resistance against Antibiotics in Community-acquired LRTI in Europe". A secondary navigation bar includes "About GRACE", "Publications", "Workpackages", "Links", and "Contact form". The main content area features a "Welcome" section with a chest X-ray image and a text block: "Welcome to the website of GRACE, the European Network of Excellence to combat resistance to antibiotics in the community. This project aims to integrate and coordinate the activities of physicians and scientists from many institutions in 14 European countries to combat antibiotic resistance in community-acquired lower respiratory tract infections. Move your mouse over the picture to the right to see more information about the four GRACE platforms." To the right of the text is a diagram of four stacked circular platforms representing workpackages: GRACE-COMIT (Workpackages 1-2), GRACE-TECH (Workpackages 3-7), GRACE-PAT (Workpackages 8-11), and GRACE-EDUT (Workpackage 12). Below the main content are two columns: "News" with a link to the October 2007 newsletter, and "Quick pics" with links to "Login to WP9-10", "GRACE ERS press release", "GRACE Leaflet", and "Training programme". At the bottom of the screenshot, there is a footer with the European Union flag, copyright information, and the funding reference "GRACE is funded by the 6th Framework Programme of the European Commission under the reference LSHM-CT-2005-518226".



Genomics to combat Resistance against Antibiotics in Community-acquired LRTI in Europe

Challenge 3: research on clinical diagnosis and prognosis

- Lack of basic data on diagnosis or prognosis – to treat appropriately
- Overoptimistic expectations
- Questions of patients and GPs



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Challenge 4: Research on multi-morbidity

- Number of patients with more than one condition increases
- No clear evidence on how to treat these patients
- As conditions co-occur, management isn't necessarily the direct sum of management of the parts
- Research on the likely preferential clustering

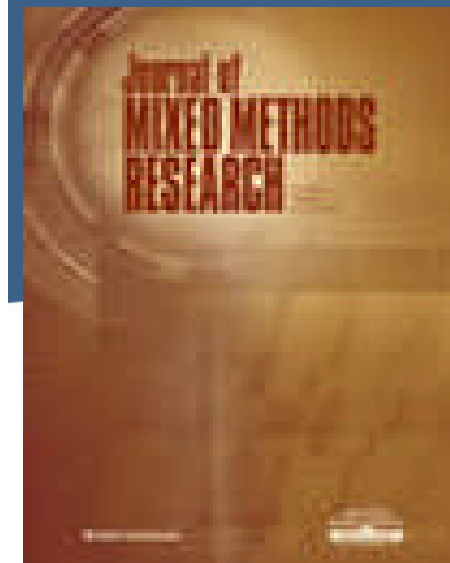


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Challenge 5 : Mixed methods research



How do you want to collaborate in such a research agenda ?

Propositions

- Formulate the status quo of evidence in GP/PC
- Assessment
- Collaborative international research study proposal



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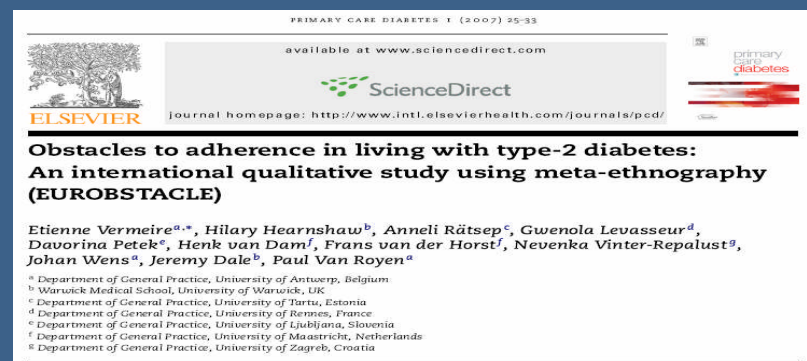
How do you see as chair of EGPRN to implement such collaborative studies in the European forum ?



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An agenda for more collaborative studies

- Fostering, initiating and co-ordinating multinational studies: Referral study, home visits study, Eurobstacle, Burnout study,
- Coordinating and improving research capacity projects : Forum project



Burnout in European Family Doctors: The EGPRN Study

Jean Karl Soler,¹ Hakan Yaman,² Magdalena Esteve³ and Frank Dobbs⁴ on behalf of the European General Practice Research Network (EGPRN) Burnout Study Group⁵

1. The Family Practice, Bay Street, Attard BZN04, Malta (Maltese co-ordinator)
2. Akdeniz University, Faculty of Medicine, Department of Family Medicine, Antalya, Turkey
3. Research Unit, Majorca Primary Care Health District Department, Ib-salut, Spain (Spanish co-ordinator)
4. University of Ulster, Northern Ireland, U.K.
5. Radost Spiridonova Asenova (Plovdiv, Bulgaria), Milica Katić & Zlata Ožvačić (Zagreb, Croatia), Jean Pierre Desgranges (Brittany, France), Alain Moreau (Lyons, France), Christos Lionis (Crete, Greece), Péter Kotányi (Budapest, Hungary), Francesco Carelli (Milan, Italy), Paweł R. Nowak (Gdansk, Poland), Zaida de Aguiar Sá Azeredo (Portugal), Eva Marklund (Sweden), Dick Churchill (Nottingham, United Kingdom) and Mehmet Ungan (Turkey)

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- *What would you give us today as a final message and conclusion ?*

Our message

- Make people discover research
- Give the motivation to the youngest



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