

REPORT FROM TURKEY

46th EQuIP Assembly Meeting, Tallinn-Estonia, 16 – 18 October 2014

“Digital prescribing in primary care: A tool for prompt service or a challenge to quality evaluation?”



New Act on Teaching Family Medicine Centers: Advantages and Risks



Wonca Europe 2015 Conference again in Istanbul: Be Young, Stay Young



- **With the new act on training family practice centers family medicine in Turkey may concentrate more to family practice**

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YÖNETMELİK

Sağlık Bakanlığı (Türkiye Halk Sağlığı Kurumu)'ndan:

EĞİTİM AİLE SAĞLIĞI MERKEZLERİ ÖDEME VE

SÖZLEŞME YÖNETMELİĞİ

Amaç

MADDE 1 – (1) Bu Yönetmeliğin amacı; kurumsal sözleşme imzalamak suretiyle eğitim aile sağlığı merkezlerinde veya eğitim aile hekimliği birimlerinde, aile hekimliği hizmetlerinin sunumunda görev alan eğitici, asistan, aile sağlığı elemanı ve eğitim kurumuna yapılacak ödemeler ve sözleşme esaslarını belirlemektir.

Kapsam

MADDE 2 – (1) Bu Yönetmelik;

a) Aile hekimliği uzmanlık eğitimi veren ve Türkiye Halk Sağlığı Kurumu ile sözleşme imzalamış olan eğitim

Academic Family Medicine in Turkey:

Compared with many other European countries, academic family medicine is relatively strong in Turkey. There are more than 200 professors actively teaching in medical schools (28 full professors, 78 associate professors, 39 assistant professors, and 77 lecturers)¹. The first department of family medicine dates back to 1993. Today, more than half of the 84 medical schools have a family medicine department, including the top ranking schools in the larger cities.

Being strong as an academic discipline has brought many advantages to Turkish family physicians. Among them, we may list the high number of participants in International

conferences as well as the relatively high number of scientific publications. We have nowadays many peer-reviewed journals edited by family physicians. Among them are The Turkish Journal of Family Physicians (www.turkailehekderg.org/), Eurasian Journal of Family Medicine (www.ejfm.org/), Konuralp Medical Journal (www.konuralptipdergi.duzce.edu.tr/), Turkish Journal of Primary care and Family Medicine (www.tjfmprc.com/), Smyrna Medical Journal (<http://smyrnatipdergisi.com/>), PRN Family Medicine Journal (www.prndergi.web.tr/), and Pulse in Health Care (www.sagliktanabiz.com/).

Three vs. Six Years Family Medicine Specialty Training:

An important development in the context of family practice in Turkey is the implementation of a second family medicine residency program besides the already present board program.

Family medicine residency training in Turkey started in 1985. Until recently we had the board program of 3-years duration with 50% hospital training + 50% family medicine. The Turkish Ministry of Health started a new program, which shall be of 6 years duration, allowing untrained GPs to join the program without leaving their family practices. Our previous report in Bologna

¹ Prof. Mümtaz MAZICIOĞLU, Personal communication (mazici@erciyes.edu.tr)

was warning about the approaching problem (http://www.equip.ch/files/53/turkey_2013.pdf).

Teaching Family Practice Centers: Despite the strengths in the academia, teaching family practice in Turkey was mainly restricted to outpatient clinics in tertiary care settings and some sporadic district clinics. There was no nationwide system enabling family medicine professors to be involved in primary care.

With the new act dated 26th of September, 2014 family medicine residency programs are allowed to run family practice centers in certain areas of the town in the context of a protocol signed between the ministry of health and university rectors.

The new regulation will be useful for family medicine training programs with regard to giving the opportunity to teach family practice competencies to our residents in the habitat of real primary care. However, the regulation also brings some concerns: departments who agree to sign the protocol are requested to accept trainees for the alternative route of family medicine residency education. Although there is a hope that the quality of family medicine residency training will increase substantially with the new regulations, most of the family medicine community is cautious to celebrate an early success. Beyond other reasons, the family medicine community is skeptic for the alternative residency option since it is regarded as an unfair regulation discriminating and disadvantaging regular board trainees.

- **Wonca Europe 2015 Conference in Istanbul: Being Young, Staying Young**



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Wonca Europe
Conference 2015
istanbul

October 22-25, 2015
Halic Congress Center
Istanbul / TURKEY



TAHAF
TURKISH ASSOCIATION
OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS



Wonca
World family doctors. Caring for people.
EUROPE

In 2008 the Wonca Europe conference was held in Istanbul with the motto “Be a Woncaist; attend Wonca Istanbul”. Now after just 8 years the Turkish Association of Family Physicians has the honor to re-organize the European conference again in Istanbul. This time the invitation is made with the slogan “Being Young, Staying Young”.

The conference in 2008 was a success in the logbook of Turkish family physicians. Given the past experience and grown academia, we expect even a more successful organization this time.

Conference information is published under <http://www.wonca2015.org/>. Online registrations and abstract submissions have already started on the 22nd of September, 2014.

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