PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

# 9TH WONCA Rural Health World Conference

**12-14 JUNE 2009 / Creta Maris, Heraklion Crete, Greece**

## "Health Inequalities"

"Technology Suitable for Rural Settings" | "Island Medicine" | "Health Services for Immigrants"

Wonca
Global Family Doctor

UNIVERSITY OF CRETE

GREEK ASSOCIATION OF GENERAL PRACTICE (ELEGEIA)

SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONS

EURIPA
EURIPA

NATIONAL SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

THE ATHENS MEDICAL SOCIETY

SOCIETY OF SOCIAL PEDIATRICS AND HEALTH PROMOTION

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE

Word of Welcome ..... 5
Hosting and Supporting Organisations ..... 6
Committees ..... 7
Host Organising Committee ..... 8
Professional Conference Organiser ..... 8
Programme at a Glance ..... 9
Invited Keynote Speakers ..... 10
General Information ..... 11
Call for Abstracts ..... 12
Registration ..... 16
Social Events ..... 19
Post-Conference Events ..... 20
Accommodation ..... 22
General Information about Greece ..... 25
General Information about Crete ..... 28
Emergency Phone Numbers ..... 29

# IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract Submission Deadline ..... **17 February 2009**
Early Registration Deadline ..... **27 April 2009**
Late Registration Deadline ..... **2 June 2009**
On-site Registration ..... **12–14 June 2009**
Opening Ceremony ..... **12 June 2009**
Closing Ceremony ..... **14 June 2009**

# WORD OF WELCOME

Dear colleagues and friends,

As president of the organising committee of the **9th WONCA Rural Health World 2009 Conference**, I welcome you to Crete for this major event, hosted by the **Clinic of Social and Family Medicine, Medical Faculty, University of Crete**, Greece, in conjunction with the practice-based research rural network of Crete and EURIPA.

Human genomics and genetics are frequently the main themes of several international meetings and events, since this field is promising a rapid technical advancement. During the past few years, the topic of **health inequalities** offers a suitable theme to develop inter-professional, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral collaboration, an issue of high importance in recent meetings and conferences, especially those addressing rural health.

This umbrella **theme covers the three core subjects of the 9th World Rural Conference; namely, technology suitable for rural settings, island medicine and health services for immigrants.** All three strongly relate to the umbrella theme. WHO has undertaken certain important initiatives endorsing health inequalities as one of the main challenges the modern world is facing. This theme also facilitates an important debate on positive health determinants.

Today, it is known that traditional epidemiology and risk factor analysis do not provide sufficient evidence on chronic morbidity, allowing ample opportunity for discovering certain "hidden" supportive, protective and promoting factors for population health, including the capacity for social inclusion and the quality of social networks. High mobility of people in Europe and across the world, together with high unemployment rates and poverty increase anxiety and reduce sense of control.

Strengthening rural communities in remote areas and small islands and empowering immigrants seem to be a high-priority and well-fitted issue within the core subjects of a rural conference. The discussion about assets for health and development has recently received apt attention from the World Health Organisation, while certain universities and research institutes foster inter-professional collaboration and dialogue. The conference's theme is of key importance for community leaders who could contribute in identifying and strengthening existing health assets and explore pathways for maintenance or change. The introduction of high technology, suitable for rural settings is timely and is expected to attract the interest not only of rural practitioners but also from researchers and investigators from other sectors. Thus, it was a challenge for the Clinic of Social and Family Medicine, Medical Faculty, University of Crete to focus on "health inequalities" in this World Rural Conference.

The island of Crete was chosen as a place of significant contribution to the early history of the European civilisation and a unique epicentre, where knowledge developed, as a result of Crete's proximity and interaction with both Asia and North Africa. Moreover, the city of Heraklion offers an ideal location with its perfect climate in early June, friendly atmosphere, famous Mediterranean gastronomy and easy access from most European destinations.

We sincerely thank you for joining the proceedings of this World Rural Conference.

**Christos Lionis, MD, PhD**
Associate Professor of Social and Family Medicine
Head of the Clinic of Social and Family Medicine
University of Crete

Wonca
Global Family Doctor

## Hosting Organisation

UNIVERSITY OF CRETE

FACULTY OF MEDICINE

In Collaboration with

GREEK ASSOCIATION
OF GENERAL PRACTICE
(ELEGEIA)

## Supporting Organisations

EURIPA

NATIONAL SCHOOL
OF PUBLIC HEALTH

THE ATHENS
MEDICAL SOCIETY

SOCIETY OF SOCIAL PEDIATRICS
AND HEALTH PROMOTION

# COMMITTEES

**Resource Persons:**

Ian Couper, *WONCA World Rural Health Working Party, Chairman*
John Wynn Jones, *EURIPA President*
Tom Norris, *7th WONCA Rural Health Conference 2006, Chairman*
James Rourke, *WONCA World Rural Health Working Party, former Chairman*
Roger Strasser, *WONCA World Rural Health Working Party, former Chairman*
Chris van Weel, *WONCA World, President*

## International Advisory Board:

Lars Agreus, *Sweden*
José Manuel Lopez Abuin, *Spain*
Hércules de Pinho, *Brazil*
Liliana Arias-Castillo, *Columbia*
Bruce Chater, *Australia*
Carlos C rdoba, *Equador*
John Gilles, *Scotland*
S leyman Görpelioğlu, *Turkey*
John Wynn-Jones, *UK*
Theodoros Konstantinidis, *Greece*
Manolis Kogevinas, *Greece*
Ioannis Kyriopoulos, *Greece*
Bodossakis-Prodromos Merkouris, *Greece*
ikos Papanikolaou, *Greece*
Allan Pelch, *Denmark*
Eleni Petridou, *Greece*
Anastassios Philalithis, *Greece*
Arturo Serrano, *Argentina*
Sakis Symeonidis, *Greece*
Lefteris Thireos, *Greece*
Erik Trell, *Sweden*
Mehmet Ungan, *Turkey*
Carlos Becerra Verdugo, *Chile*
Jaume Banqué Vidiella, *Spain*
Paul Warley, *Australia*
Hakan Yaman, *Turkey*
Alfredo Zurita, *Argentina*

## HOST ORGANISING COMMITTEE

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Chairman** | Christos Lionis | |
| **Vice Chairmen** | Marios Chatziarsenis | |
| | Manolis Symvoulakis | |
| **Secretary** | Theodoros Vasilopoulos | |
| **Members** | Foteini Anastasiou | Argyris Mariolis |
| | Nikos Antonakis | Eirini Oikonomidou |
| | Maria Antonopoulou | Aris Paganas |
| | Stella Argyriadou | Sofia Panagiotidou |
| | Gabriela Aspraki | Maria Papadakaki |
| | Antonis Batikas | Christos Pogonidis |
| | Kostas Chliveros | George Spatharakis |
| | Ioannis Christoforidis | Ioanna Stefanaki |
| | Rose Ellis | Nikos Tsakountakis |
| | Christos Galanakis | Ioannis Tsialios |
| | Dimitris Giannopoulos | Ioanna Tsiligianni |
| | Androniki Glystra | Konstantinos Vardavas |
| | Nikos Kakoliris | Dimitris Varvagiannis |
| | Ioannis Komninos | Charalambos Vittorakis |
| | Dimitris Kounalakis | Dimitris Vourvachakis |
| | Kornilia Makri | Eygenia Xenodochidou |
| | Ada Markaki | |

## PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE ORGANISER

AC&C
PROFESSIONAL CONGRESS ORGANISER

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INCON GROUP

Certified by ISO 9001:2000

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Athens, Greece
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Conference website:
www.ruralwonca2009.org
www.ruralwonca2009.com
Conference e-mail:
wonca2009@acnc.gr

# PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

| TIME | DAY 1<br>12 JUNE 2009 | DAY 2<br>13 JUNE 2009 | DAY 3<br>14 JUNE 2009 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | **HEALTH INEQUALITIES** | **TECHNOLOGY FOR RURAL SETTINGS** | **ISLAND MEDICINE** |
| **08:00-09:00** | REGISTRATION | REGISTRATION | REGISTRATION |
| **09:00-10:30** | **OPENING PLENARY SESSION**<br>Ioannis Pallikaris<br>**"The Role of the University in the Rural Health of Crete"**<br>Barbara Starfield<br>**"The Contribution of Primary Care to Equity: How and What do we Know? "** | **PLENARY SESSION A**<br>Elisabeth Swensen<br>**"Technology in Rural Health in Northern Europe: Has it Succeeded in Bridging the Gap?"**<br>Oluyombo Awojobi<br>**"Appropriate Technologies for Improved Rural Health Care Delivery In Nigeria – The Ibarapa Experience"** | **PLENARY SESSION A**<br>John A. J. Macleod<br>**"Island Health: Achieving Equity for Island People"**<br>Christos Lionis<br>**"Implementing Research in a Southern European Island: from Theory to Practice"** |
| **10:30-11:00** | COFFEE BREAK | COFFEE BREAK | COFFEE BREAK |
| **11:00-12:30** | **PLENARY SESSION A**<br>Jose M. Lopez Abuin<br>**"Health Inequalities in Europe: A Continental Perspective and Challlenge"**<br>Jan De Maeseneer<br>**"Primary Health Care as a Strategy to Achieve Equitable Care"** | **3 PARALLEL WORKSHOPS** | **3 PARALLEL WORKSHOPS** |
| **12:30-13:30** | LIGHT LUNCH | LIGHT LUNCH | LIGHT LUNCH |
| **13:30-15:00** | **3 PARALLEL WORKSHOPS** | **3 PARALLEL WORKSHOPS** | **3 PARALLEL WORKSHOPS** |
| **15:00-15:30** | COFFEE BREAK | COFFEE BREAK | COFFEE BREAK |
| **15:30-17:00** | **3 PARALLEL WORKSHOPS** | **3 PARALLEL WORKSHOPS** | **3 PARALLEL WORKSHOPS** |
| **17:00-18:00** | **ORAL PRESENTATIONS/ POSTERS** | **ORAL PRESENTATIONS/ POSTERS** | **ORAL PRESENTATIONS/ POSTERS** |
| **18:00-19:30** | **OPENING CEREMONY**<br>**Welcome Cocktail** | **19:00**<br>**SOCIAL EVENT (OPTIONAL)**<br>**Cretan Night in a traditional Village** | **CLOSING PLENARY SESSION**<br>John Wynn-Jones<br>**"The Challenge for Europe: Closing the Gap"**<br>Ian Couper<br>**"(E)quality in Rural Health – the Need for Equity"** |

## INVITED KEYNOTE SPEAKERS*

José M. Lopez Abuin
Family Doctor
Director, Spanish Institute of Rural Health

Oluyombo Awojobi
Dr/Consultant Rural Surgeon

Ian Couper
Professor of Rural Health
University of the Witwatersrand
Chair, Wonca World Rural Working Group

Christos Lionis
MD, PhD
Associate Professor of Social and Family Medicine
Head of the Clinic of Social and Family Medicine
University of Crete

Jan De Maeseneer
Professor, MD, PhD
Head of Department of Family Medicine and Primary Health Care,
Ghent University
Chairman, European Forum for Primary Care
Secretary-General, The Network Towards Unity for Health

John A. J. Macleod
MBE, DL, FRCP (Glasgow), FRCGP
Hon Life Member WONCA

Ioannis Pallikaris
Professor of Ophthalmology
Rector of the University of Crete

Barbara Starfield
Professor
The Johns Hopkins University

Elisabeth Swensen
General Practitioner, Norway

John Wynn-Jones
Life President Institute of Rural Health
President Euripa

**as per 12 January 2009*

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## DATES AND CONFERENCE VENUE

The 9th Wonca Rural Health World Conference will take place on 12-14 June 2009 at the Creta Maris Hotel in Heraklion, Crete, Greece.

## EXHIBITION

The Exhibition will be open during Conference hours, from 09:00 to 20:00.
For exhibiting and sponsorship opportunities, please contact: Wonca2009-spex@acnc.gr

## LANGUAGE

English will be the official language of the Conference.

## BADGES

Delegates' badges will be available at the Conference Secretariat in the Conference Venue. Participants are kindly requested to wear their badges at all times, both in the Conference and the Exhibition Areas.

## AUDIOVISUAL EQUIPMENT

A Speaker Ready Room will operate during the Conference. Speakers are kindly requested to hand in all presentation material (USB-key, CD-ROM) at least one (1) hour before their scheduled presentation time.

**The following equipment will be available:**

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# CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

## ABSTRACTS

Abstracts can be submitted to any of the following themes:

**1. Health Inequalities**

**2. Technology suitable for rural settings**

**3. Island medicine**

**4. Health services for immigrants**

Other rural health topics for presentations, workshops or posters will also be accepted.

The deadline for submission of abstracts is: **Tuesday, 17 February 2009**

## PRESENTATION TYPES

## 1. RESEARCH PAPERS

**a) Papers on Completed Research**

If you are submitting an abstract in this category, the research project must be complete by the Call for Papers submission deadline of **17 February 2009.**

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from podium presentations to poster presentations, based on suitability and/or the need to limit each presenter's podium presentations.

**b) Research in Progress**

This category provides researchers with projects in early stages the opportunity to benefit from the expertise of other researchers and receive valuable feedback. To qualify for this category, your research must still be in progress at the time of the Conference. The majority of research in progress will be presented as posters. The Scientific Committee may select those submissions that address methodological or conceptual questions that would be of interest to a larger audience or that can be grouped coherently together for podium presentations. Selection will also be based on the total number of submissions received (complete and in progress) and/or the need to limit each presenter's podium presentations.

Podium presentations for research in progress

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allotted for individual paper presentations.

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## 2. POSTER PRESENTATIONS

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research is in progress at the time of the submission deadline but will be complete at the time of the Conference, it is recommended that you submit your abstract as a poster presentation.

## 3. WORKSHOPS

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with other sessions.

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audience participation are encouraged to submit a workshop abstract.

## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION / GENERAL INFORMATION

1. The abstract submission deadline expires on **17 February 2009**.
2. Abstracts submitted for the 9th WONCA Rural Health World Conference can be submitted by e-mail or online.
3. The Scientific Committee of the Conference will decide the presentation type for each abstract (podium presentation or poster), date and time of presentation.
4. Presenting authors will be informed about the status of the abstract (accepted / rejected), its presentation type, date and time on **9 March 2009**.
5. All accepted abstracts will be included in the Book of Abstracts of the 9th WONCA Rural Health World Conference, provided that the presenting author has been registered to the conference by **20 March 2009** at the latest.
6. Previously published or presented at international meeting and/or conferences research is not acceptable.
7. All paper, workshop and posters presenters must be registered for the conference and pay registration fees.
8. To accommodate as many presenters as possible, the Scientific Committee reserves the right to limit each presenter to only one presentation. However, anyone may be listed as a co-author on multiple papers and may present another person's paper if the original presenter is unable to attend the Conference.

## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Authors are kindly requested to adhere to the following submission guidelines:

**Format**

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as they do not exceed the page margins and the total amount of words is not higher than the word limit (300 words) set above.

**Submission**

O **Via e-mail:** Authors may send their abstracts to the e-mail address wonca2009-abstracts@acnc.gr attaching:
» A completed copy of the Abstract Submission Form
» The abstract in Microsoft Office Word format, following the instructions given above.

O **On-line:** Authors may submit their abstracts online by following the instructions given on the website and completing all required fields. When encountering any difficulties in ubmitting abstracts on-line authors should not hesitate to contact the Professional Conference Organiser at wonca2009-abstracts@acnc.gr

**Abstracts submitted via fax or mail will NOT be accepted.**

Please address any enquiries regarding abstract submission to:
wonca2009-abstracts@acnc.gr