



# WHO UNESCO FIP Pharmacy Education Taskforce

Newsletter  
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## News and Updates

### CONGRESS 2010 ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

The **WHO UNESCO FIP Pharmacy Education Taskforce** and **FIP Academic Section** are organizing a full-day satellite session on Education to be held before **FIP Congress 2010 in Lisbon, Portugal**. Please join us for this interactive session “**R1: HOW TO DEVELOP ACADEMIC CAPACITY TO ENSURE SEAMLESS EDUCATION**”, with topics such as: Teacher Training and Capacity Development; Continuing Professional Education: Seamless or Not?; and The Learning Journey - Developing a pharmacy education roadmap. It will be held **Saturday, 28th August 2010 from 09:00 – 17:00**. The cost for the session is **55 Euro\***.

The session will feature case studies, group discussions, debates and an “**ideas showcase**” poster and short oral presentations derived from abstract submissions. R1 which will be of particular interest to faculty, practitioners, researchers and policymakers (including those engaged with regulatory activities) who are involved with activities such as: teacher training and faculty development; practitioner development and mentoring in practice settings; or innovative ideas for a new vision of seamless professional education. However, registration is open to anyone from any background.

All participants are invited to submit abstracts at: <http://bit.ly/d4GYKE>. Subsequent to the session, the abstracts will be published in the international peer reviewed journal *Pharmacy Education*. The deadline for abstract submission is **Friday, 14th May 2010**.

The Taskforce and the **FIP Young Pharmacists’ Group** are also co-organising the second **Learning to Teach Workshop** to be held at the Lisbon Congress. This session will offer attendees a half day of interactive, thought-provoking small group discussions, case studies and panel on concrete action plans to use within their teaching and learning environments. The unique aspect of this session is the rich diversity of faculty from all around the world, with various backgrounds of experiences, and many novel tools to share. **R5: Learning to Teach Workshop** will be held **Sunday, 29th August 2010 from 09:00 – 12:00**. The cost for the session is **35 Euro\***.

The Taskforce is also organizing the **5th Annual Global Pharmacy Education Consultation** on **Tuesday 31 August 2010, 09:00 – 12:00**. This is an open event available for anyone registered for the Congress. This session will focus on reviewing the achievements, and the future, of the Pharmacy Education Taskforce. The outcomes of the Taskforce action plan will be reported and participants will be invited to provide input into the future focus on Pharmacy Education within FIP.

The **Project Team for Quality Assurance** will hold a session during FIP Congress 2010 in Lisbon. Mark your calendars for **Monday 30 Aug from 12.30-13.30**. Project Lead for QA Mike Rouse will chair the event, entitled **“The Updated Global Framework for Quality Assurance of Pharmacy Education.”**

\*Separate registration is required and only possible in addition to registration for the full Congress. More information about the Congress, including how to register for R1 and R5, can be found at <http://www.fip.org/lisbon2010/>.

### **News from the Case Study Country: Ethiopia**

#### **The implementation of clinical pharmacy education and practice in Ethiopia**

The School of Pharmacy of Jimma University, Ethiopia, launched the country’s first graduate programme in clinical pharmacy this month. The initiative was led by Sultan Suleman in collaboration with partners from the Ethiopian Pharmaceutical Association (EPA), Management Sciences for Health (MSH), the University of Washington and Howard University.

In recent years, the trend in pharmacy education and practice has been not only the provision of safe, high quality medicines but also the inclusion of the pharmacist as an active member of the patient-centered health team. Although often hampered by lack of available resources, pharmacy education and practice in Ethiopia should not be an exception to this global paradigm shift, Suleman said.

As with those in any country, if pharmacists in Ethiopia are to contribute effectively to improved patient outcomes, they must acquire new knowledge and skills required for patient-centered practice. For this reason, the School of Pharmacy at Jimma University has worked to implement a clinical pharmacy training programme that fills gaps in patient-oriented pharmacy services in Ethiopia.

Suleman said the reason Jimma University was able to take the lead in clinical pharmacy in Ethiopia is its unique experiential learning practice sites. The University takes a community-based approach to learning, providing its students with opportunities to train in the university’s specialized teaching hospital and seven local training health centres. There are also three partially affiliated general hospitals in the region which further expand the experiential programme.

To launch the new pharmacy programme, the School undertook a series of consultations and workshops to map the new curriculum and advocate for clinical pharmacy education with local and national stakeholders.

Staff and professors developed a draft curriculum using a needs-based education model – comparing curricula from different countries and selecting those that best fit the needs of the Ethiopian community. The draft curriculum was then presented at a national curriculum workshop in August 2009. Following discussion and revision, the curriculum was then presented to the senate of Jimma University where it was approved

Suleman said that because the concept of a clinical pharmacy programme was new, there was a strong need for advocacy for all healthcare professionals, including pharmacists. A workshop of key stakeholders was organized by School of Pharmacy of Jimma University in collaboration with MSH’s USAID-funded project, Strengthening Pharmaceutical Systems.

Thus far, the school has enrolled 13 registered pharmacists who were teaching in public universities. Graduates of the new programme are expected to implement the concept and practice of clinical pharmacy in their respective positions. The School also plans to encourage the first clinical pharmacy graduates to stay on as teaching faculty.

Suleman said the primary aim for the new programme is to improve patient quality of life through implementation of pharmaceutical care. They are currently seeking funding for a pilot project to assess the effects of pharmacist intervention on outcomes in patients with poorly controlled diabetes. For the progress thus far, Suleman credits the dedication of his colleagues and the support of their partners. Suleman said future steps may include expanding to a postgraduate degree programme. For this vision, he said, the school needs national as well as international support to effectively and fully implement pharmaceutical care in Ethiopia across all dimensions.

## **Announcements**

**Sonak D. Pastakia**, who spoke at the **Taskforce's Learning to Teach Workshop** last year, has been awarded the **New Clinical Practitioner Award** by the **American College of Clinical Pharmacy**. (Way to go, Sonak!) The New Clinical Practitioner Award honors someone who has made outstanding contributions to the health of patients and/or the practice of clinical pharmacy. Pastakia, PharmD, MPH, BCPS, is the full-time Purdue School of Pharmacy faculty member in Eldoret, Kenya, as part of collaboration focused on the identification and treatment of individuals with HIV. Pastakia is a practitioner in both inpatient and ambulatory care settings, where he precepts four to six pharmacy students every eight weeks. During the Learning to Teach Workshop, Sonak talked about the **Purdue Kenya Program** and his experiences precepting students. Go to <http://www.accp.com/report/index.aspx?iss=0110&art=1> to read more about Pastakia's work.

The **FIP Pharmacy Information Section** is offering a stipend to financially support pharmacists or pharmacy students from developing countries to attend the **FIP World Pharmacy Congress**. The deadline for applying for the 2010 Stipend has been extended to the **1st May 2010**. Information on the conditions and application requirements can be found on the FIP Pharmacy Information Section of the FIP Website ([http://www.fip.org/www/?page=pp\\_sect\\_pisp\\_stipend](http://www.fip.org/www/?page=pp_sect_pisp_stipend)). The maximum support for one recipient is **1000 Euros**. Preference is given to first-time attendees to the Congress.

## **Resources**

**Hands Up for Health Workers** is an advocacy petition led by the non-profit organisation **Merlin (Medical Emergency Relief International)**. The petition asks for people to raise their hands for health workers in an effort to make investment in health workers a global priority. By supporting a health worker, your name will automatically be added to a petition that Merlin will take to world leaders in September 2010. Pharmacists are one of the categories of health workers profiled. You can see the interactive map and raise your hand for a health worker at <http://www.handsupforhealthworkers.org/>.

WHO has published a "**Framework for Action on Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice**." It outlines the benefits and challenges of interprofessional education and practice. The publication is available online at: [http://www.who.int/hrh/resources/framework\\_action/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/hrh/resources/framework_action/en/index.html)

The Procurement & Supply Management Toolbox website (<http://www.psmtoolbox.org>) has now been updated to include areas such as Storage, Distribution, Quality Assurance and Capacity Building, amongst others. To propose a tool for inclusion in the database, go to <http://www.psmtoolbox.org/en/submit-a-tool.php>.

## **Events**

The **Western Pacific Pharmaceutical Forum of FIP** and the **National University of Singapore (NUS)** are organizing a pharmacy education related symposium on **15-16 April 2010 in Singapore**. The aims of the symposium are: to support the Global Pharmacy Education Taskforce by providing a platform in Asia for

pharmacy academics to meet and discuss about educating future generations of pharmacists and to celebrate NUS Pharmacy's 105th anniversary in providing pharmacy education in Singapore. Find out more information about the programme, speakers and registration by contacting **Wai-Keung Chui** at [wkchui@nus.edu.sg](mailto:wkchui@nus.edu.sg) or at the website <http://www.pharmacy.nus.edu.sg/events/epa2010/>.

The **International Conference on Research in Human Resources for Health** will be held in **Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 9-11 June 2010**. It is hosted by the Social Medicine Institute, University of the State of Rio de Janeiro and jointly organised by WHO Department of Human Resources for Health. To register, please RSVP to [conferenciarhs@ims.uerj.br](mailto:conferenciarhs@ims.uerj.br).

The World Health Organization (WHO) and partners are pleased to announce the **First Global Symposium on Health Systems Research (HSR) - Science to Accelerate Universal Health Coverage** to be held **16-19 November 2010 in Montreux, Switzerland**. Researchers, policy-makers, funders, and other stakeholders representing diverse constituencies will share evidence, identify significant knowledge gaps, and set a research agenda that reflects the needs of low and middle-income countries. The Symposium is structured around two main streams: state of the art research and state of the art research methods. The deadline for abstract submission is **30th April 2010**. More information is available at <http://www.hsr-symposium.org/>.

The Global Health Workforce Alliance, the Prince Mahidol Award (PMA) Conference and the World Health Organization are jointly convening the second **Global Forum on Human Resources for Health** in Bangkok, Thailand in January 2011. Visit <http://www.who.int/workforcealliance/forum/2011/en/index.html> for more information.

The Essential Medicines and Pharmaceutical Policies Unit of WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO) is hosting the **3rd International Conference on Improving the Use of Medicines (ICIUM)** from 10-14 April 2011 in Egypt. The flyer about the event can be downloaded from the WHO/EMRO website at <http://www.emro.who.int/emp/media/pdf/icium.pdf>.

### **Community of Practice**

If you are replying to a discussion posting, please note that clicking "Reply" will send your email to the entire COP. If you would like to respond to the author of the posting, simply copy and paste the individual's email address into a new message.

### **Contact**

If you would like more information about the Pharmacy Education Taskforce or have any feedback on the Taskforce Newsletter, please contact Sarah Whitmarsh, Communications Liaison, at [education@fip.org](mailto:education@fip.org). If you have any information you would like to include in this newsletter, please also send it to her by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

### **Project Team Leads**

Project Team Leads are responsible for overseeing and developing activities in each priority domain of work to achieve the Action Plan's objectives.

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