

## **Fourth Geneva Conference on Person-Centered Medicine**

### **Plenary Symposium on Education in Person-centered Medicine**

**Wednesday, 4 May 2011**

**9:00 to 11:00**

**Chair: Manuel Dayrit (WHO, Geneva)**

**Co-Chair: Otmar Kloiber (WMA, Ferney-Voltaire, France)**

Concept Note prepared by the  
WHO Department of Human Resources for Health

### **1. Background:**

The World Health Report 2008 highlighted insufficient recognition of the human dimension in health as a major shortcoming in contemporary health care, resulting not only in inequities and poor social outcomes, but also in diminishing returns, in terms of health outcomes, on the investment in health services.

Person-centered healthcare aims to tailor health systems and services to the specific situation of individuals and communities; that is to orient and organize services around the health needs of individuals and populations. The implications of person-centered medicine for the education and training of healthcare providers is to strive for a more balanced focus between disease, technology and providers needs and the health needs, values and preferences of individuals and populations. As stated in the World Health Report 2008, to put people first means to give balanced consideration to health and wellbeing as well as to the values and capacities of individuals, populations and health workers.

Yet today, the education of health care providers too often develops skills, competencies, clinical experience and expectations that are poorly suited to the health needs, values and capacities of much of the population. This session will present experiences and initiatives to shift the focus of education and training of medical personnel towards a more person-centered approach.

### **2. Panel Presentations:**

9:00 to 10:00

- 10 minutes per speaker
- 15 minutes for questions and a brief summary of key messages by the chair/co-chair

Each presentation will respond to one or more of the following questions related to **shifting education and training towards a person-centered approach**:

- What is needed in terms of **governance and planning** at national/sub-national level to support educational institutions in their efforts?
- What, if any, changes or additions to **regulatory frameworks** (e.g. accreditation of schools, licensing/certification of practitioners, etc.) are needed?

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- What **key changes are needed within education and training institutions themselves?**
- What **resources and/or finances** are needed to support the shift in focus? How can they be obtained and sustained?

The panellists are:

- Prof. Andrew Miles: Vice-Chancellor, Buckingham University, United Kingdom, and Editor in Chief of the new International Journal of Person Centered Medicine.
- Prof. Giuseppe Brera, Rector, Università Ambrosiana, Milan, Italy, and a pioneer on the epistemological conceptualization and the development of clinical education methods for person-centered medicine.
- Prof. Ciro Maguina, Professor of Medicine, Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, and President of the National Medical Council of the Republic of Peru.
- Prof. Roy Kallivayalil, Dean of the Medical School, University of Cochin, India, and former Secretary General of the South Asia Federation of Psychiatric Organizations.

### **3. The WHO Initiative for the Transformative Scale up of Health Professional Education**

10:00 to 11:00 (NB: Suggest postponing the coffee break to 11:00 - 11:15)

- 20 minutes presentation
- 30 minutes question and discussion
- 5 minutes summary of key points by the chair

The presentation by a representative from the WHO Department of Human Resources for Health will give a broad overview of:

- Challenges in health professional education and training
- The need for better articulation between the health and education sectors
- The types of system wide reforms needed to support education and training that is based on population health needs and contributes to improved population health outcomes
- The WHO initiative for transformative scale up of health professional education

*For more information, see the WHO information brochure titled "Transformative scale up of health professional education".*