

EQUIP WONCA Europe 2017 Dublin Declaration

Patients should have access to safe, equitable, affordable and high-quality health care services in Europe



WONCA Europe, representing family doctors from 44 Member Organisations across Europe, recognises:

There can never be absolute certainty for safety in healthcare

However, there is a need to continuously strive to improve safety for patients due to the complexity of healthcare in general practice within primary health care, and in transitions between primary care and other health services.

Healthy doctors are needed for safe care

The President of WONCA Europe, Dr Anna Stavdal and the President of EQUIP Dr Piet Vanden Bussche call upon the Member Organisations to

1. *Acknowledge* the unique context of general practice within the greater health system;
2. *Engage* with patients;
3. *Encourage* collaboration between governments, policy-makers and other stakeholders for further development of safety initiatives to protect patients and health professionals from harm;
4. *To fight for* adequate resources in general practice to deliver better safer healthcare;
5. *Reaffirm* the commitment of WONCA Europe to support and advise decision makers in line with WHO Technical Series on Safer Primary Care;
6. *Address* the lack of research and measurement on safety in primary care;
7. *Emphasise* the importance of collaboration on integrating safety in medical education and training curricula and continuous professional development.

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