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## News and Notes

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### International Assembly of Family Physicians to meet in New Orleans, USA, October 4-9, 1980

More than 7,000 family physicians from 30 countries will meet in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA, October 4-9, 1980, for six days of unprecedented opportunities in continuing medical education, activities.

The 9th World Conference of WONCA (World Organization of Colleges, Academies and Academic Associations of General Practitioners/Family Physicians) will be held jointly with the annual Scientific Assembly of the American Academy of Family Physicians. The Academy is serving as the host to the WONCA delegates. Selected portions of the clinical program will feature joint lecture presentations, with instantaneous translation service in English, French, Spanish and German. In addition, both WONCA and AAFP will offer scores of individually planned continuing medical education courses from which the physicians may choose.

Following a day in lectures, demonstrations, classes and seminars, participating physicians are invited to relax at joint activities which will include a spectacular Mardi Gras party in the Louisiana Superdome; a massive enclosed ten storey sports stadium. Other events include a special welcoming reception at the Marriott Hotel for WONCA delegates, the impressive convocation of AAFP Fellows and inauguration ceremonies, and a festive reception and dance honoring the presidents of both organizations.

Special daytime tours, luncheons and other entertainment events are planned for the enjoyment of physicians' families. All non-scientific events will be keyed to the cosmopolitan tradition and charisma of New Orleans, including the famous Mardi Gras and Jazz music.

Scheduling and arrangements are under the direction of the Academy's professional convention management staff, which has produced annual assemblies for more than 30 years. Each year, between 4,000 and 5,000 American family physicians attend the AAFP Scientific Assembly. All events are keyed to the tastes and expectations of physicians. Experienced bilingual personnel will expedite registration processes, and staff a conveniently located information center. Charges for Assembly-related events will be kept as moderate as possible, and housing reservations will be available in a range of prices.

Headquarters hotels—the Marriott for WONCA and the Hilton for AAFP—are within walking distance of the Rivergate Convention Center, site of the joint lecture program, AAFP scientific events, and exhibits. Free shuttle bus service will be available to the other hotels housing registrants.

### The Scientific Programme

*Joint AAFP-WONCA Programming:* A lecture program opens Monday, October 6, with a ceremony featuring greetings by the AAFP and WONCA presidents. A slate of distinguished lecturers is being chosen by a joint planning committee. Presentations will include subjects of global concern such as substance abuse, immunization, hypertension, sexual behaviour, hyperlipidemia, nutrition, aging, and population control. Simultaneous translations will be available in Spanish, French, English and German.

*AAFP Programming:* Small-group clinical seminars, continuing education courses for groups up to 200, clinical demonstrations, dialogue discussion groups and exhibits offer a multitude of learning experiences. More than 100 presentations will cover the range of clinical aspects of family practice. These modalities will be open to all registrants, but presented only in the English language. They run daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

October 6 through 8, and 8 a.m. to 12 noon October 9. There are modest charges for the seminars and continuing education courses; the other clinical features are free to registrants.

Also on hand will be "Harvey," the world's first manikin computerized to simulate a wide assortment of cardiac problems. Some 250 physicians will be able to listen simultaneously over stethophones, and participate in the diagnosis and treatment of "Harvey's" various symptoms.

*WONCA Programming:* The program begins Monday morning, October 6 with "An Overview of Family Medicine Around the World," addressed by one speaker from each of the WONCA regions: America, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, Australasia, Africa and the Middle East. This session will be followed by a keynote address and a presentation on the doctor's family.

*WONCA plenary sessions* will be held on the mornings of October 7, 8 and 9. Each day's session will address a broad subject area on which there will be three 20 minute talks followed by opportunity for questions and discussion. Three main subjects are Core Content of Family Medicine, Preventive Medicine, and Continuing Medical Education. Workshops presented in French, Spanish and English will follow these plenary sessions. In the afternoons, open meetings of WONCA committees will be held for presentation of specific educational programs.

Free-standing papers will be presented on the afternoons of October 7 and 8. Lecturers whose papers have been selected by a screening committee will give 15 minute abstracts of their papers.

### Business Meetings

The AAFP Congress of Delegates will convene Saturday morning, October 4, and adjourn Monday noon, October 6. All sessions are at the Hilton Hotel.

The *WONCA* General Assembly will meet Wednesday, October 8 at the Marriott Hotel.

### Social Activities

Monday night, October 6, the huge Louisiana Superdome will be the scene of a Mardi Gras extravaganza staged exclusively for the physicians and their guests. Parades, performers, famous musicians and food specialties will abound. Included are Peter Fountain, the Dukes of Dixieland, the Southern University Marching Band, strolling entertainers, and actual floats from the world-famous Mardi Gras parade.

Tuesday night, the convocation of AAFP Fellows and the inauguration of Academy officers at the Rivergate is open to all registrants.

Wednesday night, all registrants are invited to the AAFP and WONCA Presidents' Reception at the Hilton. The festive affair will feature Bob Crosby's music for listening and dancing, and a complimentary buffet.

### Family Entertainment

A special program of tours, luncheons and entertaining experiences will be offered to the physicians' spouses and children. These activities are optional and not covered by the general registration fee.

### New Orleans—An Experience

New Orleans is an exotic blend of cultures and customs—of proud tradition and elegant serenity coexisting with progressive bustle and joie de vivre. Once the capital of the French Louisiana, then governed by the Spanish, the Mississippi River port became an American city in 1803. She has not abandoned her European heritage or Old South flavour.

Some of the world's finest musicians perform in local concerts, clubs and parades. Jazz was born there. World-famous restaurants offer exquisite cuisine, and meals are said to become events. The attached brochure give details about sightseeing, cultural attractions, sports, shopping, restaurants and night life.

### Registration

Registration for physicians is \$50. More detailed information will be available in late summer, 1979. If you have questions about the general program, write to the Director of Planning, 1980 WONCA/AAFP Meeting, 1740 West 92nd Street, Kansas City, Missouri, USA, 64114.

### Condolences

Members and the Executive Committee of Pakistan Medical Association, Peshawar Branch were shocked to know about the sad demise of their old member and colleague Dr. Ali Gohar Khan, Ex-Medical Supdt., Lady Reading Hospital, Peshawar, T.B. Specialist, Prof. of Chest Diseases in Khyber Medical College, Peshawar. Dr. Ali Gohar Khan had great contribution for establishment of T.B. Ward in Government Lady Reading Hospital, Peshawar. He rendered great services to the people of this region. The members prayed fatiah for Dr. Ali Gohar Khan. May God rest his soul in peace. The members offered their heart felt sympathies to the bereaved family. May God give courage to his family to bear the great loss".

### Assembly of WMA

The XXXIII World Assembly of the World Medical Association, hosted by the Venezuelan Medical Federation, will meet between the 21st and the 27th of October, 1979 at Hotel Macuto Sheraton.

Besides other activities, the meeting will spend two days in conference to consider the topic "The General Practitioner in the World" which has attracted world wide attention.

### \$427 million WHO Budget

An effective working budget of US \$427,290,000 for the financial period 1980-1981 has been recommended by the Executive Board for approval by the World Health Assembly, meeting in Geneva in May 1979.

This represents an increase of \$72,960,000 or 20.59 per cent over the 1978 and 1979 approved budgets. Of this amount \$7,192,800 or 2.03 per cent represents a real increase. \$26,940,300 or 7.60 per cent required to cover cost increases relating to statutory costs and inflation, and \$38,826,900 or 10.96 per cent are required to cover cost increases due to rates of exchange fluctuations mostly relating to the Swiss franc US dollar rate.

In his introduction the Director-General of WHO, Dr. Halfdan Mahler, pointed to a contradictory situation:- On the one hand, the vision born of the aspirations of Member States, as embodied in the Alma-Ata Declaration and its stated goal of Health for all by the year 2000, and, on the other hand the reality born of the prevailing climate of international financial instability.

"The proposed programme budget for 1980-81 will succeed if Member States and WHO as a whole learn to live with these contradictions, so that the reality does not obscure the vision and the vision is converted into reality", said Dr. Mahler.