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Press Release

World Family Doctors' Day – 19th May 2021

The Malta College of Family Doctors (MCFD) is a Voluntary Organisation (VO/0973) that strives to improve the academic and clinical performance of specialists in family medicine (known as “it-tobba tal-familja” or “family doctors” or “general practitioners”) and the standards of primary health care in our country.

The Association of Private Family Doctors (APFD) is a Voluntary Organisation (VO/1803) that strives to improve family medicine and primary health care in our country on behalf of the private family doctors (known as “it-tobba tal-familja” or “general practitioners”) and their patients.

The MCFD and APFD praise the self-discipline and social solidarity shown by many citizens of Malta and Gozo in heeding the recommendations of the Public Health authorities in the national efforts to control the COVID-19 pandemic, so that the livelihoods of families are preserved whilst the health services are not over-run.

Both Voluntary Organisations point out to the general public that the family doctors have remained available to preserve the physical, social and psychological wellbeing of all citizens. Within a vision of wellbeing family doctors and other primary care providers help to strengthen the health system and provide high quality and affordable care to all.

Family doctors were amongst the first to be involved in the efforts against COVID-19 whilst continuing to tackle all the other medical conditions which affect the health of those involved and

their families. They did so by keeping their traditional approach centred around people, whilst embracing new technologies which emerged as fundamental tools for healthcare professionals to continue their mission.

Family doctors continue to provide ongoing support to patients and their communities, thus ensuring continuity of care over lifetime. Continuity of care is one of the key pillars for a long healthy life.

Finally, the MCFD and the APFD encourage our society in general to discard the cliché return to normal promoted by some sectors and instead push and shove for a proper normal, where wellbeing is at the centre of future policies and actions.

Notes

1. World Family Doctor Day, 19th May, was first declared by WONCA in 2010 and it has become a day to highlight the role and contribution of family doctors in health care systems around the world. The event is a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge the central role of our specialty in the delivery of personal, comprehensive and continuing health care for all of our patients. It is also a chance to celebrate the progress being made in family medicine and the special contributions of family doctors globally.
2. WONCA is an acronym for the World Organization of National Colleges, Academies and Academic Associations of General Practitioners/Family Physicians. WONCA's short name is World Organization of Family Doctors. The Mission of WONCA is to improve the quality of life of the peoples of the world through defining and promoting its values, including respect for universal human rights and including gender equity, and by fostering high standards of care in general practice/family medicine. <https://www.globalfamilydoctor.com>

Dr Edward Zammit

Honorary President MCFD

Dr Anthony Azzopardi

Honorary President APFD

Stqarrija għall-istampa

Jum Dinji dwar it-Tobba tal-Familja – 19 ta' Mejju 2021

Il-Kulleġġ tat-Tobba tal-Familja Maltin (The Malta College of Family Doctors (MCFD)) hija Organizzazzjoni Volontarja (VO/0973) li tistinka biex ittejjeb il-hidma akkademika u klinika tal-ispeċjalisti fil-medicini tal-familja (maghrufa bhala t-tobba tal-familja jew “general practitioners”) u l-livell tal-kura primarja tas-sahha f’pajjizna.

L-Assocjazzjoni tat-Tobba tal-Familja Privati (Association of Private Family Doctors (APFD)) hija Organizzazzjoni Volontarja (VO/1803) li tistinka li ttejjeb il-medicina tal-familja u l-kura primarja tas-sahha f’pajjiza f’isem it-tobba tal-familja privati (maghrufa wkoll bhala “general practitioners”) u l-pazjenti tagħhom.

Il-Kulleġġ tat-Tobba tal-Familja Maltin u l-Assocjazzjoni tat-Tobba tal-Familja Privati jfahhru sens ta’ dixxiplina u solidarjeta li urew hafna cittadini ta’ Malta u Ghawdex waqt li segwew irakkomandazzjonijiet tal-awtoritajiet tas-Sahha Pubblika fl-isforzi nazzjonali biex tkun mizmuma l-pandemija minn COVID-19 sabiex insostnu kemm l-ghixien tal-familji kif ukoll is-servizz medici.

Iz-zewg Organizzazzjonijiet Volontarji jfakkru lill-pubbliku generali li t-tobba tal-familja baqghu jieħdu hsieb il-benessere fiziku, socjali u psikologiku tac-cittadini kollha. Dan jinkludi it-tishih tas-sistema tas-sahha biex tipprovdi kura ta’ kwalita affordabbli għal kulhadd.

It-tobba tal-familja kienu fost tal-ewwel li kienu involuti fl-isforzi kontra COVID-19 fil-waqt li baqghu jissieltu mal-kundizzjonijiet medici l-oħra kollha li baqghu jaffettwaw saħħet in-nies. Dan għamluh billi zammew l-approcc tradizzjonali tagħhom fejn il-pazjent jigi l-ewwel, fil-waqt li haddnu teknologiji godda li għenuhom ikomplu l-missjoni u l-vokazzjoni tagħhom.

It-tobba tal-familja ikomplu jipprovdu appogg lill-pazjenti fil-komunitajiet tagħhom biex jassiguraw kontinwita ta’ kura matul il-hajja. Il-kura kontinwa minn tabib tal-familja regolari hija wahda mill-pilastri ta’ hajja sana twila.

Fl-ahhar nett, l-MCFD u l-APFD iheggu lis-socjeta biex twarrab l-hsieb li mmorru lura għan-normal ta’ qabel imma minflok tistinka għal normal xieraq, fejn il-benessere huwa fil-qalba tal-pjanijiet u l-azzjonijiet tal-pajjiz.

Noti

1. Il-Jum Dinji tat-Tobba tal-Familja nhar id-19 ta' Mejju gie mniedi minn WONCA FL-2010 bhala gurnata li turi s-sehem u l-kontribuzzjoni tat-tobba tal-familja fis-sistema tas-sahha madwar id-dinja. Hija opportunita biex jingharaf is-sehem utieq tal-ispejalisti fil-medicina tal-familja biex ikun hemm kura kontinwa, personali u shiha ghall-pazjenti kollha. Hija opportunita wkoll li ticcelebra l-progress li jkun sar fil-medicina tal-familja u l-kontribuzzjoni specjali tat-tobba tal-familja madwar id-dinja.
2. WONCA (the World Organization of National Colleges, Academies and Academic Associations of General Practitioners/Family Physicians) hija l-organizzazzjoni internazzjonali tat-tobba tal-familja. L-ghan taghha huwa li ttejjeb il-kwalita tal-hajja tal-popli tad-dinja billi sseddaq il-valuri taghha, li jinkludu rispettt lejn id-drittijiet universali tal-bniedem u l-ekwita bejn is-sessi u billi tixpruna livelli gholja ta' kura fil-medicina tal-familja. <https://www.globalfamilydoctor.com>

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