



The Malta College Of Family Doctors **Newsletter**

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New MCFD Council

Following the elections held last August, the following members were elected on the council of the Malta College of Family Doctors:

Dr. Mario Gixti – President

Dr Andrew P Zammit - Vice President

Dr Noel Caruana – Honorary Secretary

Dr Michael Borg – Honorary Registrar

Dr Renzo De Gabriele - Secretary for Communication

Dr Jean Karl Soler - Secretary for Education

Dr Philip Sciortino - Chairman Curriculum Development

Dr Vincent Zammit – Member

The present council would like to thank all the members of the previous council for the hard work that has been done and which will certainly be followed up by the present council.

Since the council should consist of ten members and the president, nominations to fill the vacant positions have been issued.

The new council will continue to work to increase the standards of Family Medicine in Malta, which at the present are already high. The recently awarded formal membership of the MCFD (MMCFD) is another milestone in this process.

Condolences

The college wishes to express its deepest sympathy with Dr. Philip Sciortino and his family for the sad loss of his father.

The College Website and E-mail News

Over the years the website has evolved, and at present is updated regularly to keep all our members posted on recent developments and activities concerning the College. It is envisaged that in the near future the College will provide online CME, and restricted areas for members where one can view his or her

membership status and CME points accumulated. Therefore, it is important to browse our website from time to time to get the latest news.

With so many activities, courses, diplomas and lectures being organized, the college had felt the need to start sending e-mails to members to inform them as soon as possible of such news. To date many members have already registered for such a service. For example, these members have already been notified of the forthcoming lectures being organized at St. James' Hospital and St. Philip's Hospital, a Research Ethics course, and the Autumn CPD on Palliative Care. The newsletter cannot be sent every couple of days and this service will provide up to date information to all of you who register. Therefore, it is important to register for this service by sending an e-mail with your particulars to renzodegabriele@hotmail.com or else visit our website www.mcfed.org.mt and click on the link at bottom of main page to receive e-mail news. Those members who already receive our e-mail news do not need to apply again.

Upcoming events at a glance

20th & 21st October - Palliative Care Update (Autumn CPD)

25th October - Lunch and Learn Meeting at St. James Hospital Sliema

26th & 27th October - Malta Polyphenols Conference (www.isanh.com/polyphenols)

27th October - Lectures at St Philip Hospital

4th November – Membership Development Day

14th November - Lectures at St Philip Hospital

14th till 18th November - Course in Research Ethics

28th November - Lectures at St Philip Hospital

30th November till 2nd December - 6th Malta Medical School Conference

5th December - Lectures at St Philip Hospital

12th December - Lectures at St Philip Hospital

Palliative Care Update (Autumn 2006 CPD)

The Malta Hospice Movement and the Malta College of Family Doctors will be holding an 'Update on Palliative Care for Family Doctors in Malta' on the 20th and 21st October 2006.

The first session on Friday 20th October 2006 at 8pm is entitled Promoting Palliative Care in Malta. On Saturday 21st October 2006, there will be another two sessions taking place between 11am and 5pm, entitled Practicing and Planning Palliative Care, respectively. Besides various local specialists, the speakers will also include two specialists in palliative care from the U.K.

Participating College members will be accredited 9 units in the MCFD CPD Scheme.

The full programme is available online at this address http://www.mcfcd.org.mt/CPD%20Autumn%202006/palliative_care_update.htm

Lectures at St. Philip's Hospital

St. Philip's hospital will be organizing a series of lectures in the forthcoming months. They will be held in the lecture room of St. Philip's Hospital and will have a duration of around 30 minutes. Refreshments will be served after the talks. Please note that lectures start at different times.

Here is a list of the planned talks:

27th October - Mr. Carmel Sciberras - Nerve problems in the upper limb (1.30pm)

14th November - Mr. Adrian Agius - Cosmetic and functional rhinoplasty (8.00pm)

28th November - Mr. Joseph Briffa - Breast Surgery (1.00pm)

5th December - Prof J. Azzopardi - Practical Treatment of Type2 Diabetes (2.00pm)

12th December - Prof Mark Brincat - Investigation of the Infertile Couple (1.30pm)

Each lecture will be accredited 1 CME point in the MCFD CME accreditation scheme

Lunch and Learn Meetings at St. James' Hospital

The next lunch and learn session at St. James' Hospital (Sliema) will take place on Wednesday 25th October. Mr. Steve Mattocks will give a talk entitled "Management of renal colic, retention of urine and other urological problems".

The talk will be held at 2pm sharp and will be around 30-45 minutes long. Refreshments will be served after the talk. Parking will be available in the hospital staff car park.

Further talks in this series will be advertised on the website as soon as they are formalized.

Each lecture will be accredited 1 CME point in the MCFD CME accreditation scheme.

Courses organised in collaboration with the ICGP

Those members wishing to pursue a Diploma in Therapeutics, a Certificate in Diabetes or a Certificate in Minor Surgery (organized in collaboration with the Irish College of General Practitioners) are kindly asked to contact as soon as possible Dr. Mario Grixti on e-mail mario.grixti@gov.mt

6th Malta Medical School Conference

The 6th Malta Medical School Conference will be held at the Radisson SAS Hotel, Malta, from the 30th November to the 2nd December 2006.

The conference is the largest medical academic event in the country, and previous conferences have been held triennially, with attendees from all over the world. English is the official language of the conference.

The official website of the 6th Malta Medical School Conference can be found here <http://www.mmsconf.org/>

Membership Development Day

The second Membership Development Day will be held on the 4th November at the Hotel Juliani, St. Julians, from 8.30am till 2.30pm. Dr. Adrian Freeman from the Royal College of General Practitioners will be attending. The programme can be found on our website or by following this link <http://www.mcfed.org.mt/MembershipDevDay.PDF>

Other Notices

1. Doctors who are eligible for the Membership of the Malta College of Family Doctors (MMCFD) but have still not applied can do so by visiting our website. http://www.mcfed.org.mt/MMCFD/gala_dinner_for_membership_of_mc.htm

Those who did not attend the gala dinner and thus have not collected their certificate will be instructed shortly on how to collect their certificate.

2. The Centre for Bioethics is offering a course in research ethics for health care professionals at the Medical School, Gwardamangia, between the 14th and 18th November. The course is to be held in the afternoon between 1pm and 3pm. For course contents and further details visit our website or this link <http://www.mcfed.org.mt/research%20ethics%20course%202.doc> One may also contact Dr. Pierre Mallia on e-mail address pmallia@synapse.net.mt or mobile number 9949 8205.
3. The 13th Wonca Europe Annual Conference will be held in Paris between the 17th and 20th October 2007. Further details may be found on their website www.woncaeurope2007.org and on our website at this link www.mcfed.org.mt/Wonca2007/wonca_2007.htm