



MRCGP [INT.] SOUTH ASIA

Commitment to Family Medicine across the shores



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Top Scorer Feb-March 2024 OSCE

HIGHLIGHTS / UPCOMING EVENTS

- WONCA South Asia Region Conference 03- 05 May, 2024 Colombo, Sri Lanka
- Workshop on SAB 1-Year certificate program in Family Medicine during the WONCA SAR Colombo Conference.
- Exam orientation session - WONCA SAR Colombo Conference.
- Examiner Induction from India & Sri Lanka
- AKT Exam 15th May 2024

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

- Examiner induction from Pakistan
- AKT center in Nepal

Editorial Board

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Prof. Riaz Qureshi



“THE FATHER OF FAMILY MEDICINE”

NOVEMBER 11, 1944 - DECEMBER 01, 2023
FORMER CHAIR - MRCGP (INT) SOUTH ASIA

EULOGY FOR PROFESSOR RIAZ QURESHI

The Family Medicine community suffered an irreplaceable loss recently. Our beloved Professor Dr. Riaz Qureshi died peacefully in his sleep on 1st December 2023.

It is impossible to pen down the enormous achievements of Professor Qureshi. He was a visionary leader for Family Medicine NOT just for Pakistan but also for South Asia and Globally. He raised the stature of Family Medicine as a specialty in the region by initiating Departments, undergraduate/postgraduate Programs of Family Medicine and mentoring of junior and senior colleagues.

His achievement in getting South Asian countries to work together and develop the MRCGP International examination is exemplary. This required vision, persistence, emotional intelligence, resilience when facing setbacks and outstanding interpersonal skills.

The MRCGP International organization is now a well-established entity. It has raised the stature of Family Medicine across the region.

Professor Qureshi was a remarkable family physician. Throughout his career his motto was “patients first”. He cared about each of his patients and connected with them at a personal level. As a mentor he can be best described as caring yet firm and wanting always to push us to be better than ourselves.

The shock of this loss is still being felt by all who came in touch with him, especially his mentees and colleagues. He leaves a void which is impossible to fill. Professor Qureshi, you will always be in our thoughts and prayers and your legacy that you have left behind will stay with us forever.

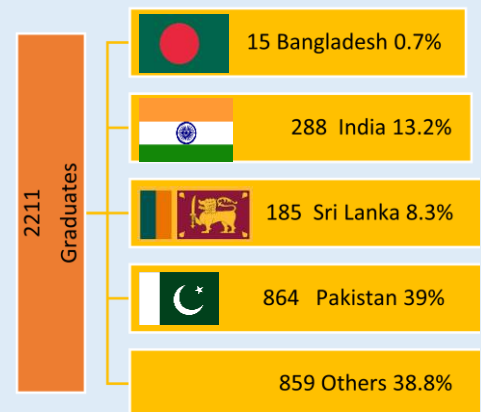
Professor Marie Andrades

Vice Chair

REGISTERED CANDIDATES

5350

Country	Registered
Bangladesh	71
India	605
Pakistan	1904
Sri Lanka	359
Others	2411



03 – 05 May 2024
COLOMBO, SRI LANKA

WONCA SOUTH ASIA REGION CONFERENCE 2024

in conjunction with

Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the
College of General Practitioners of Sri Lanka

“Celebrating Family Medicine - Nurturing Our Values across the Region”



The importance of addressing patient concerns and refined communication skills for the attending doctor.

By: Dr. Hemant Saluja, India

Addressing patient concerns and honing refined communication skills are paramount for a doctor's effectiveness and the overall quality of healthcare. Patients, often grappling with anxiety or uncertainty, rely on doctors not just for medical expertise but for reassurance and understanding. Attentively addressing their concerns fosters a trusting doctor-patient relationship, a cornerstone of successful healthcare outcomes. Refined communication skills go beyond relaying medical information; they encompass empathy, active listening, and clarity. A doctor's ability to decipher and respond to patients' non-verbal cues or emotional expressions enhances their diagnostic accuracy and treatment planning. Effective communication also aids in breaking down complex medical jargon, ensuring patients comprehend their conditions and treatment options. Moreover, a well-communicating doctor can inspire confidence, alleviate fear, and motivate patients to actively participate in their healthcare journey. This collaborative approach fosters better adherence to treatment plans and promotes a holistic understanding of health. In essence, addressing patient concerns and cultivating refined communication skills are not mere soft skills; they are integral components of compassionate and patient-centred care, ultimately contributing to improved health outcomes and patient satisfaction.

Effective communication in medicine is not just conveying information; it's a healing art that bridges understanding, instills confidence, and fosters a compassionate partnership between doctors and patients. So, Keep practicing and honing your communication skills because practice is the ground work upon which brilliance blossoms.

A Journey as an MRCGP (INT) Examiner: insights and reflections.

By: Dr Maithri Rupasinghe, Sri Lanka

As an examiner for the MRCGP (INT) for three consecutive years, I have evaluated many candidates from various backgrounds and cultures. The expedition has proven to be a combination of arduous and fulfilling experiences, affording me invaluable perspectives on the competencies and deficiencies of the candidates, as well as the healthcare frameworks within which they function.

The MRCGP (INT) journey exhibits a notable characteristic in the form of the candidates' diversity. I have evaluated candidates originating from various regions in Southeast Asia, each possessing distinct clinical experiences, knowledge bases, and skill sets. The exposure to diverse populations has provided me with valuable insights into the significance of cultural competence and adaptability within the healthcare field. It has underscored the necessity of customizing my assessment methods to cater to the unique requirements of each individual.

An additional significant facet of the MRCGP (INT) pathway pertains to the prioritization of practical clinical proficiencies. The purpose of the examination is to assess the candidates' capacity to apply their acquired knowledge and skills in practical situations, rather than solely relying on rote memorization of information. This methodology necessitates examiners to possess a high level of attentiveness and perceptiveness, as they evaluate not only the candidates' technical aptitude but also their aptitude for effective communication, professionalism, and capacity to work with patients of diverse backgrounds.

In conclusion, my experience as an MRCGP (INT) examiner has been a rewarding and enriching experience, providing me with valuable insights into the strengths and weaknesses of the candidates, as well as the healthcare systems they operate in.

Family Medicine practice a continuous journey

By: Dr. Basharat Ali, Pakistan

I started my carrier as GP in 1986. I always tried to update my knowledge by attending various CME. My first research paper and poster was honored the **best poster award in World Rural Health Conference Calgary Canada in 2000**. After completing MRCGP INT there was an obvious change in my clinical carrier. I got self-esteem, started presenting topics in CME program. I realized I should maximum education, so joined PhD program in Punjab University. I represented myself as trainer of GP and researcher. I joined as examiner to MRCGP. In next 6 years completed my PhD and also was awarded FRCGP INT which boost up my carrier as GP and educational person. I joined university of health science as adjunct professor. I started research methodology workshops in Pakistan and internationally. Many of these workshops were on the platform of WONCA as chair SAPCRN SAAR. These workshops were for GP, FCPS, MPhil and PhD students. Then worked as co-supervisor to MPhil and PhD students in different universities of Punjab. Then I joined as examiner to CPSP and diplomat board of family medicine. It was a great honour for me to work as examiner to MPhil and PhD. I joined as visiting professor to Central Institute of Family Medicine Lahore and member board of directors to Diplomat Board of Family Medicine. Most recently I have been awarded **WONCA fellowship in Wolrd WONCA conference Sydney on 28-10-2023**. These achievements and this educational journey has definite strong link with MRCGP South Asia which my changed my carrier as professional GP.