



## Call for Abstracts – closing soon!

The deadline of **10<sup>th</sup> August** for the Call for Abstracts is fast approaching.

Are you practising in a rural area, or interested in rural health? Whatever your situation, don't miss this opportunity to share your work with our EURIPA community.

Please follow the instructions on how to submit an abstract on the Forum website at

<https://euripaforum2021.eu/call-for-abstracts/call-for-abstracts/>

This is the last chance to submit your abstract to the hybrid EURIPA Rural Health Forum 2021. We appreciate how uncertain travelling is at the moment but you can register for either the virtual or face-to-face Forum and change your registration later on if your circumstances change.

Early bird registration is now **open** and continues until **16<sup>th</sup> August 2021**.

**Register now!**

In this edition we are featuring the four key note speakers for this year's Forum:



Prof. Shlomo Vinker MD MHA

**Professor Shlomo Vinker MD MHA** is currently the President of WONCA Europe, having been involved on the Executive Board since he was elected Member at large in 2016 becoming President- Elect in 2019 and President this year.

He is from Ashdod, a port and recreation city on the Mediterranean coast of Israel and an active family physician, working in an urban clinic.

Shlomo is a Full Professor in Family Medicine, Vice Dean for community teaching, and Chair of the Department of Family Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv.

He has published more than 200 research papers in peer reviewed medical journals cited in PubMed. Shlomo has also been actively involved in the EGPRN, the WONCA Europe network for research in general practice, and also the Israeli Association of Family Physicians (IAFP). As chairman (2009-18) he led a change in the residency program, shifting most of the residency time outside the hospital wards to family medicine and ambulatory setting. Under his leadership, IAFP founded a plan for research grants, which gave over the years hundreds of thousands of dollars to encourage research in family medicine. He founded an open Wiki website with high quality medical information, having now more than 6,600 articles and millions of annual entries.

Shlomo was also Chief Medical Officer of a nationwide healthcare organisation, Leumit Health Services, serving about 730,000 patients. Whilst at Leumit he established a research institute in Leumit, chairing it from 2018, and aiming to enhance research capacity in family medicine and primary care. We published more than 10 COVID-19 related publications. One "Low plasma 25(OH) vitamin D level is associated with increased risk of COVID-19 infection: an Israeli population-based study" had been cited 97, less than one year since its publication.

We are pleased to have Shlomo present as a keynote speaker; he says: "To be a rural family doctor preserves the holistic approach of family medicine and the long term patient-doctor relationship. It should be "The Jewel in the Crown" of family medicine".



**Professor Adam Windak** M.D, Ph.D. is a Full Professor and Head of the Department of Family Medicine at Jagiellonian University Medical College, Krakow, Poland. He also works as a family physician in a group practice in Kracow.

He is a Funder, Past President and current Vice-President of the College of Family Physicians in Poland.

He has coordinated several international educational projects (Tempus, Leonardo da Vinci) financed by the European Union. He was a leader of several research projects and author of over three hundred national and international publications. The Cumulated Impact Factor of all his publications is 132 with a total number of citations 901 (h-index 14).

He is an Associated Editor of the European Journal of General Practice and WONCA Europe Executive Board Member. His research interest includes health service sciences, medical education and quality of primary health care with special focus on cardiovascular diseases.



**Professor Joyce Kenkre** is Emeritus Professor of Primary Care at the University of South Wales, in the UK.

She has been grant holder on over £31million of research and infrastructure grants. Joyce has conducted over 90 research projects including the clinical therapeutic trials, randomised controlled trials, epidemiological, point of care testing, analysis of large large datasets and evaluation of service provision

resulting in numerous publications. She has been integral over the years to the development of the infrastructure for research in Primary Care in Wales.

Amongst other roles Joyce leads for working with industry for the South East Wales Academic Health Science Partnership, is a member of the International Advisory Board for the European Rural Isolated Practitioners Association (EURIPA) and Council member for Rural WONCA.



**Prof. Przemyslaw Kardas**, MD, PhD is a founder and Director of Medication Adherence Research Centre at the Medical University of Lodz, Poland. He is also Professor of Family Medicine and the Head of the Department of Family Medicine at the Medical University of Lodz, Poland.

His professional activities focus on patient adherence to medication, management of chronic conditions, active and healthy ageing, Big Data and eHealth. He is the author of a number of peer-reviewed scientific publications and conference presentations, as well as four monographs.

He is a member of several editorial boards and a reviewer for a number of medical journals. He serves as an expert to European Commission in Public Health under Horizon 2020 program. He was a Promoter to EIP on AHA Action Group A1: Prescription and adherence to treatment. He is involved in numerous international research collaborations, and EU projects. He was a Scientific Director of the European research initiative Ascertaining Barriers for Compliance ([www.ABCproject.eu](http://www.ABCproject.eu)) under 7th Framework Programme (2009-2012), and the President of European Society for Patient Compliance, Adherence, and Persistence (ESPACOMP) scientific association (2010-2011). Between 2017-2020, he headed SKILLS4ADHERENCE Project – an European training program for medical professionals in the area of adherence and polypharmacy management in the elderly.

**Save the date and come and listen to our  
keynote speakers**

**We look forward to seeing you in September, if not face to face then virtually!**