

## who we are

The European Forum for Primary Care was created in 2005. The nine member advisory board guides the activities of the Forum. Current chair is Prof Dr Jan De Maeseneer (Belgium) with other board members from UK, Italy, France, Slovenia, Moldova and the Netherlands.

The secretarial support to the Forum is carried out by NIVEL, the Netherlands institute for Health Services Research in Utrecht, the Netherlands.



Mr Diederik Aarendonk, a registered nurse with a master's degree in Public Health, is the co-ordinator of the Forum.

## why and how to become a member

Benefits of the membership are:

- opportunity to participate in the exchanges within the Forum through theme-group discussions, the publication of articles and documentation on the Forum's website
- full access to member website via the members Area
- regular e-mail newsletters on Primary Care developments
- information on conferences, thematic meetings, study visits and other activities organized by the European Forum for Primary Care and its partners; reduced registration fees for some conferences
- a chance to network and meet colleagues who have similar interests and concerns
- opportunities to participate in advocacy towards European and national health policy developments in favour of Primary Care
- The European Forum for Primary Care has adopted the journal Quality in Primary Care as its official publication. The Forum's Position Papers appear in the journal. Members have the opportunity to submit their own work for publication. Members of the European Forum for Primary Care can subscribe to the journal at a DISCOUNT OF 50%

### Membership fees

Per calendar year:

- Organizations: 300 Euro
- Individuals 120 Euro
- Lower rates can be applied for members in low income countries after a special request to the Board, that will decide on the request within one month
- Student organisations pay 50 % of the regular fee.

Members who register after July will be charged 50 % of the fee for the current year.

### Registration:

Use the registration form at the "Join now!" page on the website of the Forum.

### contact:

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Logo for the European Forum for Primary Care, featuring a stylized yellow and blue graphic of a person's head and neck, with the text "european forum for primary care" in blue and black.

# european forum for primary care



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*quality in primary care*

## our vision

*Strong Primary Care (PC) produces better health outcomes against lower costs. That is the briefest summary of available scientific evidence. By promoting strong PC the population's health can be improved. Strong PC does not emerge spontaneously. It requires appropriate conditions at the health care system level and in actual practice to make PC providers able and willing to take responsibility for the health of the population under their care. A key element is effective collaboration with well organised secondary care. Everywhere in Europe the process of strengthening PC is ongoing, with a large diversity in the way PC is organised. Therefore, Europe is in a sense a laboratory landscape of experiments for organising primary care. There is a strong need to collect and share information about what structures and strategies matter. This is a support to practitioners but will also provide the evidence to convince policy makers at different levels that PC needs to be strengthened.*



## what we aim at and what we do

The European Forum for Primary Care is multidisciplinary and brings together interested parties from many European countries. The aim of the Forum is to connect three groups of stakeholders in the field of Primary Care:

- the health care field; this includes practitioners from the different professions: physicians, nurses, social workers, physiotherapists, pharmacists, dentists and several others.
- health policy makers,
- the producers and evaluators of (health) care information: universities and other research groups.



These parties work at three levels: the local or district level, the national level and the supra-national level. By linking policy, practice and research the Forum intends to stimulate policy making based on vision and evidence as much as it intends to support PC practice oriented towards quality and equity.

The Forum provides information and opportunities for debate to its members, using thematic discussion groups, facilitated by the website and the secretariat. It also formulates Position Papers, based on contributions of its members and third parties. In the past years, Position Papers on Mental Health, Self Care, Diabetes and several other chronic conditions, all in relation to Primary Care, have been developed and published and in coming years further Position Papers will be issued. The Forum monitors EU policies and advises its members, the relevant organisations of the European Union and its member states on policies that bear relevance to Primary Care. However, the scope of the Forum is not limited to member states of



the European Union: it encompasses all European countries. The Forum works in close collaboration with several organisations like WHO, Wonca, EUPHA, EUSP, ENOTHE and EFN.

A biennial conference dedicated to the development of Primary Care with the title: The Future of Primary Care in Europe is the major recurrent event of the Forum. In 2006 this event took place in Utrecht, The Netherlands and the 2008 edition was held in Southampton, UK. The 2010 edition will take place in Pisa, Italy.

The Forum seeks to expand its membership and thereby to strengthen its leading position for Primary Care in Europe. Membership stands at 120 institutional members of local, regional and national organisations from more than 35 countries in Europe. Non-European organisations are welcome as members as well.