GENEVA CONFERENCE ON PERSON-CENTERED MEDICINE

May 29 – 30, 2008
L’ Auditoire Marcel Jenny,
University Hospitals of Geneva

Organized by the World Psychiatric Association Institutional Program on Psychiatry for the Person (IPPP) in collaboration with the World Medical Association (WMA), the World Organization of Family Doctors (WONCA), the World Federation of Neurology (WFN), the World Federation for Medical Education (WFME), the Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences (CIOMS), the World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH), the International Council of Nurses (ICN), and the International Alliance of Patients’ Organizations (IAPO), with the cooperation of the Paul Tournier Association, and the auspices of the University Hospitals of Geneva (HUG).

Conference Summary Report

Conference President
J.E. Mezzich

Conference Coordinator
M. Botbol

Rapporteurs
I. Salloum and T. Sensky

Organizational Support
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Geneva Conference on Person-centered Medicine is the latest event in the unfolding WPA Psychiatry for the Person programmatic process, which also includes a London Conference in October 2007 and a Paris Conference in February 2008. This Geneva Conference also represents the beginning of a new process that is extended to medicine at large and is inter-institutionally collaborative.

In fact, the Geneva Conference on Person-centered Medicine took place on May 29 and 30, 2008 under the auspices and on the premises of the University Hospitals of Geneva, organized by the World Psychiatric Association (WPA) Institutional Program on Psychiatry for the Person (IPPP), in collaboration with the World Medical Association (WMA), the World Organization of Family Doctors (WONCA), the World Federation of Neurology (WFN), the World Federation for Medical Education (WFME), the Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences (CIOMS), the World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH), the International Council of Nurses (ICN), the International Alliance of Patients' Organizations (IAPO), and the Paul Tournier Association.

The Conference was aimed at presenting and discussing the experience on person-centered principles and procedures gained under the IPPP as well as the conceptual bases of person-centered medicine, engaging interactively major international medical and health organizations, and identifying promising organizational steps for the further development of person-centered medical and health care.

The Conference was presided by Juan Mezzich (IPPP Chair and WPA President), with Michel Botbol as Conference Coordinator, Illsh Salloum and Tom Sensky as Rapporteurs, and with the organizational support of the IPPP leadership (J.E. Mezzich, G. Christodoulou, B. Fulford, I. Salloum, R. Montenegro, A. Tasman, T. Sensky, H. Herrman, M. Amering), Geneva Task Force (J. Cox, F. Ferrero, O. Kloiber, B. Ruedi, H-R Pfeiffer, A. Engstrom, P. Atiase), Office of the WPA President in New York (E. Millan, Executive Assistant; M. Han, research associate), and unrestricted grants from Johnson & Johnson and the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations.

The Conference was opened by the WPA President, the Chief Executive of the University Hospitals of Geneva, and the Rector of the University of Geneva, in the presence of the representatives of the collaborating organizations. The tradition of Geneva as being a setting for encounters of ideas was celebrated.

The first scientific session involved presentations of the leaders of the nine participating organizations on the meaning of person-centered medicine in the perspective of the corresponding institutions. Details on the presentations made can be found for this session as well as for all other sessions among the abstracts, short papers and powerpoints assembled as Conference Documents and presented later in this Report.

Four special initiatives relevant to person-centered care were presented in the second session. These included the World Medical Association's Caring Physicians of the World, the UK Health Department's Shared Vision Project, the patient/family/professional trialogs initiated in Europe, and an innovative Geneva University educational project.

The historical, philosophical, and ethical bases of person-centered medicine were discussed on the third session. They highlighted the articulation of science and ethics as the core of person-centered medicine.
The session that followed dealt with key experiential factors. The rich and empowering concept of personhood was analyzed, followed by the value of communication and narratives in medical healing, and the crucial framework of culture and spirituality.

A session in honor of Paul Tournier ensued, where the man and his vision were inspiringly reviewed. The crucial role of personal encounters leading to creative scientific and professional contributions were highlighted.

A penetrating analysis of the domains in the patient's overall health was the subject of the sixth session. Specific attention was paid to illness, suffering, disabilities, and the various aspects of positive health.

Clinical care organization was then discussed in terms, first, of person-centered diagnosis that would describe ill health as well as positive health by employing categories, dimensions and narratives generated through clinician, patient and family interactions. Also discussed in the seventh session were key elements of person-centered clinical practice and services.

How person-centered approaches can enhance care in critical clinical areas was reviewed by focusing on the neurological-mental interface, mother-child health care, and a range of chronic diseases. The importance of paying attention to systems issues for achieving paradigmatic shifts emerged here.

The ninth session dealt with person-centered public health by examining the patient's protagonic role in health care, the possibility of empowering persons through health information, and the enhancement of prevention and health promotion activities by attending to the whole person of the subject.

The Conference's final session attempted a basic summary of the rich proceedings. The discussion of the Conference content and possible next steps revealed some contrasting and evolving perspectives as well as substantial interest in the majority of participants to pursue the goals of the Conference.

In the days that followed, virtually all organizations that collaborated in the Conference (as well as many individual participants) expressed high views on the quality of the proceedings and the significance of the encounter and a clear disposition to remain engaged.

The major collaborative next steps would be the following:

- The publication of a monograph containing the Conference papers and of editorials and papers in international journals is anticipated. Illustratively, the current presidents of the WMA, WONCA, and WPA plan papers in their own journals but also a joint editorial in a broad international journal.

- Symposia on Person-centered Medicine would be organized at major events of the collaborating organizations and other international forums.

- A second Conference on Person-centered Medicine is contemplated for 2009. Its agenda may include specific procedures for person-centered clinical care, professional training, and research. Geneva is emerging again as a promising setting.
The delineation of an Initiative on Person-centered Medicine in collaboration with interested global medical and health organizations will be explored.

Some contributors came to the Geneva Conference assuming that clinicians always practice person-centered medicine and that no novel initiative was needed. The excellent quality and depth of the presentations and discussions, and their thoughtfulness, highlighted how much there was to share and to learn.

The meeting also highlighted the relevance to general medicine and health care of the work already started by the WPA Institutional Program on Psychiatry for the Person (IPPP). The emerging challenge is to develop specific concepts, competencies, procedures, and resources to facilitate the application of a truly person-centered approach in everyday clinical practice.

The Geneva Conference demonstrated the great benefits of collaboration in this venture among different medical specialists and across health professions. Those who have worked to prepare the WPA IPPP invite colleagues to share with them the development of this initiative, articulating science and humanism and working respectfully with our patients towards every person's greater health and life project's fulfillment.
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FULL PROGRAM

Conference Objectives

- To present and discuss conceptual bases, personal identity, experience, and meaning in health, ill- and positive-health domains, enhancing clinical care and public health, and special initiatives on person-centered medicine.
- To engage interactively major international medical and health organizations on the Conference’s theme
  - To identify promising organizational steps for the further development of person-centered medicine and health care.

Conference Participants

Invited speakers and discussants and interested colleagues will register free of charge. WPA CME credits (16) will be available.

Organizational Support


Information and Coordination

Registration and general information: WPA Secretariat (wpasecretariat@wpanet.org)
T: 41-22-305-5737 /30/32/  F: 41-22-305-5735
Scientific program information and coordination: Profs. Juan Mezzich (juanmezzich@aol.com) and Michel Botbol (michel.botbol@wanadoo.fr)
DAY ONE, THURSDAY MAY 29, 2008

8:00 – 8:30 am.  Registration and check-in

8:30 – 8:45 am.  Conference Opening
Welcoming words from Juan E. Mezzrich (WPA President), Bernard Gruson (HUG Chief Executive Officer), and Jean-Dominique Vassalli (Geneva University Rector), in the presence of Representatives of Collaborating Organizations.

8:45 – 11:00 am.  International Organization Perspectives on Person-centered Medicine (each presenter and discussant will have 10 min., and general discussion 15 min.)

Chairs: Y. Coble (WMA)(Jacksonville,USA), F. Ferrero (Geneva)
- World Psychiatric Association (WPA) Perspectives: J. Mezzrich (New York)
- World Medical Association (WMA) Perspectives: J. Snaedal (Reykjavik)
- World Organization of Family Doctors (WONCA) Perspectives: I. Heath (London)
- World Federation of Neurology (WFN) Perspectives: J. Aarli (Bergen, Norway)
- World Federation for Mental Education (WFME) Perspectives: H. Karle (Copenhagen)
- Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences (CIOMS) Perspectives: Protecting Persons through International Ethics Guidelines. M. Vallotton (Geneva)
- World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH) Perspectives: J. Copeland (Liverpool)
- International Council of Nurses (ICN) Perspectives: C. Bart (Milwaukee, USA)
- International Alliance of Patients’ Organizations (IAPO) Perspectives: J. Harkness (London)

11:00 – 11:15 am.  Coffee Break

11:15 – 12:45 pm.  Special Initiatives Relevant to Person-centered Care (each topic will have 15 min., each discussant 5 min., and general discussion 15 min.)

Chairs: J. Snaedal (WMA)(Reykjavik), M. Botbol (Paris)
- WMA’s Caring Physicians of the World: Y. Coble (WMA)(Jacksonville,USA)
- UK Health Department’s Shared Vision Project: B. Fulford (London)
- Patient/Family/Clinician Trialog: M. Amering (Vienna)
- Geneva University’s Person, Health & Society Curriculum and Psychotherapy Initiative: F. Ferrero & A-F. Allaz (Geneva)
- Discussants: P. Garrison (WFMH) (Springfield, VA, USA), T. Ghebrihewit (ICN)(Geneva)

12:45 – 2:15 pm.  Lunch (Open)

2:15 – 3:45 pm.  Conceptual Bases of Person-centered Medicine (each topic will have 15 min., each discussant 5 min., and general discussion 35 min.)

Chairs: M. Vallotton (CIOMS)(Geneva), T. Sensky (London)
- Historical Perspectives on Person-centered Medicine: P. Hoff (Zurich)
- The Person and Philosophy of Science & Medicine: K. Schaffner (Pittsburgh)
- Moral Theories and the Person: G. Christodoulou (Athens)
- Discussants: M. Botbol (Paris), N. Sartorius (Geneva)

3:45 – 4:00 pm.  Coffee Break
4:00 – 5:30 pm. **Personal Identity, Experience and Meaning in Health** (each topic will have 15 min., each discussant 5 min., and general discussion 30 min.)

**Chairs:** J. Aarli (AFN)(Bergen, Norway), A-F Allaz (Geneva)

- Personhood: E. Cassell (New York), T. Sensky (London)
- Communication, Narrative and Healing: A. Finset (ICPM)(Oslo)
- Culture and Spirituality: K. Bhui (London)
- Discussants: J. Cox (Cheltenham, UK), L. Küey (Istanbul)

5:45 – 6:30 pm. **Special Session in Honor of Paul Tournier** (each main presenter will have 15 min., and the discussant 10 min.)

**Chairs:** J. Mezzich (New York), J. Cox (Cheltenham, UK)

- Paul Tournier and *Medicine de la Personne*: The man and his vision. H-R Pfeifer (Zurich)
- Scientific Developments and Medicine of the Person: B. Ruedi (Neuchatel, Switzerland)
- Discussant: T. Collaud (Neuchatel, Switzerland)

6:30 pm. **Music Recital (F. Ganthialou, violoncello) and Apéritif**

7:30 pm. **Conference Dinner**

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**DAY TWO: FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2008**

9:00 – 10:30 am. **Person-centered Health Domains** (each topic will have 15 min., each discussant 5 min., and general discussion 30 min.)

**Chairs:** B. Ruedi (Neuchatel, Switzerland), C. Bartz (ICN)(Milwaukee, USA)

- Illness and Suffering: T. Sensky (ICPM)(London)
- Disabilities and Functioning: L. Salvador-Carulla (Cadiz, Spain)
- Positive Health: R. Cloninger (St. Louis)
- Discussants: B. Fulford (London), J.K. Trivedi (Lucknow, India)

10:30 – 10:45 am. **Coffee Break**

10:45 am. – 12:15 pm. **Clinical Care Organization** (each topic will have 15 min., each discussant 5 min., and general discussion 30 min.)

**Chairs:** I. Heath (WONCA)(London), F. Quartier (Geneva)

- Person-centered Diagnosis: I. Salloum (Miami)
- Person-centered Clinical Practice: E. van Weel (WONCA)(Nijmegen, Netherlands)
- Person-centered Services: M. Pare (Ontario, Canada)
- Discussants: C. Banzato (Campinas, Brazil), H. Karle (WFME)(Copenhagen)

12:15 – 1:45 pm. **Lunch (Open)**

1:45 – 3:15 pm. **Person-centered Care in Critical Areas** (each topic will have 15 min., each discussant 5 min., and general discussion 30 min.)

**Chairs:** J. Copeland (WFMH)(Liverpool), E. van Weel (Nijmegen, Netherlands)
Interfacing Neurological & Mental Conditions: J. Aarli (WFN)(Bergen, Norway)
Mother-Child Health Care: J.E. Hill (WMA)(Mississippi, USA)
Chronic Diseases: B. Saraceno (Geneva)
Discussants: R. Montenegro (Buenos Aires), G. Christodoulou (Athens)

3:15 – 3:30 pm. Coffee Break

3:30 – 5:00 pm. Person-centered Public Health (each topic will have 15 min., each discussant 5 min., and general discussion 30 min.)

Chairs: H. Karle (WFME)(Copenhagen), J. Harkness (IAPO)(London)

- The Service User as a Person in Health Care: J. Wallcraft (London)
- Empowerment of Persons & Health Information: T. B. Üstün (Geneva)
- Person-centered Prevention and Health Promotion: I. Heath (WONCA)(London)
- Discussants: J.E. Hill (WMA)(Mississippi, USA), W. Rutz (Uppsala)

5:00 – 6:15 pm. Conference Summary and Next Steps

- Summary of the Conference: T. Sensky and I. Salloum (Rapporteurs)

POST-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP ON PSYCHIATRY FOR THE PERSON

Saturday and Sunday, May 31 (9:00 am. – 5:30 pm.) and June 1 (9:00 am. – 1:00 pm.), 2008

Venue: WPA Secretariat, Geneva University Psychiatric Hospital, Batiment Les Voirons, 2 Chemin du Petit-Bel-Air, 1225 Chene-Bourg, Geneva

Objectives: To advance key IPPP Projects on Conceptual Bases, Clinical Diagnosis, Clinical Care, and Public Health.

Participants: IPPP Workgroup Members
GENEVA CONFERENCE INVITED PARTICIPANTS

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