

Emerging Issues and Initiatives:

AN ACTION FRAMEWORK FOR THE CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS AND THE WONCA WORKING PARTY ON RURAL PRACTICE



3rd World Rural Congress on Rural Health,
Kuching Malaysia 1999

1. Sustainable Models Of Rural Health Services

- a. Healthy Villages
- b. Community Control of Health Service Delivery
- c. Sustainable Practices including models
 - i. For single doctor villages,
 - ii. Extra support
 - iii. Private / Public cooperation
 - iv. Additional workforce
- d. Supportive of women as practitioners

2. Funding Rural Health Services - "Investment In Rural Health"

- a. Private/Public/Corporate Mix
 - i. Models
 - ii. Implications
- b. Rural Doctor Incentives And Supports
- c. Funding which recognises the way women doctors work

3. Women's Issues

- a. Female Practitioners
 - i. Practitioner as part of her family unit
 - ii. Flexibility between roles and types of practice
 - iii. Valuing of feminine style of practice and female doctors
- b. Women's Health
 - i. Gender specific and sensitive indicators of well being
 - ii. Issues
 1. Subordinated Status
 2. Bodily Integrity
 3. Sexual Health

4. Telehealth

- a. Implementation of WONCA Policy on Using Information Technology to Improve Rural Health Care
- b. Supporting Good Examples Of Cost Effective Implementation
- c. Dimensions Of Telehealth
 - i. Communication Information Management
 - ii. Medical Technology
 - iii. Human Machine Interface
 - iv. Teleconsulting
- d. Women friendly models of technology

5. Rural Health Research Agenda

- a. Development of a body of knowledge on rural practice and rural health to which women and men contribute
- b. Development of a rural health research framework
- c. Fostering grass roots input
- d. National Health Surveys with specific rural and remote data
- e. Specific Topics
 - i. Poverty
 - ii. Gender Issues
 - iii. Ethnic Issues

6. Education and Training - completing the picture

- a. Rural-Based Academics
 - i. Rural-based medical schools
 - ii. Rural-based teaching
- b. Rural Training Streams
- c. Fellowship Programs In General Practice/Family Medicine
- d. Masters Programs In General Practice/Family Medicine & Rural Health
- e. Distance Education Options

7. Where there is compulsory rural service, make the most of the opportunity to promote rural health practice through

- a. Education Opportunities
- b. Career Opportunities

8. Kuching Statement on Indigenous Peoples