

Congratulations to the ICGP

Royal College of Physicians of Ireland

I am very pleased to have this opportunity to congratulate the Irish College of General Practitioners on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of its foundation. The professional leadership provided by the ICGP over these years has been exemplary, and has led to the transformation of the education and training landscape for GPs in Ireland. In recent years, the ICGP has played an active and dynamic role in the foundation and development of the Forum of Irish Postgraduate Medical Training Bodies. In today's challenging times such leadership has never been more relevant or important, and it is to the great credit of the ICGP and its members that the college is to the forefront on a wide range of critical professional issues.

Leo Kearns, chief executive officer

Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland

I would like to congratulate the Irish College of General Practitioners on its 25th anniversary. Since its foundation in 1984, the college has successfully maintained the highest standards of general medical practice in Ireland through education, training and the maintenance of general standards. It is a clear demonstration of the commitment of general practitioners and general practices in Ireland to maintain high quality care for our communities. We wish them continued success in the future.

Michael Horgan, chief executive officer

Irish Medical Organisation

Congratulations to all at the Irish College of General Practitioners on its 25th Anniversary. It has always and continues to provide a gold standard service to doctors on education, training and professional development of general practice in Ireland. Its commitment to encourage and maintain the highest standards of general practice in Ireland benefits patients, general practitioners and the Irish health system. I would like to extend to them on behalf of the IMO my best wishes on reaching 25 years and hope that its success will continue into the future.

George McNeice, chief executive

Irish Pharmaceutical Healthcare Association

The Irish Pharmaceutical Healthcare Association congratulates the Irish College of General Practitioners on its contribution to the development of general practice in Ireland over the past 25 years. With medicine developing at a phenomenal pace, the work of the ICGP is more important than ever. The association and its member companies have been privileged to partner with the College, and we wish it continued success in the years ahead.

Pharmaceutical Managers' Institute of Ireland

On behalf of the Pharmaceutical Managers' Institute of Ireland (the PMI), I would like to extend heartfelt congratulations to the Irish College of General Practitioners on the occasion of its 25th Anniversary.

As an educational institute ourselves, we very much value our relationship with the college. We have had the honour of welcoming the president of the ICGP to our annual gala dinner on numerous occasions and also the participation of its members in our annual Great Debate and educational programmes over the past number of years.

We would like to thank the college for its past involvement in our institute and look forward to further developing our relationship with it into the future.

Sean Davis, vice-president

WONCA

On behalf of the Wonca Executive Committee, Wonca World Council and the global family doctor fraternity, I would like to take this opportunity to send heartiest congratulations to the members of the Irish College of General Practitioners on the occasion of its 25th Anniversary.

The Irish College of General Practitioners, as a relatively young and small college, has played an important role in the 37-year history of Wonca. The Irish college was the host of the highly successful 15th Wonca World Conference held in Dublin in 1998. The success of this conference clearly demonstrated that even a relatively young and small college with a band of dedicated members will be able to contribute significantly to Wonca and to global family medicine.

The college also had the distinction of having its past president, Michael Boland, as the Wonca World President for the triennium July 2001-June 2004. Michael's presidency saw the smooth relocation of the Wonca World Secretariat from Melbourne, Australia to Singapore and the successful transition of the new administrative team for the secretariat. It was also during this triennium that the most significant growth occurred for Wonca in terms of new member organisations joining the world body.

On behalf of the Wonca World President, the executive committee and the World Council of Wonca, I would like to thank the ICGP for its past contributions to the world organisation and to wish the college every success in all its future endeavours.

Dr Alfred Loh, chief executive officer

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners sends its warmest congratulations to its sister college on the occasion of this milestone 25th anniversary. Our colleges have worked together for a number of years, and the reciprocal agreement signed in 2007 is testament to the enduring nature of this relationship. Through this agreement, Fellowship of the RACGP or Membership of the ICGP may be awarded ad eundem gradum to fellows of the RACGP or members of the ICGP as appropriate, and has strengthened the bonds between our two organisations. The Council of the RACGP wishes continued success and prosperity to the Irish College of General Practitioners at this time and looks forward to a long and successful future as partners in general practice.

Dr Chris Mitchell, president

Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners

Kia ora

On behalf of the Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners it gives us great pleasure to congratulate the ICGP on the 25th Anniversary of your foundation.

The establishment of colleges of general practitioners was an important step in the development of our speciality. The international evidence is that health systems with a strong primary care focus provide the highest quality, safest and most cost-effective care. We need strong colleges to be leaders in the primary health sector for quality education and standards.

Once again, our congratulations on reaching this milestone.

Ra Whanau ki a Koe

Dr Harry Pert, president, Dr Jonathan Fox, immediate past-president

Royal College of General Practitioners

Can it really be 25 years? Time is the most extraordinary and elastic of concepts. It feels like it was only yesterday that I became a founder member of the ICGP, and yet it also feels like the ICGP has always been here. That has to be a measure of your achievement.

The Royal College of General Practitioners has always been tremendously proud of our relationship with our sister college in Ireland. Many of your founders were members of our college too. But it always seemed essential that you should form your own organisation, though it was clear from the start that we shared values and aspirations. Quality care, with a real focus on patients, was central to your activities.

For a couple of years I was an examiner for the ICGP, and will always treasure that as one of the most stimulating, educational, and enjoyable activities in my professional life. The energy, enthusiasm, and academic rigour that went into your exam were second to none. And what was true for the examination was true for the college as a whole. So, at 25 you still have the vigour and energy of youth, but also the experience of a quarter of a century behind you.

On behalf of all your colleagues in the Royal College of General Practitioners, in the UK, in Ireland, and around the world, may I offer our warmest congratulations, and our best wishes for the longest and most successful of lives.

Professor David Haslam, president