

„New vision for primary health
care and sustainable development“



WONCA 2025

25TH WONCA WORLD CONFERENCE

17 – 21 SEPTEMBER 2025

LISBOA CONGRESS CENTRE – CCL



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Is the doctor-patient relationship an ingredient of the doctor' happiness and well-being ?

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CIRK, Cercle international Robert KRAUSS- Luxembourg

Speakers:

- Minguet Cassian (UCLouvain, Belgium)
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CONFLICT OF INTEREST (COI)

We have no potential conflict of interest to report

CONDITIONS



What are the factors that promote physician well-being?

- Conditions of practice, in terms of a correct workload (neither too much nor too little) (schedule, number of consultations/patients)
- Type of work (reduce administrative aspects), illegitimate tasks
- Work-life balance
- Sports or recreational activities that punctuate work

... other types of factors ? How about the core-content of the job ?

MEANINGS

Doctor-patient's relationship as an ingredient to the doctor's wellbeing

- Difference
 - Happiness
 - Well being
 - Comfort

Meaning in our actions

- The concept of gift/counter-gift by Marcel Mauss
- Work: a curse or a blessing?

Example: the reconstruction of Notre-Dame de Paris in 5 years

Social bond (man is a social animal): reciprocal exchange as social link

The reconstruction of Notre-Dame of Paris



Des charpentiers vérifient les assemblages d'un des panneaux décorés des gradins

Patrick Zachmann – Magnum Photos

Another exemple, close to us



Magnetic GP surgeries /magnetic primary health care centers: who and how?

This concerns healthcare structures.
They attract professionals.
Trends.

- Less strict hierarchy.
- Fluidity in relationships.
- Respect and listening.
- Difficulties resolved by peer groups, for example Balint.

Can we teach the well-being in the workplace ?

- The way we look at work is evolving.
- Learning through exchange as promoted by **narrative medicine** and the **medical humanities**
- Encourages a more reflective and relational approach to care.
- **Medical and health anthropology**, which helps us understand the cultural and social dimensions of illness and healing.
- Ultimately, the goal is **personal fulfillment through meaningful connection with patients**.

How can research contribute to promote doctors wellbeing ?

- Exploring the doctor-patient relationship
- Anthropological observations on gift and counter-gift in general practice (field observations)
- Critique of surveys on the reasons for physician satisfaction, which focus more on comfort than on actual well-being

Good working conditions + Meaning = Well-Being ?

Obrigado, Merci, Thank you



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- Ask by app WONCA2025

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