

WONCA Europe Secretariat

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WONCA Europe Award of Excellence in Health Care: The 5 - Star Doctor 2020

WONCA Europe is proud to announce the winner of the WONCA Europe Award of Excellence in Health Care: **The 5-Star Doctor 2020: Austin O'Carroll from Dublin, Ireland**

About Dr Austin O'Carroll from Dublin, Ireland - a short extract from the winner's application:

Dr Austin O' Carroll is a GP in inner city Dublin. He has a profound interest in health inequalities, and started eight specialised primary care services for homeless people. He raised funding for and established a mobile outreach clinic for rough sleepers. He was a founding member of the out of hours services D-Doc for the Dublin area.

He founded Safetynet, the umbrella organisation for primary care services providing health care to homeless people which is delivered in 18 hostels and food halls/drops in the centres of Dublin, Limerick and Cork. Safetynet also provides services to the Roma community; methadone services to homeless people; and services to migrants. He co-founded GMQ GP services for homeless people. He co-founded Curam, a new social enterprise that is setting up New GP practices in areas of deprivation

Dr. Austin O'Carroll is also the founder of the North Dublin City GP Training programme (NDCGP). In Ireland as well as internationally, NDCGP is the first GP training programme which specifically trains GPs to work in areas of deprivation and with marginalised groups. As part of their fourth year all NDCGP trainees work one day a week in homeless/prison/migrant/or drug addiction health services.

Dr. Austin O'Carroll is a member of the steering group of the Partnership for Health Equity of the National Health Service Office of Social Inclusion, NDCGP, the Irish College of GP and the University of Limerick. He has completed a PhD in ethnographic research into homelessness.

Dr. Austin O'Carroll sails on the Irish Paralympics Sailing Team.

WONCA Award of Excellence in Health Care: The 5-Star Doctor is an award to be conferred on physicians, who in the opinion of the WONCA Council, have made a significant impact on the health of individual and communities, through personal contributions to health care and the profession. It is instituted in an attempt to increase the global development of Family Medicine, global networking and partnership.

The selection committee considered the following criteria:

- a nominee must meet the principle of the 5 Star Doctor
- the "Towards Unity for Health" criteria will be kept in mind: the attributes of the 5 Star Doctor are:
 - **care provider** who considers the patient as an integral part of a family and the community and provides high standard clinical care (excluding or diagnosing serious illness and injury, manages chronic disease and disability) and personalises preventive care within a long term, trusting relationship
 - **decision maker**, who chooses which technologies to apply ethically and cost-effectively while enhancing the care that he or she provides;
 - **communicator**, who is able to promote healthy life-styles by emphatic explanation, thereby empowering individuals and groups to enhance and protect their health;
 - **community leader**, who has won the trust of the people among whom he or she works, who can reconcile individual and community health requirements and initiate action on behalf of the community;
 - **team member**, who can work harmoniously with individuals and organisations, within and outside the health care system, to meet his or her patients and community's needs.
- a nominee should be a primary care physician/family doctor in mid-career who in addition to providing regular patient care:
 - provides innovative services for a community or special patient group;
 - developed services where they were previously not available;
 - supported colleagues in another region, country or college;
 - performed academic work (teaching, research, quality assurance) of exceptional quality and relevance.
- a nominee needs to be a primary care physician/family doctor
- a nominee can work outside his or her region, or create something that can be used outside his or her region or serve as a role model to other regions

The winner of the 2020 WONCA Europe 5-Star Doctor Award will be one of the European candidates for the WONCA World 5-Star Doctor Award of 2020 in Abu Dhabi in November.

The WONCA Europe 5 Star Doctor Award 2020 will be presented at the European Conference of Family Doctors in Berlin, December 17 - 19, 2020.

Sincerely,



Prof. Dr. Mehmet Ugan
WONCA Europe President



Prof. Dr. Eva Hummers
WONCA Europe Honorary Secretary