



GUEST EDITORIAL

Global mental health – EFPT Porto Forum 2015

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From the 23rd EFPT Forum, Porto, Portugal. 22–27 June 2015.

The European Federation of Psychiatric Trainees (EFPT) is the independent federation of psychiatric trainees associations of more than 30 countries, representing and supporting thousands of junior doctors training in psychiatry in Europe, and it has been the first international organization of trainees specialized in any branch of medicine. Since its inception in 1992, EFPT has grown playing a major role in the improvement of psychiatric training across Europe.

The 23rd EFPT Forum, taking place in 2015 in Porto, has “Global mental health” as motto, and is receiving for the first time participants from different regions of the world further than Europe, facilitating the opportunity to develop collaborative projects, nationally and internationally, and being an excellent occasion to exchange experiences and share good practices.

This Scientific Programme has been open to all junior doctors, medical students and mental health professionals

beyond Portugal, interested in participating and contributing for this multidisciplinary discussion with colleagues from other specialties and other fields.

Global mental health is needful of the support and advocacy of all professionals aiming to address health inequalities, which is such an important goal nowadays of the health systems worldwide; while at the same time, promoting the positive image of psychiatry not only for medical students, but more broadly to the different players of the society.

We are delighted that so many world-renowned professionals have travelled from different regions of the world to Porto to contribute to this Scientific Programme of our EFPT Forum, which we are very proud of. Likewise, we are grateful to all the institutions and individual people that have by different means supported our efforts.

Collaboration implies equal partners to work together, envisioning common goals: to share knowledge, to learn and to build consensus; with a strong determination to reach an identical objective: the endeavour of hosting the EFPT Porto Forum 2015.

In fact, the Local Organising Committee of the EFPT Porto Forum 2015, is itself composed by a diverse group of elements, from different cities in Portugal: psychiatry trainees, both from adult psychiatry and child and adolescent psychiatry, trainees from other areas, as well as medical students, bringing a perspective of different backgrounds and stages of one’s career.

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International collaboration and partnerships between people, seem to have contributed throughout time to what we now call modern globalization, referred as a global interconnected system with dominant factors: economical, political, technological, cultural and environmental.

According to its definition “Global mental health is the area of study, research and practice that places a priority on improving mental health and achieving equity in mental health for all people worldwide”¹.

This Special Issue about the Scientific Programme of the EFPT Porto Forum 2015 at the International Journal of Clinical Neurosciences and Mental Health gathers the symposiums, courses and workshops presentations by invited speakers, with the contributions of the selected abstracts for the e-posters and oral presentations by participants.

We believe that this Special Issue translates the foremost developments in Global mental health during the

latest years, covering central topics as: psychiatry and society; workforce and human resources; cooperation in psychiatry; providing health care; social breakthroughs; the profile of a psychiatrist; child and adolescent psychiatry; the psychiatric interview; psychotherapy; suicide prevention; complaints, litigation and malpractice, and statistical methods in psychiatric research.

We look forward that this Special Issue is useful to bring this dialogue live and to generate further discussions, reproducing the memory of an exciting and interesting encounter, involving hundreds of people across the world

References

1. Patel V, Prince M. Global mental health: a new global health field comes of age. *JAMA* 2010; 303:1976-7.