**WONCA Working party on research update - August 2011**

At the meeting of WONCA Working Party on Research at Cancun, Mexico, in May, 2010, a work plan was developed to increase capacity building in primary care research methodology; to hold workshops and meetings at all WONCA Regional meetings; and to initiative a networking project to bring members closer together.

In brief, progress to date has included:

* A website for the WONCA Working Party on Research was developed as part of WONCA website
* a list server has been up-dated for better communications between members.
* Capacity building workshops were held at regional and local meetings of WONCA and its member organisations.
* Meetings were held of the members of WONCA Working Party on Research at regional WONCA meetings.
* A networking project was successfully completed titled, “*Equity in Health Care and Family Medicine as the most suited specialty for its promotion*”.

We unfortunately lost our prime leader in Primary Care Research Dr Barbara Starfield, who died in June 2011. WONCA Working Party on research renewed pledge to carry her work forward. It is proposed to designate "Starfield" Lecture at each 3-year WONCA world meeting and initiate a "Barbara Starfield Primary Care Research Award".

A number of reports and work plans have been received from member organisations and these can be viewed online.

<http://www.globalfamilydoctor.com/IndexArchive.asp?view=fv>

Some of our new objectives for 2011-12 include:

1. Hold capacity building workshops on primary care research methodology and

manuscript writing/ critical appraisal of medical literature.

2. Initiate research projects.

3. Application of PCAT in different regions/countries

4. Combined projects with other WONCA working parties.

5. Work through regional presidents/ national colleges.

6. Debate and agree upon research themes for WONCA Working Party on Research.

7. Developing a reporting format for annual reports and work plan for members.