The future of Pharmaceutical Care and pharmacy related outcomes research in Europe.
Facilitators: Mitja Kos, Slovenia and Kurt Hersberger, Switzerland

Background

The focus of PCNE is to support and enhance research in pharmaceutical care in order to help to develop pharmacy practice so that it improves patient outcomes and contributes to quality of life. This research could be related to the use of medicines in society, effects and adverse effects of medicines, patient behaviour in dealing with medicines, interventions to optimize medicines’ use, understanding providers’ attitudes, barriers and facilitators for collaboration in health care. (PCNE Vision 2025)

In the past, we have seen several developments in the area of Pharmaceutical Care, of which medication review is perhaps one of the most promising. The day-to-day struggle and some success in between makes us confident that we are on the right path. However, research evidence and developments that implement into pharmacy practice from which the patients could actually benefit are not self-evident. In simple terms, do we know how to build research excellence and where to head our developments in order to prolong patients’ life and improve their quality of life? As PCNE is approaching the 30 years of its establishment, it is perhaps time to make a deep reflection and create new opportunities for the decade to come.

The aim of the workshops is:

- To reflect current Pharmaceutical Care research and achievements in the development of pharmacy practice.
- To prepare a research strategy with the potential to achieve excellence in pharmacy practice.
- To draft key research projects that could be run in parallel or even have a potential for a joint, international research project.

Learning objectives:

- To understand and be able to argument the pharmaceutical care research priorities.
- To be able to assess the project relevance and feasibility prior to its initiation.

Activities in the workshop:

Participants will reflect the past and current Pharmaceutical Care research. In that respect, they will expose the most important developments from their own projects as well as other national or international projects that they believe are worth consideration and implementation in pharmacy practice. In small groups, they will reflect the actual or potential impact the individual projects had or could have on pharmacy practice. For this purpose, they will establish, argue and try to reach a consensus on a set of criteria from the perspective of different stakeholders, including the health care payer perspective. Based on the established criteria they will envision future research and research areas. This will inform them to prepare a research strategy with the potential to achieve excellence in pharmacy practice. Individual groups will also have the opportunity to work on a development of a new research project that would fit the pre-established criteria of relevance.