

Celebrating a good life - Professor Waris Qidwai

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Publisher - MEJFM

In an intermittent series we focus on regional luminaries who have shown leadership, contributed to the discipline, have improved lives of people in the region and who have worked for the advance of excellence in medical knowledge and in the practice of medicine.

Excellence and leadership is not just achieving academic and professional goals, it is the application of knowledge, learned and innate, within an empathic approach that strives to deliver that excellence to all who need it.

Indeed these are the traits and aims of all good family doctors.

Sometimes however we come across those who are a little more focused on these higher ideals, and who carry them through all aspects of their lives; those people who are a little humbler, a little better, a little more consistent, and a little more enlightened in approach than the rest of us.

It is for this reason I have chosen to feature, in this issue of MEJFM, no, to celebrate, one of the region's great real achievers, Professor Waris Qidwai of Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan. During 2014 I learnt of various awards given to Prof Qidwai, read various of his excellent papers and have had the ongoing opportunity to work on various collaborations with Professor Qidwai under the many 'hats' he wears.

Important projects, I have well found myself, do not go to the lowest bidder, or those seeking the glory, they go to those who are prepared to do the real work, and who approach that work with the right heart and mind; those who focus on outcomes, not just completing the process.

Of note, during the early months of 2015 Professor Qidwai was awarded an Appreciation Certificate for Excellence in Family Medicine by College of Family Medicine, Pakistan at a reception held at National Institute of Child Health, Karachi on January 18, January 2015.

Earlier in 2014 Professor Qidwai gave an Invited presentation, at the Inauguration session, World Health Organization (WHO) sponsored regional consultation meeting on "Strengthening service provision through Family Practice approach: Towards Universal Health Coverage in Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR)", held at Cairo in November 2014. Topic: "Current Status of Family Medicine Education and Training in Eastern Mediterranean Region".

In 2014 he completed a survey and prepared a report in Collaboration with World Health Organization (WHO) and World Organization of Family Doctors (WONCA) titled, "Current Status of Family Medicine Education and Training in Eastern Mediterranean Region" and he also served as Technical Expert on a World Health Organization (WHO) project titled, "Integration of Non-Communicable diseases into Primary Health Care: A snapshot from Eastern Mediterranean Region".

On May 15, 2015 he will receive his FRCGP(Int) from the Royal College of General Practitioners, UK.

I have attached Professor Qidwai's CV (see: <http://www.mejfm.com/March 2015/Waris Qidwai CV Jan 2015.pdf>)

which lists many more examples of his personal contribution to global family medicine and the many positions under which he contributes to a wide variety of human endeavours.

I follow with some photographs celebrating the many aspects Professor Qidwai's career, and life with family, friends, colleagues and students.

Career highlights



WHO Meeting
Regional consultation meeting on “Strengthening service provision through Family Practice approach: Towards Universal Health Coverage in Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR)”, held at Cairo in November 2014



3rd International seminar on Health, Safety and Environment



Receiving an Award from the President of Pakistan at the 3rd International Conference on “Health, Safety & Environment”, Fauji Fertilizer Bin Qasim Limited at Hotel Marriot, Karachi

Career highlights



Receiving Membership from the Royal College of Physicians, UK



At Aga Khan University Convocation with fellow colleague

Teaching



Dining with Residents



A visit to rural Sind to assist in improvement of health care



With Residents and students

Family and friends



Professor Qidwai with wife Shabana, sister and aunt



Professor Qidwai with wife Shabana and sons Moiz and Moin

Family and friends



Professor Qidwai with wife Shabana, and cousins



Visiting Egypt with friends



The Qidwai family home