



Distance Education receives 'Leadership in Health Care' award

The departments of Family Medicine, General Medicine, College of Nursing and Distance Education represented CMC in the recently held 15th World Organisation of National Colleges, Academies and Academic Associations of General Practitioners / Family Physicians (WONCA) World Rural Health Conference, hosted by the Association of Family Physicians of India (AFPI). The Distance Education Unit was awarded the 'Leadership in Health Care' award during the cultural programme by the Health Minister to the Government of India.



The theme of this year's conference was 'Leaving no one behind - healing the heart of health care'. The objective of this meet, attended by more than 1,500 participants from various countries, was to ensure healthy living and to promote well-being for all, at all ages.

Dr. Sunil Abraham, Professor and Head of Family Medicine presented and chaired a session on the 'Different ways family medicine is practised in low / middle-income



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countries and high-income countries' and on 'Comprehensive health services in rural India: the role and the road map for Family Medicine in CHCs and PHCs'. Dr. Anand Zachariah, Professor of General Medicine, presented the 'CMC model' during the consultation on 'Strengthening Primary Health Care in Rural India'.

Faculty from Distance Education presented workshops on 'Mental health in rural India: a three-pronged approach – training, assessment and treatment', 'The use of Blended Learning to train healthcare professionals in primary care', 'Training non-medical NGO workers to improve health in rural communities', and on 'Healing the heart of healthcare – the causes and the cure'. A poster on 'Health-seeking behaviour among selected rural communities in North, Central and North-East India' and a symposium on 'Introducing a holistic health education curriculum into rural Indian schools to ensure a healthy GenNext' were also presented by the Unit. The contribution of Distance Education towards the training of government doctors and the need for more state governments to avail this training was recognised prominently.

