

**Quality in Medicine: Current Trends and Perspectives
Roundtable Meeting
Polish Academy of Sciences, Paris, France, April 2018**

A Roundtable Meeting took place at the Polish Academy of Sciences Center in Paris, France, April 9-10, 2018 (www.panparis.org), focused on the issues of Quality Improvement in Healthcare and aimed at developing a consensus regarding new quality indicators.

The meeting, held under the patronage and auspices of the Ambassador of Poland to the Republic of France, Professor **Tomasz Młynarski**, gathered quality improvement experts and other professionals representing leading academic institutions and governmental agencies in the United States, France, and Poland.

Pedro Delgado, the Head of the Europe and Latin America Bureau at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement in Boston, MA, USA, (www.ihl.org), gave a Keynote presentation "*Crossing the Quality Chasm: Poland.*" He discussed the current challenges in healthcare globally, and offered evidence, based on large case studies, of the importance of achieving health and healthcare results for populations through a comprehensive approach to quality that includes quality planning, assurance, control, and improvement. He also specifically described the basics of improvement science, and its relevance to support the transition from strategy to reliable implementation, including the shifting leadership paradigms required to drive transformation. Lastly, he described the main features of the structure and function of IHI, with a specific emphasis on the IHI interventional and educational programs most applicable in the context of the current needs as well as main administrative priorities of the healthcare system in Poland.

Cecily Tyler, Research Fellow and Instructor at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Ash Center Innovation Field Lab in Cambridge, MA, USA, a journalist, documentarian, and filmmaker, discussed the role of the mass media in shaping healthcare policies and improving the quality of care at the local, national, regional, and global levels. Ms. Tyler emphasized the role of an emerging trend of innovative approach to filmmaking involving direct narratives created by healthcare professionals and patients themselves. This content is distinct from those traditionally created by professional journalists, whose role in this work, if any is needed, is focused on capacity building within the medical community for storytelling, media production and other technical advisory functions.

<https://vimeo.com/245108480>

Michael van den Berg, PhD, a Policy Advisor at OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) Paris Bureau, specializing in health systems performance, and quality of care indicators, discussed the main premises and accomplishments of OECD with a specific focus on the PaRIS (Patient-Reported Indicators Survey) Initiative. Dr. van den Berg explained the importance of

collecting systematized patient-reported measurements in order to ensure the degree of quality of care expected by patients, providers, and policymakers. (www.oecd.org/health/paris.htm)

Etienne Minvielle, MD, PhD, Professor of Management at the French School of Public Health (EHESP) and University of Sorbonne, Director of Research at the Management of Healthcare Organizations (MOS), and Academic Advisor at the Gustave Roussy Hospital in Paris, gave a talk on performance and quality indicators in French hospitals. Dr. Minvielle emphasized that improving the quality of healthcare delivery requires more than structural solutions. Functional innovations such as focus on care coordination, evolution of professional roles, and patient engagement, are necessary, as argued in detail in the book co-authored by him, *The Quality Imperative*. <https://www.amazon.com/Quality-Imperative-Measurement-Management-Healthcare/dp/1860941737>

Łukasz Wojdyga, Director General of the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange, introduced his Agency as a “new tool to support Polish science and higher education.” The Agency, established in October 2017 in Warsaw, is in a position to play an essential role in stimulating the growth and development of Polish academic institutions through initiating and sponsoring bi-lateral and multi-lateral international collaboration, thus contributing to the improvement of the overall quality of research and educational endeavors pursued by the Polish academic institutions. www.nawa.gov.pl

Michał Bedlicki, Deputy Director of the Polish National Center for Quality Assessment in Healthcare established in Krakow in 1994, outlined the history of the quality improvement efforts in Poland, as well as the current activities of the Center which include: training for quality improvement, healthcare facilities accreditation, monitoring of quality indicators, and quality assessment of highly specialized services. He specifically focused on the outcomes of the current edition of the Survey of Quality Indicators for accredited hospitals. www.cmj.org.pl

Tomasz Brzostek, MD, PhD, Professor at the Jagiellonian University Collegium Medicum in Krakow, Poland, and Dean of the Department of Health Sciences, gave a presentation, co-authored by his colleague Dr. **Alicja Domagała**, addressing the impact of the quality of organizational management on the general improvement of healthcare systems. Professor Brzostek presented the main challenges stemming from the unfavorable age structure of highly skilled providers (physicians, nurses). He also analyzed the feasibility of several proposed solutions to be applied in order to remedy the identified problems. <http://www.cm-uj.krakow.pl>

Jakub Pawlikowski, MD, MA, PhD, JD, Head of the Department of Sociology of Medicine and Medical Law, Associate Professor at the Department of Ethics and Human Philosophy at the Medical University of Lublin, Poland, and 2016-17 Visiting Professor at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health; shared his impressions from the 12th Global Summit of National Ethics and Bioethics Committees held in

Dakar, Senegal, in March 2018, before elaborating on the main topics of his current research, which are: (1) bio-banking and its ethical, legal, and societal implications (ELSI); and (2) the role of spiritual care in improving the healthcare quality as perceived by patients. <https://www.umlub.pl/en/>

The Roundtable Meeting was initiated, facilitated, and brought to fruition by Ms. **Aneta Bassa**, the Executive Secretary of the PAN Paris Center, in collaboration with the entire Administrative Team of the Center under the leadership of the Director of the PAN Center, Professor **Maciej Forycki**.

The general content and the detailed agenda of the meeting were designed by two graduates of the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Takemi Program in International Health¹ – **Christine Huttin**, PhD, (Takemi Fellow 1994-95) Professor at the University Aix Marseille, and Consultant with the French Ministry of Health, and by **Małgorzata Nabiałczyk-Chalupowski**, MD, PhD, JD (Takemi Fellow 1993-94 & 1995-96), an alumna of the Jagiellonian University Collegium Medicum, working internationally since 1993 in the US (Harvard University, Endicott College, Massachusetts School of Law, American Association of University Women, UN Association of the USA), Great Britain (University of Sheffield, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, University of Liverpool), as well as in Sub-Saharan Africa, South-East Asia, and South America.

In addition to volunteering their time and expertise in order to make the roundtable meeting a success, the organizers shared the results of their current research in two comprehensive closing presentations.

Professor Huttin gave a talk on the role of Patient Reported Outcomes (PRO) in improving the quality of care. She emphasized the need to build a quality improvement tool using the patient perspective and focusing on pharmaceutical intervention measures in addition to clinical outcomes indicators obtained through traditional methods such as audits. She also talked about primary care economics and future of economics of genomic medicine and precision medicine, as discussed in detail in her recently published book *Economics and Medical Decision Making* <https://www.amazon.com/Economics-Medical-Decision-Making-Christine/dp/3330650753>

Dr. Nabiałczyk-Chalupowski shared the essence of her didactic method of teaching the fundamentals of quality improvement science developed while working as an International Consultant for foreign aid programs sponsored by the UN, WHO, DFID,

¹ The Takemi Program is an interdisciplinary research initiative bringing to Boston post-doctoral, creation in 1983, the Takemi Program has hosted over 300 scientists from 54 countries, who, over the years have built a powerful global network of academics, governmental officials, and healthcare practitioners united in their common quest to pursue excellence and constant improvement in healthcare delivery systems throughout the globe.

ECHO, and other donor organizations. The method, specifically geared towards students and healthcare professionals with limited or negative prior experience in the field of quality assessment and improvement, (as described in one of her recent publications <http://dx.doi.org/10.7322/jhgd.119237>), is designed to turn skeptics into quality improvement enthusiasts – the ultimate goal envisioned by the organizers of the PAN Paris Quality in Medicine Roundtable Meeting.

On the evening of the first day of the event, the participants were invited to pay an official visit to the Embassy of the Republic of Poland, located at the historic L'Hotel de Monaco, in order to personally brief Ambassador **Tomasz Młynarski** on the proceedings and accomplishments of the event, and to discuss an action plan regarding future events and a strategy for the dissemination of the results.

On April 10, the participants of the PAN Roundtable Meeting were invited to reconvene at the Paris headquarters of the French Foundation for Management Education (FNEGE) <http://www.fnege.org/in-english>, where, welcomed by the Executive Director, Ms. **Valerie Fourcade**, they had an opportunity to learn about the history of management education in France and the FNEGE's leading role in comprehensive international collaboration in this field.

The April 2018 Roundtable was the first, pilot, meeting in the anticipated series of annual events devoted to promoting the theory and practice of quality improvement in medicine in Poland and worldwide to be held in April or May every year.

Detailed information about future events will be published on the website of the Medyk Press, LLC, the official media partner of the "Quality in Medicine PL" conferences. www.medyk.com.pl

Colleagues interested in participating in future events are invited to check this website for updates and to send their inquiries and statements of interest to the following email address: qualityinmedicinepl@gmail.com

We look forward to working with you!