



THE COLLEGE OF  
FAMILY PHYSICIANS  
OF CANADA



LE COLLÈGE DES  
MÉDECINS DE FAMILLE  
DU CANADA

## Besroul Forum/Family Medicine Forum: November 4–7, 2020

The Besroul Centre remains engaged with the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC)'s Family Medicine Forum (FMF) and will be participating at [FMF 2020](#) in Winnipeg, Canada. Details of the Besroul Forum program are being developed, and we invite any feedback or suggestions you may have. Details, as they become available, will be shared in upcoming newsletters.

FMF deadlines:

- Call for sessions and workshops: February 9, 2020, 11:59 p.m. (ET)
- Call for free-standing papers and posters: April 5, 2020, 11:59 p.m. (ET)

## WONCA 2020: Abu Dhabi, November 26–29, 2020

The Besroul Centre will be participating at the [23rd World Conference of Family Doctors](#). Mark your calendars and join us! A number of Besroul partners have submitted abstracts. If you're planning to attend let us know—a gathering of the Besroul community looks promising.

- [Early Bird Registration](#) deadline: June 15, 2020

## Besroul Committees and Working Groups

### Advocacy and Community Engagement

Community engagement is a priority for global organizations such as the WHO, as proven by its inclusion in the 2018 Astana Declaration, which says that empowered individuals and communities are important components of robust primary health care. This working group remains committed to recognizing that priority. Dr. Alain Pavilanis and Dr. Ben Langer have led the abstract submissions for, and will present them at, [WONCA 2020](#) and [RIFRESS 2020](#). The next Working Group meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 18th. Feedback is always welcome.

### Medical Education and Training

An advisory group is being established, with the purpose of providing oversight and guidance regarding medical education and training activities within the Besroul Centre. Thank you to all who have indicated an interest. Further details will follow.

The first official Besroure Café took place on Tuesday, January 28th, and was led by facilitators Dr. Francoise Guigne and Dr. Kenneth Yakubu. The first topic for discussion was "Approach to (skills needed for) Facilitating Residents' Learning." This was the first of a 12-month pilot project aimed at the faculty development of early- to mid-career family physicians in Africa.

## Research and Narratives

Upcoming papers featured in *Canadian Family Physician (CFP)* in the coming months:

- The Besroure Papers: A series on the state of family medicine in Canada and Brazil
  - Telemedicine in the driver's seat: a new role for primary care access in Brazil and Canada (April 2020)
  - Comparative analysis of the quality of primary care between Canada and Brazil from the patient perspective (May 2020)

## Besroure Centre/CFPC visit the United Arab Emirates and Kenya

Dr. David Ponka (Director, Besroure Centre) and Dr. Ric Almond (Director, Accreditation), together with members of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, visited Dubai at the end of January. This exploratory meeting with representatives from a number of organizations—including the Department of Health at SEHA (Abu Dhabi), and others—was to explore a collaboration on family medicine education strengthening. Details will be shared in the next newsletter.

## The Besroure Centre Learner Group

The Learner Group was developed to help connect interested Canadian and international family medicine residents and medical students with projects currently in progress. This will provide residents and students who are interested in strengthening family medicine around the world with the ability to engage with other like-minded individuals. If you are interested in taking a lead position, which will also be the representative on the Advisory Council, or being part of the working group, please contact [besrourecentre@cfpc.ca](mailto:besrourecentre@cfpc.ca).

## The Besroure Centre Fellowship Program in Medical Education Research

The Besroure Centre, through the generosity of Scotiabank and MD Financial, is offering a learning opportunity to its global network in the form of a fellowship program. These funds—part of a five-year partnership with the CFPC, Scotiabank, and MD Financial, and in collaboration with the Canadian Medical Association—are helping to advance primary care around the world. The Besroure Centre will be recruiting an enthusiastic early-career family physician who may be interested in this Medical Education Research Program.

## Besroure Partner Profile

Congratulations to Besroure colleague, Dr. Ichsan, Universitas Syiah Kuala (SKU), in Banda Aceh, Indonesia. Dr. Ichsan has co-authored [Healthcare providers' perception of the referral system in maternal care facilities in Aceh, Indonesia: a cross-sectional study](#) published in the *British Medical Journal Open*. This is the result of joint research, which will provide a positive impact to the stakeholders and community.



SKU has been collaborating with the Besroure Centre and McMaster University for many years, and with the Indonesian Ministry of Health's current development of a three-year family medicine training program, we look forward to continued collaboration with Dr. Ichsan and SKU.

## Articles/Podcast of Interest

Dr. Nick Pimlott interviews Dr. David Ponka, family physician and Director of the Besroure Centre. Dr. Ponka discusses global health and the role of the Besroure Centre at the CFPC, and its role in primary care in low- and middle-income countries.

- Link to episode: <https://cfppodcast.libsyn.com/global-health-and-the-besroure-centre>
- Apple Podcasts: <https://podcasts.apple.com/ca/podcast/cfp-podcast/id1466780417>

## International Events at a Glance

The Besroure Centre's schedule for upcoming conference participation is listed below. At some events we provide sessions and workshops while at others we attend as delegates. We invite you to consider joining your Besroure colleagues at these events:

- [23rd WONCA World Conference of Family Doctors](#): Abu Dhabi, November 26 to 29, 2020
- [RIFRESS](#): Brussels, Belgium, October 7 to 10, 2020
- [Canadian Conference on Medical Education](#): Vancouver, Canada, April 18 to 21, 2020