

- Note: This is Online Appendix 1 of Murphy SD, Nair A, Kaswa R, Govender I, Von Pressentin K. Guiding the emerging primary care researcher: A report of research capacity-building workshop. *S Afr Fam Pract*. 2023;65(1), a5769. <https://doi.org/10.4102/safp.v65i1.5769>

[@SAAFP1](#); [@SAFPjournal](#); #SANFPC22



19 & 20 August 2022

Lagoon Beach Hotel, Cape Town & On-line

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RESEARCH CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP

"Guiding the emerging Family Medicine/ Primary Care researcher"

A conference workshop organised by
the SAFP journal editorial team

Klaus von Pressentin, Arun Nair, Indiran Govender,
Ramprakash Kaswa, Shane Murphy

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- SCOPUS

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Welcome, brief introductions and workshop aim & objectives



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Show of hands

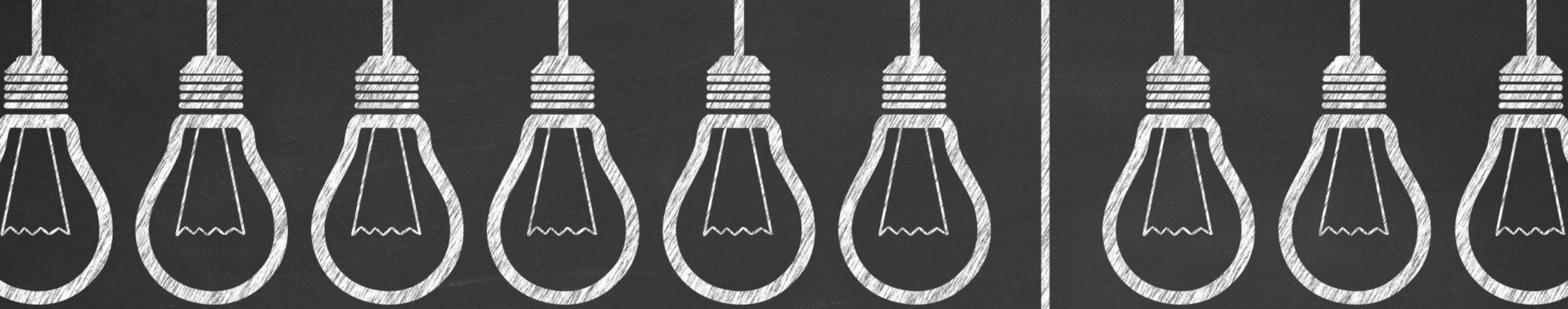
1. Coffee or tea?
2. Summer or winter?
3. Mountain or sea?
4. Zoom or MS Teams?



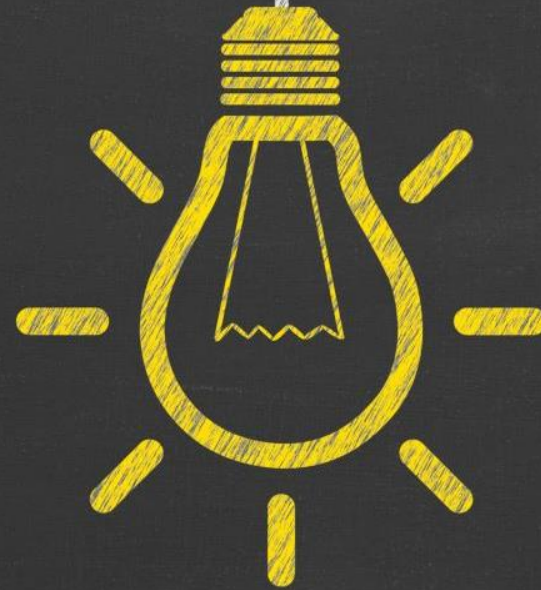
Overview of today's workshop

16h00 – 18h00

Time	Activities	Lead
10	Introduction & overview of the need for primary care scholarship.	Klaus
10	Short reflections on experiences of what helped them start a journey in primary care research, shared by 2 early career researchers.	Ramprakash Shane
40	Group work	All
30	Small group feedback	Indiran
15	Reflection on the group work insights (buzz pairs).	Klaus
15	Planning of next steps and sharing of take-home messages.	Klaus



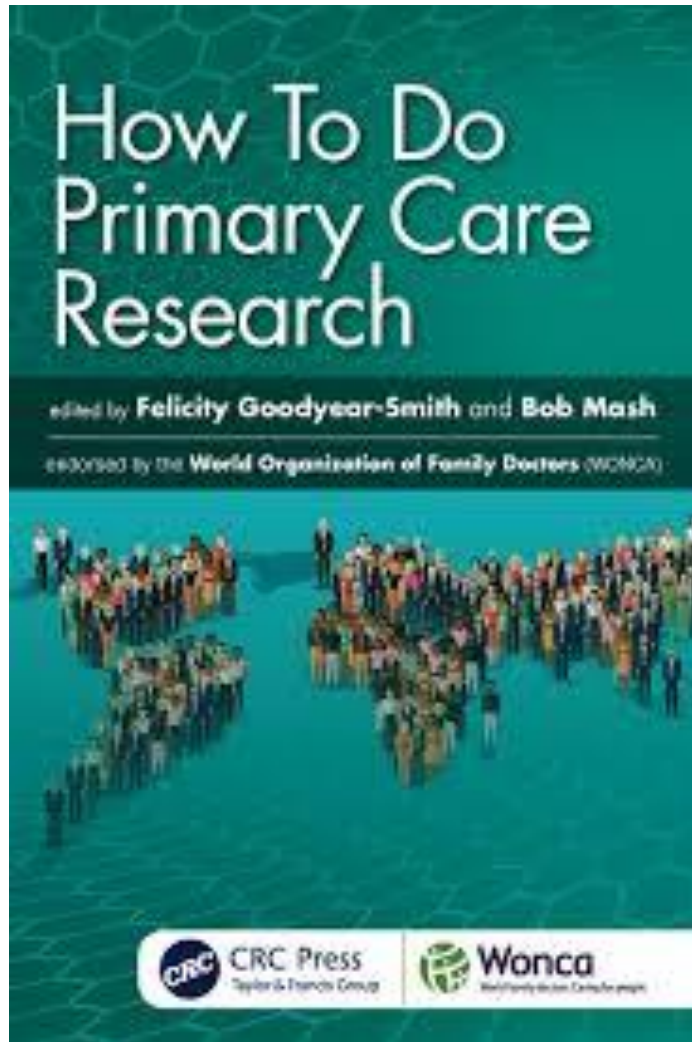
Why do we need to grow primary care scholarship for Southern Africa?

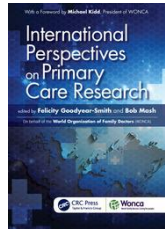


The social and scientific rationale for building academic primary care capacity in Southern Africa

What makes research primary care research?

- *Growing recognition of the need for research that answers questions important to primary care.*
- *Research informs clinical practice, organisation of primary care services and teaching, and developing its own body of knowledge is the hallmark of a maturing academic discipline.*
- *Such research should happen in the primary care context. Evidence generated within the primary care context is more likely to be relevant and applicable.*
- *Unfortunately, much of the evidence applied to the primary care context is generated in other settings such as the tertiary hospital.*

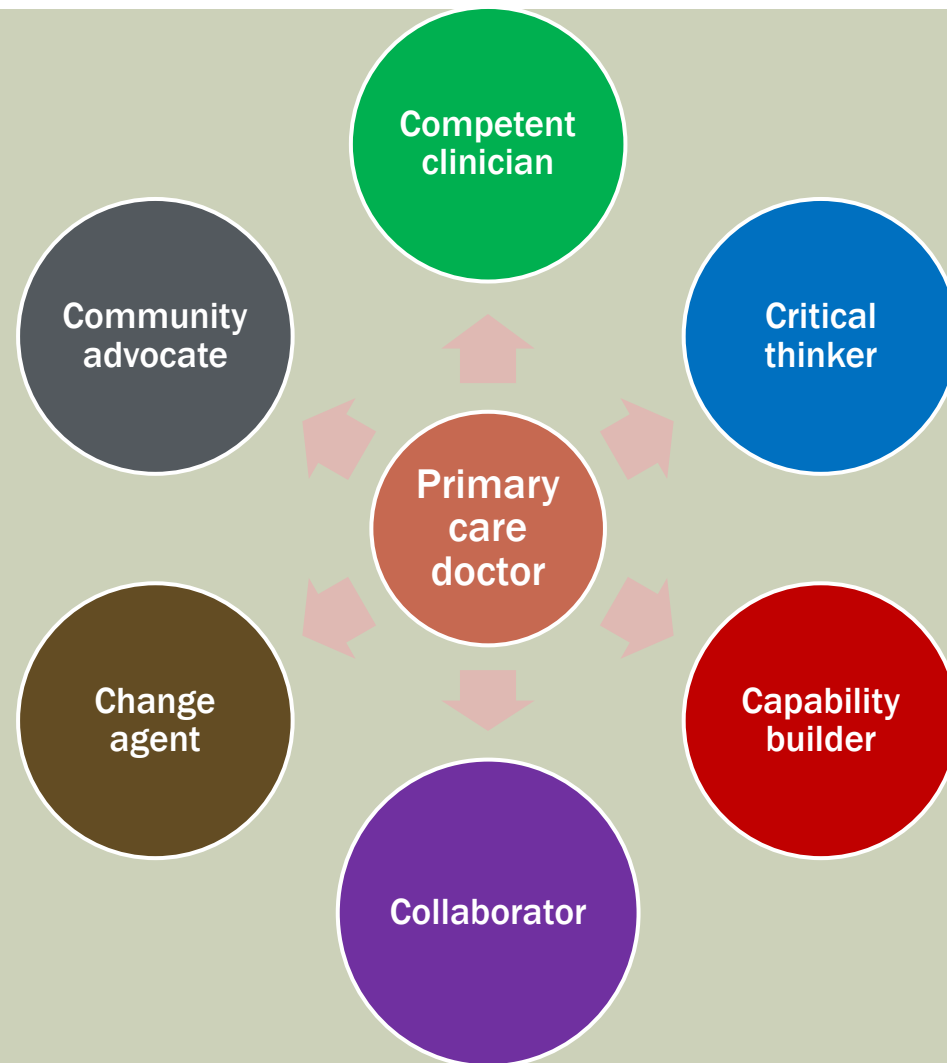




Typology of primary care research

- **Basic research:** focus on the methods used to conduct research in primary care (*What are the ways primary care research networks can be organised?*).
- **Clinical research:** focus on the diagnosis and treatment of clinical problems (*Does long term treatment with azithromycin improve outcomes in asthmatics?*).
- **Health services research:** explores factors that impact the way we deliver care and the organisation of clinical operations (*What are the tasks performed by clinicians in primary care encounters?*).
- **Health systems research:** explores the macro-scale economic and political factors that affect primary care.
- **Educational research:** focus on education for students and practitioners for primary care and the health workforce for primary care (*What is the best training site for medical students for primary care careers?*).

ROLES AND COMPETENCIES OF THE PRIMARY CARE DOCTOR/HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL



Slide credit: Prof Bob Mash

CRITICAL THINKER

- The primary care doctor is one of the most highly educated/trained members of the primary care team and as such should be able to offer a level of **critical thinking** to the team that also sees the bigger picture.
- They should be able to help the team **analyse and interpret data or evidence** that has been collected from the community, facility or derived from research projects.
- They should be able to help the team with **rational planning and action**.
- They should have **IT and data management skills** and the ability to make use of basic statistics.

CAPABILITY BUILDER

- The primary care doctor should be able to engage in learning conversations with other primary care providers to **mentor** them and build their capability.
- They should be able to offer or support **continuing professional development activities**.
- They should help to foster a **culture of inter-professional learning** in the workplace.
- As part of a culture of learning they should attend to their **own learning and development**.

CHANGE AGENT

- The primary care doctor should be a **champion for improving quality of care** and performance of the local health system in line with policy and guidelines.
- They should be a **role model for change** – people need to see change in action.
- They should know how to conduct a **quality improvement cycle** and partake in other clinical governance activities.
- They should provide **vision, leadership, innovation and critical thinking**.
- They may need to support some aspects of **corporate governance**.
- They may need to assist with **clinically related administration** e.g. occupational health issues, medical record-keeping, medico-legal forms

Probable futures

Blended in-person and virtual working

Provided in communities and homes

Co-creation with patients

New focus on public health

And mental health

Enhanced teamwork

Flexible employment

Agents of change



“Health workers as agents of change and curators of knowledge”

Radical possibilities

Self-organising teams

Changing recruitment

Re-design primary and community care

Reform professional education

Global partnerships to increase numbers



A Report by the All-Party
Parliamentary Group on Global Health

Probable Futures and Radical Possibilities

An exploration of the future roles
of health workers globally

Summary

July 2022

<https://globalhealth.inparliament.uk/report/new-report-future-roles-health-workforce-globally>

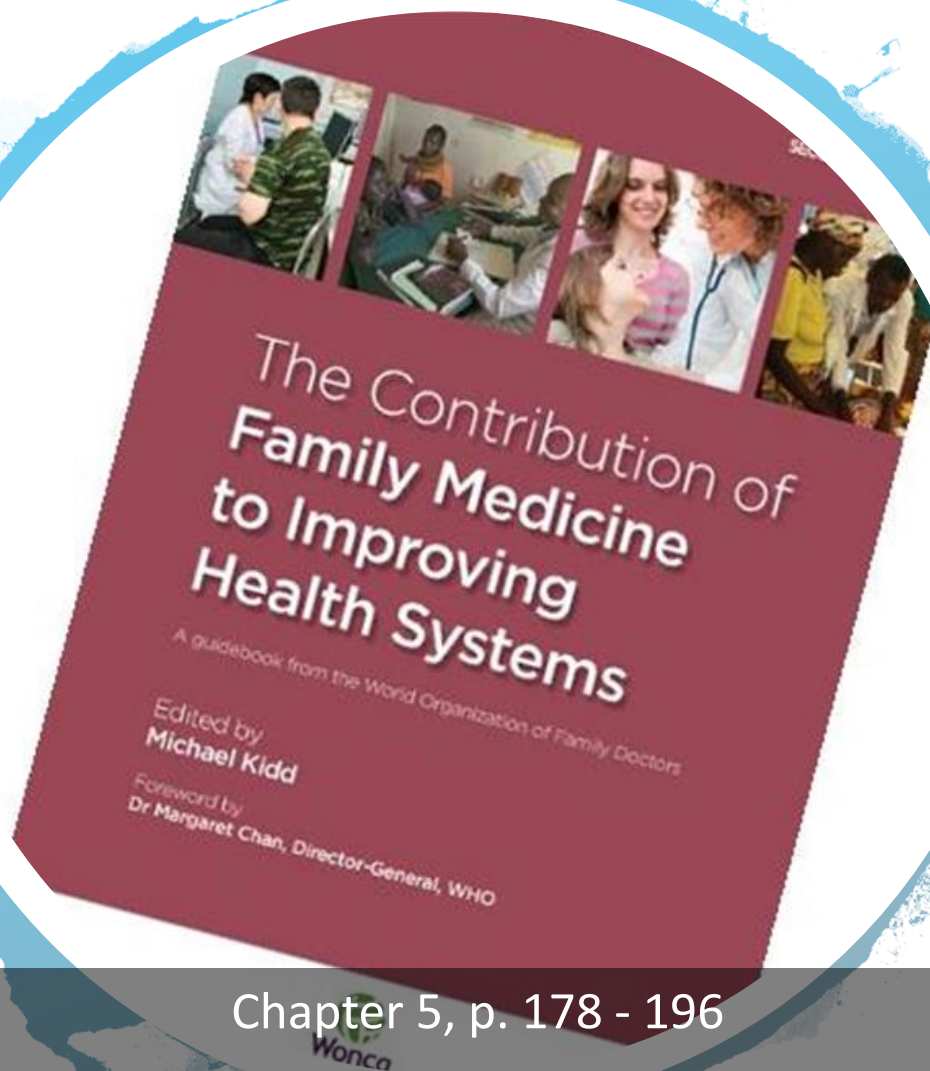
LEARNING HEALTH SYSTEMS

INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE (NOW: THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF MEDICINE)

A healthcare system “that is designed to generate and apply the best evidence for the collaborative health care choices of each patient and provider; to drive the process of discovery as a natural outgrowth of patient care; and to ensure innovation, quality, safety, and value in health care.”

Meneer M, Blanchette MA, Demers-Payette O, Roy D. A framework for value-creating learning health systems. *Health research policy and systems*. 2019;17(1):1-3.

Box 5.17: Supporting primary care research



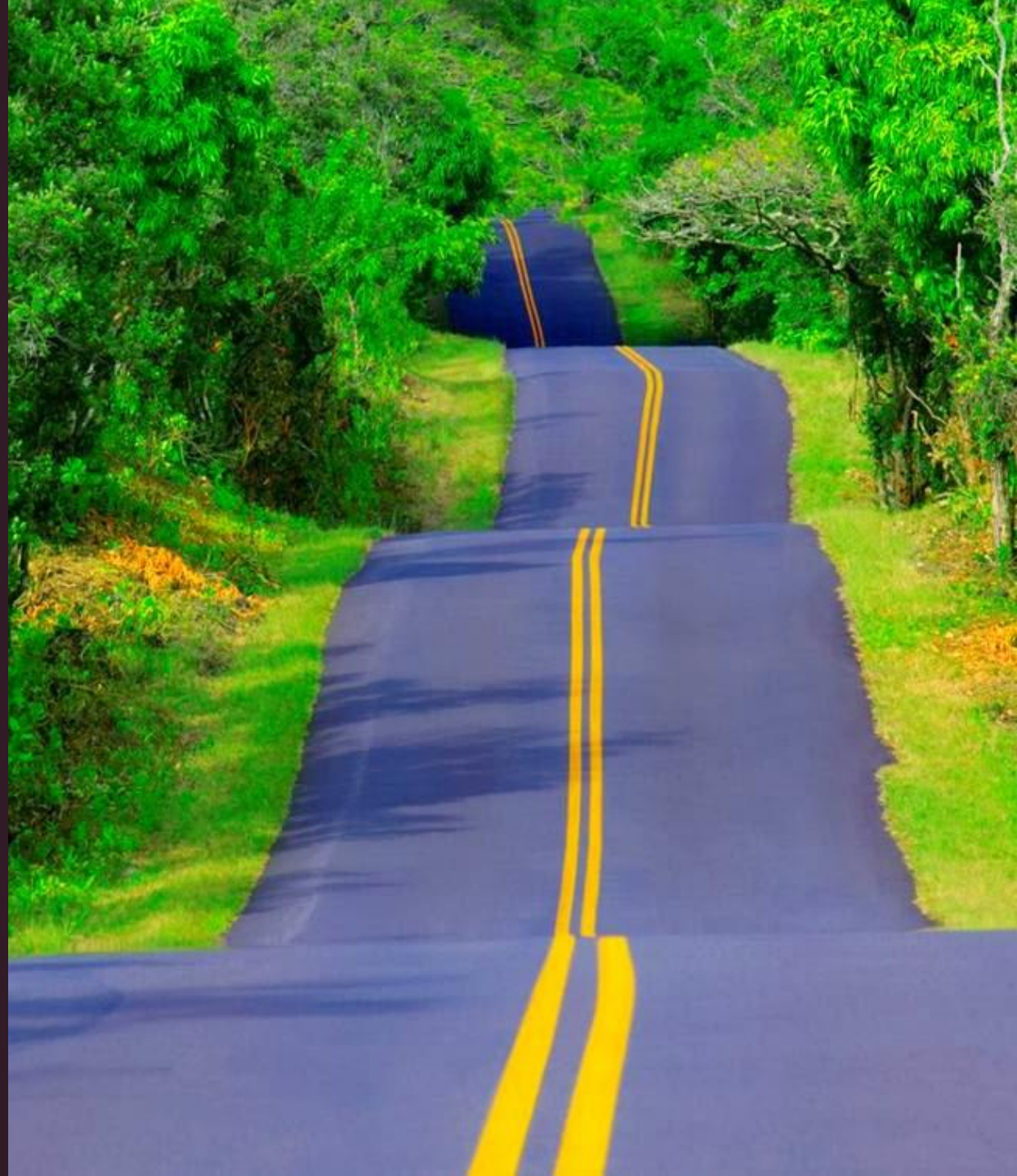
Chapter 5, p. 178 - 196

- Promote commitment to primary care research among:
 - Family doctors
 - Professional societies
 - Academic institutions
 - Government
 - Philanthropic agencies
 - The public
- Develop research projects
- Improve research methodologies
- Train more primary care researchers
- Solicit a larger base of donors and other funders for primary care research projects
- Develop and participate in primary care research networks

Short reflections

Starting a journey in primary care research, shared by 2 early career researchers.

Ramprakash & Shane
(5-min each)





Group work

40 minutes

Two related topics per group
Allow 20-minutes per topic

Group A

Facilitated by Klaus & Arun

- **How to negotiate common difficulties encountered when starting off** in the research world.
- **How to explore formal & informal development opportunities** to grow as an early career researcher.

Group B

Facilitated by Indiran & Shane

- **How to find and make time for research** as a busy clinician.
- **How to identify research partners or mentors** and/or create a research network.



Group work feedback

30 minutes

Facilitated by Indiran

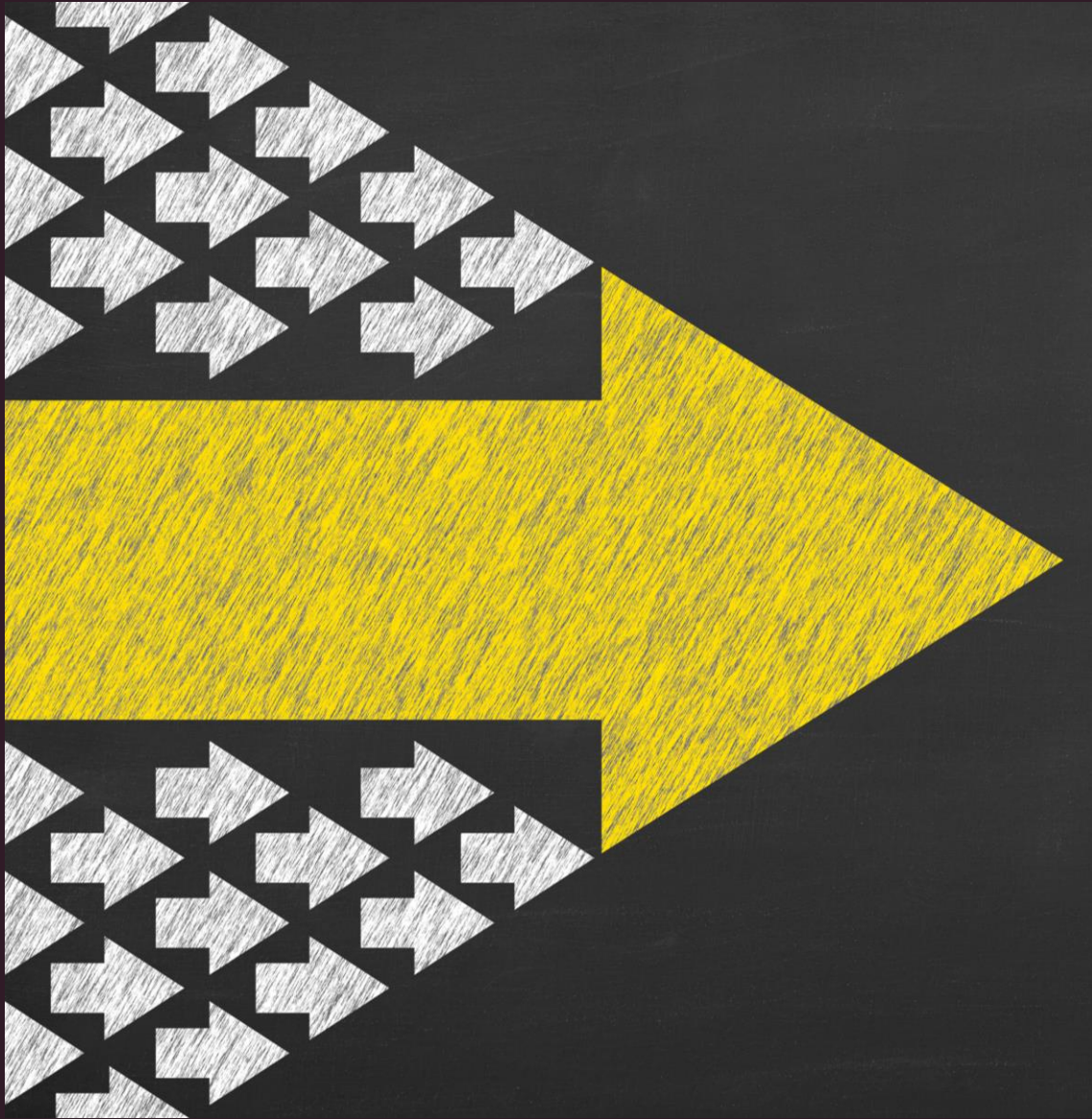


Reflection on the group work

15-minutes

Buzz pairs:

one thing to do in the next 2 weeks



Next steps

Sharing of take-home messages

Facilitated by Klaus



How to get involved as author and reviewer

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The *South African Family Practice* is the official journal of the South African Academy of Family Physicians (SAAFP), founded in 1980.

- <https://safpj.co.za/index.php/safpj>
- Twitter: [@SAFPjournal](https://twitter.com/SAFPjournal)

Become a peer reviewer

- Keep up with the latest research
- Improve your own writing and research capacity
- Boost your career
- Become part of a journal's community

Some argue that peer reviewing is an essential aspect of scholarship... but hopefully, it will also be a meaningful experience, especially when reviewing articles in your field of interest.

Selected references for further reading 😊

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- Bierman AS, Tong ST, McNellis RJ. Realizing the dream: the future of primary care research. *The Annals of Family Medicine*. 2022;20(2):170-4.
- Regional family medicine and primary care websites and journals:
 - WONCA Africa: <https://www.woncafrica.org/> ; PRIMAFAMED: <https://primafamed.sun.ac.za/>
 - African Forum for PHC: <https://afrophc.org/>
 - African Journal of PHC and Family Medicine: <https://phcfm.org/index.php/phcfm>
 - South African Academy of Family Physicians: <https://saafp.org/>
 - South African Family Practice journal: <https://safpj.co.za/index.php/safpj>



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