

Invitation and call for abstracts

Winter meeting 7 + 8 January 2014

WHO Collaborating Centre for Pharmaceutical Policy and Regulation

The WHO Collaborating Centre for Pharmaceutical Policy and Regulation (head: Prof. Dr. Bert Leufkens) in collaboration with Dr. Kees de Joncheere (Department of Essential Medicines and Health Products, WHO) will organise a Winter Meeting for researchers in the field of pharmaceutical policy analysis. As in previous years, we have chosen to combine the opportunity for (young) researchers to discuss their work with peers on the first day with a central theme and key note lectures on the second day of the meeting.

You are cordially invited to attend this meeting!

Contents of the meeting

On the first day of the meeting, submitted abstracts will be presented and discussed in the morning and afternoon (oral and poster presentations). Abstracts are *not* limited to the central theme of the second day; all research in the field of pharmaceutical policy analysis is eligible for submission. The focus of the sessions will be on methods used or proposed. The presentations should be for a maximum time of 15 minutes and should be based on a maximum of 10 PowerPoint slides. All sessions will be chaired by two senior researchers. Full papers should not be submitted in advance.

The second day of the meeting will focus on "The impact of the recession on pharmaceutical policies and medicines use". Since the start of the economic recession a few years ago, many (European) countries have undertaken measures to control public expenditures on healthcare including medicines. Monitoring the effects of these medicines on access to and affordability of medicines is of utmost importance. This topic is close to the work of one of the Centre's PhD students, Christine Leopold, who will defend her thesis entitled "Pharmaceutical policy analysis – a European perspective on pricing and reimbursement in challenging times" on the second day as well. All participants in the meeting are invited to attend this public event. Other invited speakers will present their views during plenary lectures and there will be ample room for discussions and sharing of experiences.

Abstracts for presentations

Abstracts should relate to planned or ongoing research and should at least state rationale, objective(s) and methods. Where possible early results can be presented. Abstracts should be structured and in English. Text should not exceed 300 words. Abstracts for presentations must be submitted before 1 Dec 2013. You will be informed whether your abstract is accepted by December 10th. Only one abstract should be submitted from a single person because of the limited number of abstracts that can be presented.

Target group

The primary target group for participation in this winter meeting are Masters and PhD students directly related to or closely working with any WHO Collaborating Centre. However, other Masters and PhD students, post docs and (senior) researchers who have an interest in the policy aspects of pharmaceuticals are welcome to submit abstracts. The maximum number of participants is expected to be 50.

Meeting details

The conference will be held in the Faculty Club, Achter de Dom 7a, Utrecht, the Netherlands. The meeting will start 7 Jan 2014 at 09.30 am and will close at 17:00 on 8 Jan 2014. The final programme will be based on abstract submissions and will be sent to all attendees before 1 Jan 2014.

Please apply before 15 Dec 2013. The meeting is free for all participants and will include coffee, tea, lunch, drinks on Tuesday and an abstract book.

Scholarships are not available. Please note that travel funding and accommodation are at participants' own expenses. The meeting organisers will not be able to assist with accommodation or travel arrangements.

Contact information

Please send enquiries and abstracts to Aukje Mantel (a.k.mantel@uu.nl; +31 (0)6 2273 6017).

For a report of the 2012 meeting please go to:

<http://www.pharmaceuticalpolicy.nl/PDFs/Winter%20Meetings/WHO%20conferentie%202012%20def.pdf>