



# VdGM COVID-19 PROJECT

## GOAL

The VdGM COVID-19 Project aims to collect work strategies and adjustments which were implemented or used in the GP practices during the pandemic, and which have improved the working conditions of family doctors. The Vasco da Gama Movement believes that through collecting experiences, solutions and strategies we, young general practitioners, can leave a valuable testimony for present and future family doctors.

## BACKGROUND

Every country has a different Primary Care System, but much as they differ, the pandemic has revealed how similar are the struggles we all have to face. In the chaos of uncertainty, GPs around Europe were seeking solutions that could improve their functioning and ensure the continuity of care in these challenging times.

Some improvements require first and foremost top-down changes that cannot be adapted by individuals without the systemic help of the government, but many others may be effectively transferable into daily practice. Many GPs found themselves alone and lost. That is why first-hand personal advice from European and Asian colleagues could be of benefit to the community of the Vasco da Gama Movement and Family Physicians in general.

We would like to encourage you to share your story with us, as well as the story of your GP practice and how it has been handling the unfair fight with COVID-19.

The described strategy may relate to different areas of work in GP practice, it may concern: consultation (live/ teleconsultation/videoconsultation), taking history, home visits, referral, patient's safety, physician's safety, registration process, triage, separating potentially infected patients from others, teamwork, division of responsibilities, maintaining mental balance etc.

## PRIZE

**20 authors** of selected applications will be awarded one-year PRO-membership access with CME credits to the medical learning platform Medmastery.

**Two** of the authors will be invited to present their testimonies in a Research Workshop during WONCA Europe Conference in Amsterdam.

We would like to publish selected applications in a **collective paper** which will be shared on the VdGM website for anyone interested to read.

## DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

1. A copy of a document proving young doctor status (GP trainee or during the first 6 years after completing training)
2. A completed application form of The VdGM COVID-19 Project

All the documents should be sent to the Awards and Fundraising Officer:  
awards@vdgm.eu

## CALENDAR

The documents must be sent to the Awards and Fundraising Officer by the **30th of May**. The authors of the awarded applications will be notified by the **13th of June**.

## GENERIC RATING GRID

The most wanted work improvements are those which are transferable into another GP practice, whose implementation process does not require a high financial investment or having a country-specific computer software. The more GPs can benefit from your testimony, the better.

## CONSENT

By sending the documents, the author agrees that his/her testimony may be included in the collective paper which will be open-access and published on the Vasco da Gama Movement website. It can be anonymized if requested.