



# Academy of Family Physicians of India

Registered Nonprofit Society

*Academic association of residency trained family physicians in India*

(A member organization of WONCA – World Organization of Family Doctors)



## *Membership Application Brochure & Family Medicine Career Development Guide*

**(For medical students, post graduate aspirants, family medicine trainees/resident, faculty/ trainers, practicing & working professionals)**

*Join Family Medicine – Enjoy a lifelong fulfilling career*

# **Membership Application Brochure**

# **&**

# **Family Medicine Career Development Guide**

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# About Family Medicine

## The Concept of Family Medicine

Family medicine is an independent academic discipline and specialty of medical science. Family medicine developed as a counterculture in response to rapid fragmentation of medical care during post second world war period into specialty and sub specialty care in the much of the developed world. The concept evolved as a concept of medical care to cater to the growing demand of the people for personalized, continued and comprehensive care.

Thus Family medicine (FM) is a medical speciality devoted to comprehensive health care for people of all ages and provides continuing and comprehensive health care for the individual and family across all ages, genders, disease and parts of the body. It is based on knowledge of the patient in the context of the family and the community, emphasizing disease prevention and health promotion.

While family medicine evolved since 1950s and 1960s in USA and UK to its present form today. It has been gaining momentum in Middle east, Africa, Latin America and South Asia during last couple of decades. In India there is a growing recognition and value for family medicine. It has been realized that competent primary care physicians can form the back bone of health care delivery system and can play a vital role in fulfilling the Human Resource Requirement of National Rural Health Mission which is gradually evolving into the National Health Mission (NHM).

## Definitions

### Definition of Family Medicine Speciality:

*Family medicine* is the academic discipline that both serves and leads the specialty of family practice. It organizes curiosity, systematizes observation, advances understanding, communicates knowledge, and challenges convention. The form of family practice follows the function of family physicians.

### Definition of Family Practice

*Family practice* is the professional discipline that trains and sustains the doctors who practice the evolving arts and sciences of family medicine. Family practice is patient centered, evidence based, family focused, and problem oriented. It shares historical roots and a worldwide movement with general practice.

### European Definition of Family Doctors

Family doctors are specialist physicians trained in the principles of the discipline. They are personal doctors, primarily responsible for the provision of comprehensive and continuing care to every individual seeking medical care irrespective of age, sex and illness. They care for individuals in the context of their family, their community, and their culture, always respecting the autonomy of their patients. They recognise they will also have a professional responsibility to their community. In negotiating management plans with their patients they integrate physical, psychological, social, cultural and existential factors, utilising the knowledge and trust engendered by repeated contacts. General practitioners/family physicians exercise their professional role by promoting health, preventing disease providing cure, care, or palliation and promoting patient empowerment and self-management. This is done either directly or through the services of others according to health needs and the resources available within the community they serve, assisting patients where necessary in accessing these services. They must take the responsibility for developing and maintaining their skills, personal balance and values as a basis for effective and safe patient care. Like other medical professionals, they must take responsibility for continuously monitoring, maintaining and if necessary improving clinical aspects, services and organisation, patient safety and patient satisfaction of the care they provide.

### AAFP (American Academy of Family Physicians) definition of family physician:

Family medicine is the medical specialty which provides continuing, comprehensive health care for the individual and family. It is a specialty in breadth that integrates the biological, clinical and behavioural sciences. The scope of family medicine encompasses all ages, both sexes, each organ system and every disease entity. (1986) (2010 COD).

A physician who is educated and trained in family practice - a broadly encompassing medical specialty. Family physicians possess unique attitudes, skills, and knowledge which qualify them to provide continuing and comprehensive medical care, health maintenance, and preventive services to each member of the family regardless of sex, age, or type of problem, be it biological, behavioural, or social. These specialists, because of their background and interactions with the family, are best qualified to serve as each patient's advocate in all health-related matters, including the appropriate use of consultants, health services, and community resources.

### **National Board of Examination (NBE) India definition of Family Medicine**

Family Medicine is defined as a specialty of medicine which is concerned with providing comprehensive care to individuals and families by integrating biomedical, behavioural and social sciences. As an academic discipline, it includes comprehensive health care services, education and research. A family doctor provides primary and continuing care to the entire family within the communities; addresses physical, psychological and social problems; and coordinates comprehensive health care services with other specialists, as needed.

### **History of Family Medicine Specialty**

Historically doctors used to be generalist practitioners. However during the past fifty years, technological and scientific advances have brought exciting prospects in medicine. The fragmentation of medicine into subspecialties has produced advances in our understanding of diseases. Generalist mode of practice languished, while spectacular advances were made by subspecialists who were concentrated in hospitals, with expertise in single organs, systems or diseases, in the performance of specific procedures or in the use of expensive and advanced equipment.

It is precisely the development of these subspecialists and their concentration in hospitals that gave rise to a demand in the community for a physician, who was caring and accessible and who was also more expert and better trained than the general practitioner of those days, but who could act as the patient's guide, protector, philosopher and friend. This led to the emergence of family practice as the natural inheritor of the ancient traditions of general medicine.

In USA, the American Academy of General Practice (AAGP) was established in 1947 to give voice to the decreasing number of generalists. A series of events after that paved the way for family medicine to become an accredited, board-certified, professional specialty. In 1966, three landmark reports were released by commissions that had been appointed to study the problem of declining generalists. These include:

#### **The Folsom Report**

Concluded that "every American should have a personal physician to ensure the integration and continuity of all medical services." It also stressed the importance of preventive medicine, the use of community resources and the importance of caring for the patient as a whole.

#### **The Millis Report**

Focused on graduate medical education and determined that family medicine needed to be a board-certified specialty.

#### **The Willard Report**

Recommended residency training programs for family medicine and specified the establishment of a board to oversee certification. The American Board of Family Practice was established three years later in 1969.

### **International developments in rest of the world**

In 1952, the British College of General Practitioners was formed. Then in 1958, The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners was established. The family medicine counterculture was particularly strong in America and the general practitioner community worked towards a new general practice and even changed the name of the discipline from "general practice" to "family medicine" to reflect a renaissance in its culture.

Since then the counterculture movement has become worldwide. In India, though the General practice associations have existed in form of IMA College of General Practitioners (IMA CGP) and Federation of Family Physicians of India (FFPAI) represented by traditional old GPs. The forum for development of academic family medicine was only founded in 2010 in the name of Academy of Family Physicians of India (AFPI).

## **Changing Nomenclature**

New disciplines need new terminologies, especially when the older terminology implied lower levels of specialised training and competence as well as lower status. The different historical backgrounds to medical practice in each country have produced different terminologies for family physicians and family medicine. The term 'family physician' originated in USA, where it was deemed necessary to distinguish between family medicine and traditional general practice

Three alternatives to the term 'general practitioner' have been proposed (a) Personal physician (b) Primary physician and (c) family physician. The term 'Primary Physician' was used in the report of the Citizen's Commission on Graduate Medical Education (1966) chaired by Dr. John Millis. The adoption of the term 'family physician', by the American Academy and the Canadian College, promoted the universal use of this term to describe the new specialist. The health policies of several developing countries including that of India are were profoundly influenced by WHO's concept of primary health care (Health For All – HFA) movement for basic and minimal health care services.

For a country like India term 'Primary physician' or 'primary care physician' are also more suitable and appropriate terms where family practice takes on a strong community orientation in the context of a national primary healthcare programme. This term covers wide range of primary care providers including urban GPs, rural physicians, medical officers, emergency physicians, occupational physicians, doctors employed in military and public sectors enterprises etc. These doctors often provide undifferentiated clinical and preventive services to the communities they serve.

In the UK, the term 'general practice' continues to exist by custom and statute but with a much higher level of acceptance and prestige. In Australia, the term 'general practitioner' is still in use, but the state-funded training programme is called the 'family medicine programme'. In Europe the term 'medicine generale' is in use.

## **Current practitioners of family medicine in India**

By convention the term 'family doctor' should be understood as referring to the following:

- (a) Family physician in private sector
- (b) General practitioner in private sector
- (c) Medical officer in public sector
- (d) Faculty in family medicine
- (e) Family Medicine Specialist – evolving concept
- (f) General duty medical officers (GDMO) – Generalist physicians working as first contact care providers in various organizations in public and private sector

A family physician has postgraduate training in Family Medicine. A medical officer is a generalist in the public sector, without postgraduate training. A medical officer is a generalist in the public sector, without postgraduate training. A general practitioner is qualified private practitioner without postgraduate training.

## **Family medicine in India**

Family medicine is a recognized speciality since 1983 by an amendment in Medical Council of India Act. Since 2005 The NBE (National Board of Examination) has been promoting family medicine as a special human resource need for National Rural Health Mission (NRHM). The National Board of Examinations is an autonomous organization functioning under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India. The prime objective of the Board is to conduct post-graduate examinations of high and uniform standard throughout the country in 42 specialties including DNB is Family medicine. National Board of Examinations is keen to encourage family medicine as a specialty programme since it serves the needs of the society by providing comprehensive and continuing care of the patients in their own settings.

As per National Board of Examination, after qualifying the final examinations the candidate should be able to function as a junior consultant (specialist) in Family Medicine. He/she should be able to render health services to the community by providing health care to all members irrespective of age, sex, culture and socio-economic background. He/she should be able to decide for appropriate referral in order to provide secondary/tertiary health services when necessary. He/she should be clinically competent and should be able to take personal responsibility for rendering comprehensive and continuing care of his patients in their own family settings.

Various policy deliberation and discussions have supported the concept of family medicine in India. These include (a) Bhore committee report (b) Bajaj Commission (c) Reorientation of Medical Education (ROME) (d) Mehta Committee Report (e) Prime Minister's National Knowledge commission (f) National Health Policy 2002 (g) Task force for development of human resource for National Rural Health Mission (h) Planning Commission's Steering Committee on Health in 12th Plan (i) Pradhan Mantra Swastha Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) by establishing department of Community and Family Medicine at new AIIMS like institutions. (j) Medical Council of India's Vision 2015. The national consultation convened by NHSRC, NRHM Government of India in April 2013, has proposed required skill set for family medicine specialist to be employed as specialists at Community Health Centre. The report is available online.

### **Medical Council of India Recognition to Family Medicine Speciality**

Family medicine is a MCI recognized specialization and it has been notified at serial no 06 of MCI Schedule II of Post Graduate Regulation 2000 of Medical Council of India. As per Medical Council of India notification MD (Family Medicine) can be awarded as post graduate qualification by Indian universities. However in spite of being a primary specialty and discipline of national importance, family medicine has not yet been introduced in MBBS curriculum by the MCI. As outcome of which majority of medical students and even senior faculty are unaware about the benefits of this vocational training. Also there are no designated teachers of family medicine at MCI recognized medical college at present. AFPI is actively advocating for inclusion of family medicine in MBBS/ UG curriculum and at least 50% of PG seats in family medicine. The stated position of AFPI is that all medical graduates in India deserve a post graduate qualification, faculty eligibility and opportunity to become consultants. There are less post graduate seats as compared to UK and USA because of under developed family medicine in India. Vocation of primary care specialist should be developed to the fullest possible potential at par with other specialities.

<http://www.mciindia.org/rules-and-regulation/Postgraduate-Medical-Education-Regulations-2000.pdf>

### **Recognition of DNB Family Medicine by Medical Council of India/ Government of India**

DNB family medicine, awarded by National Board of Examination (NBE) is a MCI recognized qualification since 1983 when NBE came into existence through an amendment in the MCI act. Family medicine exists at serial no 30 in the list of recognized specialization and post graduate qualification in the original notification of NBE creation dated 19<sup>th</sup> September 1983.

[http://www.natboard.edu.in/dnb\\_matter.php?notice\\_id=4](http://www.natboard.edu.in/dnb_matter.php?notice_id=4)

### **Family Medicine in India: Recent developments:**

Calicut Medical College Kerala has become first institute to start the MD family medicine program in India. Earlier only DNB family medicine training was available at National Board of Examination affiliated institutions. Under PMSSY, all recently established AIIMS like institutions have started department of Community and Family Medicine which is a welcome change. AIIMS Bhopal has declared developing family medicine as one of its primary priorities. Information about family medicine seats availability in the DNB system can be obtained from following link:

[www.cet.natboard.edu.in](http://www.cet.natboard.edu.in)

### **Leading academies and colleges of family medicine in world**

[www.globalfamilydoctor.com/AboutWonca/Regions.aspx](http://www.globalfamilydoctor.com/AboutWonca/Regions.aspx)

# About AFPI (Academy of Family Physicians of India)

[www.afpionline.com](http://www.afpionline.com)

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## Vision, Mission and Objective of AFPI

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The **Academy of Family Physicians of India (AFPI)** is a leading organization in India promoting training and education of primary care physicians. AFPI is a non profit organization registered under societies registration act, 1860. AFPI functions as educational and professional forum catering to the needs of a wide range of primary care providers. AFPI is a youth initiative founded and governed by young and recently qualified residency trained family physicians in India.

## Logo



AFPI actively promotes Family Medicine - the academic discipline and speciality of primary care physicians and advocates multi skilling and competency based training programs for them. Since its inception, AFPI has engaged with several projects of advocacy, training and education. As an outcome of a series of advocacy activities taken by AFPI, the curriculum of MD family (postgraduate level) has finally been notified by the medical council of India (MCI).

The official website of AFPI [www.afpionline.com](http://www.afpionline.com) has emerged as a useful and popular resource for students, trainees, residents, practitioners and trainers of family medicine and allied health specialities. Through its website, AFPI maintains a HELPLINE for residents and post graduate trainees (MD/DNB) of family medicine. AFPI also provides guidance and career counselling to young physicians and professionals.

## Journal

AFPI is credited with publishing the first peered review journal in the specialty of family medicine in India titled “Journal of Family Medicine and Primary Care (JFMPC)”. JFMPC is an open access and online scientific journal ([www.jfmprc.com](http://www.jfmprc.com)), disseminating primary care research. JFMPC is indexed in PUBMED.

## Online CME Platform:

AFPI has partnered with Hay Market Medical Media UK to design a special online professional development tool MyCME (<http://www.mycme.com/academy-of-family-physicians-of-india/section/2387/?DCMP=AFC-afpi>) for primary care physician working in rural, remote and underserved areas.

## International Partnerships:

AFPI is member of WONCA (World Organization of Family Doctors [www.globalfamilydoctor.com](http://www.globalfamilydoctor.com)). AFPI is also a supporting organization for HIFA2015 (Heath Information for All by 2015).

**AFPI National Conference:** AFPI organized National Conference on Family Medicine and Primary Care (FMPC). 1<sup>st</sup> National Conference was organized on 20-21 April 2013 at India International Center New Delhi India.

## Awards and recognition:

AFPI has been identified as emerging platform for primary care training & education in the white paper on “Strengthening Primary Health Care in India” prepared by “India – UK CEO Forum” (published in BMJ - British Medical Journal).

AFPI is the recipient of the Healthcare Leadership Award 2012 in the category of Healthcare Governance and Public Administration.

## AFPI Vision

Transforming health care delivery system in India through enhanced level of community based quality health care.

## **AFPI Mission**

Improve health status of communities by building up an environment of change and reform by promoting education / training of skilled primary care physicians and their integration with the health care delivery system.

## **AFPI Objectives**

### **Advocacy Role**

1. Active participation in formulation of health policies.
2. Promote Family Medicine as an academic specialty and knowledge discipline of medical science.
3. Support development of human resource trained as “Multi Skilled and Competent Primary Care Physician”.
4. Creating awareness among public/ private agencies engaged in health care delivery regarding Specialty of “Family Medicine” and creating an environment conducive for recruitment of skilled family physicians.

### **Quality Education**

1. Academic institutionalization of community health services.
2. Develop community need based undergraduate and post graduate Family Medicine training Curriculum.
3. Promote residency based full time Family Medicine Training at post graduate level at NBE accredited institutions as well as university based medical college hospitals and associated community level health facilities.
4. Develop educational programs in the traditionally neglected areas of medical practice (in India) such as adolescent health, geriatrics, palliative care, clinical prevention, travel health, occupational health, environmental health, emergency medicine, home based care etc.
5. Organizing family medicine focus CMEs and conferences.
6. Promoting learning opportunities for residents, trainees and medical officers.

### **Practice standardization and promotion**

1. Education of practice management to practitioners and medical officers leading to enhanced level of services available to individual and communities.
2. Setting benchmarks and standards for delivery of Family Medicine services.
3. Accreditation system for ongoing quality management.

### **Shouldering Public Health Responsibilities**

1. Actively participate in National Health Programs.
2. Developing and providing human resource for National Rural Health Mission.
3. Developing and delivering patient and community education programs related to prevention, promotion, management, rehabilitation of clinical as well as public health problems.

### **International Affiliation:**

AFPI is a member organization of the WONCA (World Organization of Family Doctors)

### **Spice Route Movement**

AFPI is one of the founding members of the Spice Route Movement, a forum for young and future family doctors in South Asia region.

# About WONCA

## (World Organization of Family Doctors)

[www.globalfamilydoctor.com](http://www.globalfamilydoctor.com)



### **WONCA in brief**

#### **What's in a name? "WONCA" explained**

WONCA is an unusual, yet convenient acronym comprising the first five initials of the World Organization of National Colleges, Academies and Academic Associations of General Practitioners/Family Physicians. WONCA's short name is World Organization of Family Doctors.

#### **What is WONCA's mission?**

The Mission of WONCA is to improve the quality of life of the peoples of the world through defining and promoting its values, including respect for universal human rights and including gender equity, and by fostering high standards of care in general practice/family medicine by:

- promoting personal, comprehensive and continuing care for the individual and the family in the context of the community and society;
- promoting equity through the equitable treatment, inclusion and meaningful advancement of all groups of people, particularly women and girls, in the context of all health care and other societal initiatives;
- encouraging and supporting the development of academic organizations of general practitioners/family physicians;

- providing a forum for exchange of knowledge and information between Member Organizations and between general practitioners/family physicians; and
- representing the policies and the educational, research and service provision activities of general practitioners/family physicians to other world organizations and forums concerned with health and medical care.

## **Who is WONCA?**

The World Organization of Family Doctors (WONCA) is a not-for-profit organization and was founded in 1972 by member organizations in 18 countries. WONCA now has 126 Member Organizations in 102 countries with membership of about 300,000 family doctors and more than 90 per cent of the world's population. This includes eight organizations in collaborative relations with WONCA. There are some 50 members in the Academic membership category, which consists of Academic Departments of Family Medicine. Some 1500 individual general practitioners and family physicians have chose to join WONCA in their own right.

## **Membership of WONCA**

WONCA represents and acts as an advocate for its constituent members at an international level where it interacts with world bodies such as the World Health Organization, with whom it has official relations as a non-governmental organization and is engaged in a number of collaborative projects. The WONCA World Secretariat has transferred from Singapore to Bangkok since November 2012

## **WONCA Structure**

### **WONCA's Council**

WONCA is governed by a World Council that meets once every three years just before the world conference. The Council comprises the representatives of member organizations and the officers of WONCA. Committees of WONCA Council  
WONCA's Council appoints a number of committees every three years.

### **WONCA Executive Committee**

The Council elects an [Executive Committee](#) that consists of the President, President-Elect, three Members-at-Large, and a Regional President from each of the seven regions (Africa, Asia Pacific, East Mediterranean, Europe, Iberoamericana, North America, and South Asia). In 2013 a young doctor member was added. The Chief Executive Officer is a member of Executive. The Executive Committee meets up to twice yearly and has full authority to act for and on behalf of the World Council between meetings of the Council. WONCA conducts its work through its statutory committees, Working Parties, and Special Interest Groups (SIGs).



*(Back row from l to r) Donald Li (Member at large); Richard Roberts (Immediate Past President); Raman Kumar (young doctor); Matie Obazee (Africa); Garth Manning (CEO); JK Lee (Asia Pacific); Job Metsemakers (Europe); Karen Flegg (Member at large); (Front row from l to r): Nongluck Suwisith (WONCA manager); Mohammed Tarawneh (East Mediterranean); Amanda Howe (President Elect); Michael Kidd (President); Ruth Wilson (North America); Pratap Prasad (South Asia); Luisa Pettigrew (Member at large); Inez Padula (Iberoamericana)*

### **WONCA 'groups'**

WONCA has a number of [Working Parties, Special Interest Groups and Young Doctors' movements](#) that work between world council meetings to progress specific areas of interest to WONCA and its members around the globe. These groups comprise hundreds of family doctors who meet three yearly, sometimes more often, and in between work by correspondence. Over the years they have carried out groundbreaking studies and research, and have produced a variety of important publications.

### **WONCA regions and member organizations.**

WONCA has seven regions, each of which has their own regional Council and run their own regional activities including conferences.

### **WONCA Direct Membership**

Since WONCA first began, many family doctors have expressed a desire to belong to WONCA individually, although they were already indirect members through their national college or academy. The category of Direct Membership was created to enable individual family doctors to associate directly with WONCA.

Individual direct membership is open to any health professional who has an interest in family medicine/general practice, who supports the vision, mission and goals WONCA, and who wishes to belong to a worldwide network of family medicine/general practice educators, professionals, caregivers and advocates. In addition to regular news and communications from Wonca, DMs are entitled to a discount on Wonca conference registration fees. Check following link for more details – <http://www.globalfamilydoctor.com/AboutWonca/Membership2.aspx>

Source [www.globalfamilydoctor.com](http://www.globalfamilydoctor.com)

**Disclaimer:** The views or policies expressed in this booklet are those of AFPI and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the World Organization of Family Doctors (WONCA). AFPI functions independently towards development and strengthening of academic family medicine in India.

# AFPI Membership Application Process:

## *Join Family Medicine – Enjoy a lifelong fulfilling career*

AFPI invites membership application in different categories as per defined eligibility criteria (For life membership categories refer appendix I). Membership applicants are advised to fill the prescribed form and send it to AFPI office with copies of qualifications and requisite fee. Membership fee can be paid by demand draft or at cheque. For outstation (outside Delhi) cheques, please add an additional amount of Rs 25. Membership fee can also be paid through bank transfers. Membership forms shall be screened and members shall be admitted to AFPI on 10<sup>th</sup> of each month for all applications pending for the duration of the previous month. Membership certificates along with fee receipt shall be issued within six weeks of application receipt date. If you do not receive any communication from AFPI within eight weeks kindly contact AFPI office at [afpionline@live.com](mailto:afpionline@live.com)

### **Who should apply for membership?**

#### **(Trainees, trainers, practicing and working professionals)**

*AFPI invites medical graduates and practicing doctors in India to join as members and develop career in family medicine specialty. AFPI Membership takes you through dynamic process of training, recognition and vocational skill development. Refer the various membership categories and appendix I of the application form to determine your eligibility.*

### **Following categories of medical professionals are most eligible for AFPI membership.**

1. Family medicine specialists (MD/ DNB)
2. Family medicine faculty and trainers
3. MD Family medicine trainees
4. DNB Family medicine trainees
5. Trainees of AFPI accredited training courses/ qualifications such as MRCGP International, PGDFM (CMC), MMed FM (CMC) etc.
6. NRHM Medical officers aspiring for academic development, higher qualification and career in family medicine
7. State medical officers aspiring for academic development, higher qualification and career in family medicine
8. Services medical officers aspiring for academic development, higher qualification and career in family medicine
9. Medical officers working as GDMOs in ESI, Railways, factories, municipalities and other public/ private organizations aspiring for academic development, higher qualification and career in family medicine
10. RMO (Resident medical officers) aspiring for academic development, higher qualification and career in family medicine
11. Services medical officers retired from short service commission
12. Medical officers from para military services
13. Practicing family physicians aspiring for academic development and higher qualification
14. Practicing general practitioners aspiring for academic development, higher qualification and recognition
15. Post graduate aspirants looking forward to make career in family medicine specialty/ discipline.
16. Medical students with interest in family medicine
17. Specialist with interest in family medicine (as life associate members)

If you do not fall in the above mentioned categories kindly contact [afpionline@live.com](mailto:afpionline@live.com) for further assistance.

<b>Membership Benefits:</b>
<b>The Academy of Family Physicians of India provides</b>
Facilities to Students, Scholars and Institutions for the study of or Research in Family Medicine in any of its aspects by way of scholarships, fellowships, grants, endowments, etc.
Either through itself or in cooperation with other bodies or persons fellowships, prizes, certificates, diplomas of proficiency in the science of Family Medicine and conduct such tests, examinations or other scrutiny as may be prescribed from time to time.
Free of cost or at subsidized cost its official journals, books, periodicals or publications on Family Medicine and allied subjects which the society thinks is desirable for the promotion of its objects.
Opportunity to its member to participate in Conferences, Lectures, Meetings, Seminars, Symposia, Workshops, Continuing Medical Education Programs, etc.
Opportunity to become members/ office bearers of its Branches / Subspecialty Chapters / Groups / Cells / Committees.
Opportunity for international Exchange Programs
Opportunity for Faculty Development Program
Opportunity to earn international qualifications
Nominations for International awards
Nominations for International Travel Grants and Bursaries
Facilitation for participation in international young family doctor movements.

## Categories of Membership

### 1. Life Membership:

#### **Life Membership Categories (Refer to Appendix I for eligibility)**

Life membership (Masters Level) Diamond Member

Life membership (Professional Level) Platinum Member

Life membership (Foundation Level) Gold Member

**As a founding principle all life members should hold a full time post graduate qualification in family medicine.** Life Members shall be required to have completed three years of regular post-graduate training such as MD/DNB or equivalent in Family Medicine from any institution or university recognized by the Medical Council of India and/or approved by the Governing Body of the AFPI. Those undergoing training in MD/ DNB family medicine currently may also join as life members in training status. Given the developing status of family medicine discipline in India; **life membership shall also be awarded to those who are preparing for PG entrance, practicing and working** in three categories (a) Life membership (Masters Level) Diamond Member (b) Life membership (Professional Level ) Platinum Member (c) Life membership (Foundation Level) Gold Member. **Refer appendix I of the application form to determine your eligibility.** Life membership shall be offered to citizens of India only.

- 2. Student Membership:** Any MBBS student/ intern studying in India can apply for student membership of AFPI and shall be eligible to participate in the Student Chapter of AFPI and also eligible to participate in international junior doctor groups activities on the behalf of AFPI. The membership shall be valid for a period of five years after passing of MBBS, after which he/ she must upgrade to any of the life membership category. Those have already completed MBBS internship are not eligible for this category and are advised to apply for life membership. Members of this category shall be provided career guidance in family medicine. Student members shall also be eligible to participate in the spice route movement (South Asia regional forum for young and future family medicine doctors) and other international forums of young doctors.

**PG aspirants** may also apply for this category of this membership, which shall be valid only till five years of internship completion. After this period they are advised to apply for appropriate life membership category. **Resident/trainees of family medicine (DNB/MD)** are eligible for life membership.

3. **Life Associate Membership:** A person holding graduate (MBBS or international equivalent) qualification or post-graduate degree or diploma recognized by the Medical Council of India in any branch of medical science who is not eligible for life membership (as stated above) shall be enrolled as a Life Associate Member. Life Associate Members shall have no voting rights, nor the rights to propose, second any one or contest for any office of the Governing Body.
4. **Honorary Membership:** The Governing Body may admit a person, who in their judgment is a renowned clinician as an Honorary Member. The proposal for honorary membership should be made by two Life Members of AFPI. The proposal should reach the Head Office by 30th June of the year. This decision shall be communicated to all the members of AFPI through JAFPI.
5. **International Membership:** Any physician legally licensed to practice in his/ her own country and with training in family medicine shall be admitted to the academy as an international member. Non Resident Indians and persons of Indian origin currently practicing outside India shall also fall in this category. International members shall have neither voting rights nor the right to propose or second any person for any post or hold any office of the Association.
6. **Patrons Corporate Membership:** Any corporate body or an individual donating (an amount as decided by the Governing Body from time to time) Rs.10,00,000/- (Rupees Ten Lakhs) can, at the discretion of the Governing Body, be enrolled as a Patron of the Academy. Patron members shall have neither voting rights nor the right to propose or second any person for any post or hold any office of the Association.
7. **Institutional Membership:** Suitable for medical college departments, DNB training institutions, MRCGP International training locations. Institutional members shall have neither voting rights nor the right to propose or second any person for any post or hold any office of the Association.
8. **AFPI Fellowship:** All life members (Diamond Category) in good standing for three years are eligible to apply for the fellowship of AFPI with requisite fee. Founder members do not require any fee for fellowship application. Others categories of life members may apply for honorary fellowship after five years of continuous membership with good standing status. Note: Award of fellowship does not have a bearing on the voting rights and such benefits shall be determined by the existing membership category. Fellows shall be ceremonially admitted during annual conferences of AFPI.
9. **Spice Route Membership:** Spice route is the South Asia regional forum for young and future family medicine physicians. All AFPI members such as students, residents, trainees, recently qualified & practicing status are eligible to be participate and be members of Spice Route Movement. Residents need to be within first five years training completion and those without any residency training needed to be within in first ten years of MBBS (internship) completion. There is no separate fee payable to AFPI for this forum. Foreign nationals need to apply through their respective national colleges/ associations. Spice Route participants are eligible for international exchange programs.

#### **How to apply for AFPI membership?**

Application should be made on a prescribed form. Along with the application for membership of AFPI, photo copies of the following documents should be submitted

- (i) Photo copies of the M.B.B.S (Undergraduate) & Post Graduation training Certificates as (as per degrees listed by you in your application).
- (ii) Photo copies of the degrees registration certificates with State Medical Council **OR** Medical Council of India (as the case may be).
- (iii) If the applicant has enrolled but not completed the prescribed training in family medicine, please enclose a copy of the letter of acceptance/ admission letter.

#### **Address for Membership Application:**

Dr Raman Kumar President AFPI 049, Crema Tower, Mahagun Mascot Crossing Repulik, Dundahera District Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh PIN 201016, INDIA.

## Membership Fee

### Till December 31 2014

Annual membership for each category is Rs 500/-

Life membership fee paid is valid for fifteen years and governing body in concurrence with general body may levy an updated fee after fifteen years as and when required.

Student membership is valid for a period of five years after internship completion.

The Membership Fee should be paid by a crossed bank draft drawn in favor of “**ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS OF INDIA**” payable at **New Delhi**. For outstation cheques, please add an additional amount of Rs 25/-

Category of Membership	Admission Fee	Membership Fee	Total Amount Payable
Life Member (Diamond/ Platinum / Gold)	Rs.500/-	Rs.4000/-	Rs.4500/-
Life Associate Members	Rs.500/-	Rs.4000/-	Rs.4,500/-
Honorary Member	Nil	Rs.4000/-	Rs.4000/-
International Member - Life	Nil	US \$100 (For SAARC & Developing Countries), US \$ 500 (For USA, Canada & Europe, Australia, New Zealand ) NRI (Non Resident Indians) \$ 250 (Holding Indian Passport)	Fee valid for 15 years.
Patron – Life	Rs.500/-	Rs.10,00,000/-	Rs.10,00,500/-
AFPI Fellowship		Rs 5000/-	Rs 5000/-
Membership Up Gradation Fee			2500/-
Student Membership		1000 -	1000
Spice Route		Nil (For eligible members only)	Nil
Institutional Membership (To be renewed every 10 years)		Rs 25,000/-	Rs 25,000/-

### After December 31 2014

Annual membership for each category is Rs 500/-

Life membership fee paid is valid for fifteen years and governing body in concurrence with general body may levy an updated fee after fifteen years as and when required.

Student membership is valid for a period of five years after internship completion.

The Membership Fee should be paid by a crossed bank draft drawn in favor of “**ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS OF INDIA**” payable at **New Delhi**. For outstation cheques, please add an additional amount of Rs 25/-

Category of Membership	Admission Fee	Membership Fee	Total Amount Payable
Life Member (Diamond/ Platinum /Gold)	Rs.500/-	Rs 5000/-	Rs.5500/-
Life Associate Members	Rs.500/-	Rs 6000/-	Rs.6500/-
Honorary Member	Nil	Rs 5000/-	Rs.5000/-
International Member - Life	Nil	US \$100 (For SAARC & Developing Countries), US \$ 750 (For USA, Canada & Europe, Australia, New Zealand ) NRI/ PIO \$ 250 (Holding Indian Passport)	
Patron – Life	Rs.500/-	Rs.10,00,000/-	Rs.10,00,500/-
AFPI Fellowship		Rs 5000/-	Rs 5000/-
Membership Up Gradation Fee			2500/-
Student Membership		Rs 1000 /-	Rs 1000/-
Spice Route		Nil (For eligible members only)	Nil
Institutional Membership (To be renewed every 10 years)		Rs 30,000/-	Rs 30000/-

## **AFPI Bank Account Details**

Bank: Axis Bank

Account Name: Academy of Family Physicians of India

**Account No: 911010005128611**

Branch: Janakpuri (ID 207) New Delhi India 110058

MICR Code: 110211023 IFSC Code: UTIB0000207 SWIFT Code AXISINBB20

**You may also send your membership application form, in scanned form to [afpionline@live.com](mailto:afpionline@live.com) and transfer membership fee through your bank.**

## **Support and donation:**

AFPI is a registered charitable society and has also been granted tax exemption under Sec 12 A and 80 C from Income Tax Department. Member, Non members, supports and friends of AFPI may send donations/ gifts by draft, cheque or online transfer. Donations are accepted from Indian citizen only.

<b>Appendix I (Life Membership Category Wise Eligibility)</b>
<b>List of Qualifications approved by AFPI as eligibility towards Life Membership</b>
<b>Life Membership Categories</b>
Life membership (Masters Level ) Diamond Member
Life membership (Professional Level) Platinum Members
Life membership (Foundation Level) Gold Member
<b>As a founding principle all life members should hold a full time post graduate qualification in family medicine.</b> Given the developing status of family medicine discipline in India; <b>life membership is also open to practicing and working professionals</b> providing every primary care physicians in India an opportunity to earn full academic accreditation and academic qualification.

<b>Life membership (Masters Level) - Diamond Member</b>
<b>Privileges</b>
Member of general body
Right to vote
Right to propose or second any person for any office of the governing Body
Right to hold any nominated post appointed by the governing body
Right to contest and hold any elected post in the governing body
Opportunity to apply for fellowship of AFPI after five years of membership completion
Online access to AFPI journal JFMPC (PUBMED Indexed)
Online AFPI and WONCA News letters
Opportunity to publish in AFPI publication of Family Medicine and Primary Care ( PUBMED Indexed)
Discounted registration fee at AFPI organized conferences/ workshops
Opportunity to start AFPI accredited family practice clinic (subject to fulfillment of terms and conditions)
Membership of WONCA (World organization of family doctor) through organizational membership of AFPI.
Members may also apply for <b>direct membership</b> of WONCA for additional benefits
Note: Members in training/resident status (MD/DNB) shall be eligible to hold any elected position only after completion of the course.
<b>Approved Qualifications/ Eligibility Criteria</b>
<b>(A) Regular Fulltime</b>
DNB Family Medicine
MD Family Medicine
Obtained three years of DNB/MD Family Medicine Training Certificate
MD/DNB Family Medicine – Trainee / Resident
Indian citizen practicing in India with International Qualifications such as Collage Membership or Board Certification (a) MDGP Nepal (b) MD Colombo Sri Lanka (c) College Membership Canada/ UK/Australia/ New Zealand (d) Board Certification - USA
<b>(B) Qualifications for working / practicing professionals</b>
MRCGP International

PGDFM Family Medicine – CMC Vellore
M Med FM (Masters in Family Medicine) – CMC Vellore/ MGR University
Five publications in peer reviewed indexed family medicine journal during last 10 years ( For Platinum Members only)
<b>(C) Medical Teachers/ Trainers</b>
I -Designated faculty at (a) Department of family medicine MCI recognized medical college (b) Department of Community and Family Medicine (CFM) at AIIMS irrespective of primary specialty
II - Guide to DNB Family medicine at a National Board of Examination affiliated training institution
<b>Important:</b> Medical teachers not holding any family medicine qualification shall be required to complete any of the qualifications (master level) listed above to be eligible to contest any elected post in AFPI Central / State Chapter governing body.

<b>Life membership (Professional Level ) Platinum Member</b>
<b>Privileges</b>
Member of the general body
Right to vote
Right to propose or second any person for any office of the governing body
Opportunity to hold any post appointed by governing body
Participate in all activities of AFPI
Eligible to apply for Masters Level Diamond Membership after completion of any of the recommended qualifications / criteria with membership up gradation fee.
Online access to AFPI journal JFMPC (PUBMED Indexed)
Online AFPI and WONCA News letters
Discounted registration fee at AFPI organized conferences/ workshops
Opportunity to publish in AFPI publication of Family Medicine and Primary Care (PUBMED Indexed)
Opportunity to start AFPI accredited family practice clinic (subject to fulfillment of terms and conditions).
Guidance, training and eligibility towards MRCGP International Exit Examination
Membership of WONCA (World organization of family doctor) through organization membership of AFPI. Members may also apply for <b>direct membership</b> of WONCA for additional benefit.
Note: Note: The voting right of members of this level; not progressing to the next level of <b>Masters Level – Diamond Membership</b> within ten years of joining AFPI membership shall be automatically suspended.
<b>List of AFPI approved qualifications for Professional – Platinum level</b>
Five years of experience in Family Practice (without any formal training) with interest in academic family medicine
DFM – Apollo Medvarsity - RCGP UK
MD Geriatrics
MD Emergency Medicine
MD Community Medicine
MS Rural Surgery

MD/DNB (Maternal and Child Health)
PGDFM (Maternal Child Health) IGNOU
PGDFM Geriatrics IGNOU
AIFH (Associate Fellowship in Industrial Health)
Five years of service in NRHM as General Duty Medical Officers with interest in academic family medicine
Five years service as Armed Forces Medical Services or Para Military Services as General Duty Medical Officers
Services doctors completed short service commission venturing into family practice
Five years service in state health services as General Duty Medical Officers with interest in academic family medicine
Five years of service CGHS (Central Government Health Services) with interest in academic family medicine
Five years of service as RMO (resident medical officer) with interest in academic family medicine
Five publications in peer reviewed indexed family medicine journal
<b>Life Membership (Foundation Level) Gold Membership</b>
<b>Privilege</b>
Member of General Body
Right to vote
Eligible to apply for <b>Professional – Platinum</b> Level after completion of any of the recommended qualifications / criteria
Participate in all activities of AFPI
Online access to AFPI journal JFMPC (PUBMED Indexed)
Online AFPI and WONCA News letters
Discounted registration fee at AFPI organized conferences/ workshops
Opportunity to publish in AFPI publication of Family Medicine and Primary Care ( PUBMED Indexed)
Opportunity to start AFPI accredited family practice clinic (subject to fulfillment of terms and conditions)
Guidance towards MRCGP International Exit Examination
Membership of WONCA (World organization of family doctor) through organizational membership of AFPI. Members may also apply for <b>direct membership</b> of WONCA additional benefits
<b>Eligibility</b>
MBBS (internship complete) with interest in practice and education of Family Medicine
Note: The voting right of members of this level; not progressing to the next level of <b>Professional Level – Platinum Membership</b> within ten years of joining AFPI membership shall be automatically suspended.
Note: <b>Specialist doctors</b> (Post graduate degree diploma in any specialty other than qualifications listed above) with MBBS qualification are not eligible for any category of life membership of AFPI and they must apply for Life Associate Membership if interested.

# ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS OF INDIA

Member organization of WONCA (World organization of family doctors)  
Registered nonprofit society

## AFPI MEMBERSHIP FORM

(Refer to membership application booklet before filling the form)

Photograph

**Note: You are advised to go through application brochure before filling the form.**

Name of the Applicant: .....  
(Surname) (First Name) (Middle Name)

Date of Birth: ..... Gender: .....

### Residential Address:

.....		
.....		
.....		
E mail	Mobile	Landline

### Work Address

Official designation: .....		
Name of organization: .....		
.....		
E mail	Mobile	Landline

State of India (For constitution of AFPI State Chapter):

Name of training institute:

Nationality:

Membership Category Applied for:

Spice Route Eligibility: Yes / No

**Academic Qualifications:**

Medical / Family Medicine Qualification	Name of the University/Institute	Joining and qualifying Year
MBBS		
MD/DNB		
PGDFM/ MMed - CMC Vellore MGR University		
MRCGP International		
Others		

Are you involved in teaching/ training of family medicine? If yes, designation and name of institution:

MCI or State Medical Council Registration Number: .....

**Membership Fee Details**

Total Amount                      Draft Cheque No                      Dated                      Drawn at

Name, Membership No. & Signature of the Proposer : .....

Name, Membership No. & Signature of the Seconder: .....

**(If you do not know any proposer or seconder, please leave the space blank. AFPI office will arrange for the same)**

**Declaration:**

Hereby I declare that all information given above is true to best of my knowledge, I have voluntarily applied for the membership of the Academy of Family Physicians of India. I further declare that I am eligible for membership as per prescribed criteria/ qualification as defined in the Appendix I of the application form. I also give undertaking to abide by the rules and regulation of the society. I shall work and extend my support towards development of family medicine discipline strengthen primary health care in India and shall also be committed towards continuous professional development of myself in order to maintain membership of good standing. I shall maintain professional ethics of high standards. I also understand that all categories of memberships are subject to review every five years with mandatory requirement for maintenance of prescribed skills and knowledge by AFPI time to time. The life membership fee paid by me is valid for fifteen years and governing body in concurrence with general body may levy an updated fee after fifteen years as and when required.

Place:

Date:

(Signature of the applicant)

The Membership Fee should be paid by a crossed bank draft/ cheque drawn in favor of “**ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS OF INDIA**” payable at New Delhi.

**Address for Membership Application:** Dr Raman Kumar, President AFPI, 049, Crema Tower, Mahagun Mascot Crossing Repulik, Dundahera District Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh PIN 201016, INDIA. For any further query kindly contact [afpionline@live.com](mailto:afpionline@live.com) for assistance.