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Concept identification and context analysis of the Wonca Europe 2015 book by instance-based categorization of general practice activities

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Introduction

Family physicians are large producers of knowledge. The site of Wonca Europe provides access to almost 20,000 abstracts produced by family physicians since 1995 (from Europe) and 1998 (from World Conferences). On the occasion of 20 years of Wonca Europe, an editorial committee selected 100 of the best abstracts and has asked each author (or a substitute) to make a chapter for the Wonca Book published in 2015 at the Wonca Europe congress.

The content analysis of medical texts also coined as instance organization or text classification is generally achieved by the use of MeSH. MeSH doesn't always fit the need of the GP/FM. To fill gaps in MeSH, a specific family medicine classification has been developed under the name Core Content Classification of General Practice / Family Medicine (3CGP). A combination of ICPC + Q-Codes (new tool for non-clinical items) provides just fewer than 900 concepts for analyzing the contents of specific texts to family medicine.

Methods & Materials

The 100 chapters of the Wonca Book 2015 were analyzed using 3CGP by a single observer not involved in the editorial committee of the book.

Every text has been carefully read and a maximum of two concepts by chapter were reported in an Excel spreadsheet.

ICPC-2 is used to identify clinical items (symptoms – clinical process – diagnosis).

Q-Codes are used to identify non-clinical (managerial) items.

Q-Codes are complementary to ICPC-2

QC	patient's category
QD	doctor's issue
QE	medical ethics
QН	hazards
QP	patient issue
QR	research & development tool
Qs	structure of practice
QΤ	knowledge management in health care

Chart 1: The 8 Q-Codes main domains

#	Title of the chapter	Code 1	Code 2
w001	Patient empowerment	QP6	
w002	Communicating with Patients	QD1	
w003	Ethical Problems in Family Medicine	QE1	QE2
w004	Health Consequences of Emotional, Physical and Sexual Abuse	QC52	QC12
w005	The Role of Family Medicine in Undergraduate Medical Education	QT41	
w006	Developing National Curricula for the Education and Training of Family Doctors	QT45	
w007	Transient Illnesses	QP5	QE3
w008	Cooperation Across the Interface of Primary and Secondary Care	QS22	QS23
w009	Complexity and Primary Care	QR1	QD34
w010	Motivational Interviewing in Family Medicine	QD15	
w011	Quality Circles	QT5	
w012	Pathology and Minor Surgery in Primary Care	-52	-43
w013	Developing Research Capacities in Family Medicine: the Croatian Experience	QR4	QT42
w014	An International Comparison of the Role of the Family Doctor in Different Countries and its Consequences on the National Health Outcomes and Expenditures: what has Changed in More than 10 years?	QR7	QR8
w015	Tackling Health Inequalities: the Role of Family Medicine	QC3	QP32
w016	Using the Internet to Answer Clinical Questions	QT62	QP61
w017	Threats to Patient Safety in Primary Care	QP34	
w018	Teaching uncertainty	QR1	
w019	Home Visits: a Medical Necessity or Simply a Service?	QP3	QP32
w020	Promoting the Health and Well-being of Family Doctors -Guerilla Tactics for Family Doctors	QD8	

Chart 2: Coding process of 10 chapters of the Wonca book 2015 with ICPC-2 and Q-Codes

Results

150 codes were used to classify the texts of which 143 from the classification of non-clinical items Q-codes and 7 coming from ICPC. Among the topics discussed by the authors and identified by Q-codes, 35 relate to knowledge management (which include family medicine education), 29 codes concern research and development, 29 doctor's specific area, 24 patients' issues, 11 relate to the structure and 8 deal with ethics, one with ecological hazard.

Codes	Rubrics	#
ICPC -52	Excise/Remove/Biopsy/Destruction/Debride	1
ICPC -43	Other Diagnostic Procedures	1
ICPC A28	Limited function/disability NOS	1
ICPC A90	Congenital anomaly NOS/multiple	1
ICPC P	Psychological problem	1
ICPC P06	Sleep disturbance	1
ICPC Z11	Compliance/being ill problem	1
Q-codes	Non clinical domains in GP/FM	143
		150

Chart 3: 7 clinical and 143 managerial concepts addressed in the 100 chapters of Wonca Book

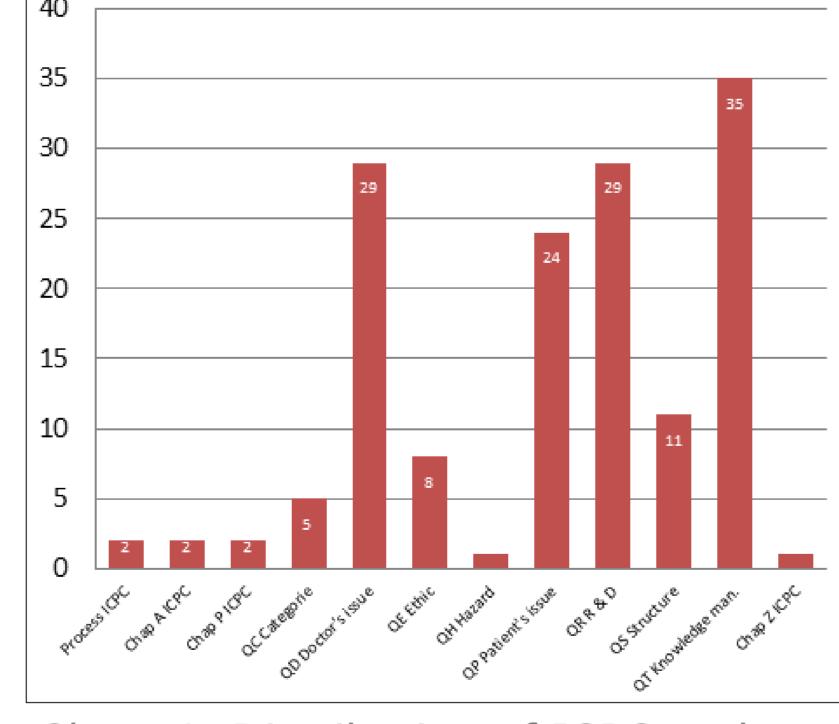


Chart 4: Distribution of ICPC and Q domains by Wonca book chapters



Chart 5: 8 chapters of the Wonca book 2015 are dealing with ethical issues

Discussion

Despite limitations (unique observer – not validated tools) the study reveals striking facts.

It is noted that the editorial board has favored themes that affect the creation and the organization of knowledge into the profession.

Clinical items (7 ICPC codes/150) or affecting directly the patients issues (25 QP codes/150) are poorly represented. (chart 3 & 4)

Through this particular lens, it appears that the Wonca editors have chosen more academically than clinically oriented titles

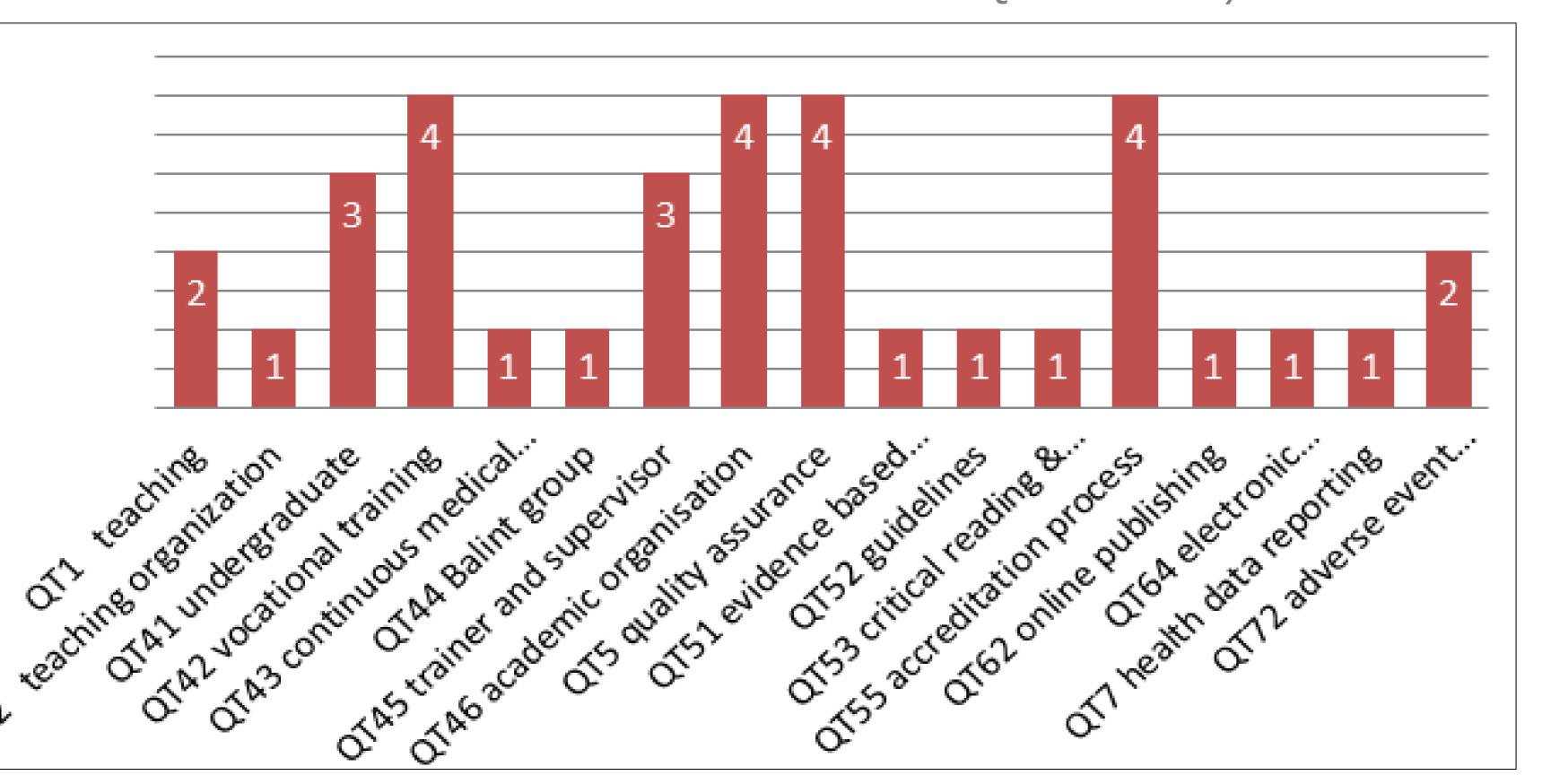


Chart 6: Distribution of QT domains by Wonca book chapters

Data, details and biblio on ttp://docpatient.net/3CGP
MeSH; Family practice / Documentation / Vocabulary, Controlled / Indexing and Abstracting