General Information

This Conference aims to enhance the interdisciplinary dialogue between medicine, neuroscience, psychiatry, psychology, spiritual science and theology. Experts will give comprehensive overviews on the topic, covering physical as well as mental health issues. Symposia invite discussion and free communication allows research groups to present their research projects either orally or as posters. Methodological support can be sought from research experts in their specific fields. Another emphasis is to strengthen networking among researchers in the field and to promote scientific projects. Prof. Harold Koenig will inform us about new developments in the United States.

Keynote Speakers and Main Topics

- Dr. med. Arjan Braam
  Department of Psychiatric Epidemiology, University Medical Centre Utrecht, The Netherlands
  Religious resources and depression - results from the Netherlands

- Prof. Dr. med. Jean-Marc Burgunder
  Department of Neurology, University of Bern
  Religion, Spirituality and Neuroscience

- PD. Dr. med. Arndt Büsning
  University of Witten-Herdecke, Germany
  Role of Religion and Spirituality in Medical Patients

- Dr. med. et M.M.E. Peter Heusser
  Institute of Complementary Medicine, University of Bern, Switzerland
  Europe and the Birth of Science in Spirituality

- Dr. phil. Stefan Huber
  Kompetenzzentrum Orient-Occident Mainz (KOOM), University of Mainz, Germany
  The Multidimensional Structure of Religiosity

- PD Dr. med. Philippe Huegelet
  University of Geneva, Switzerland
  Integrating Spirituality into Schizophrenia Care

- Ass. Prof. Dr. theol. Niels Christian Hvidt
  University of Southern Denmark, Research Unit of Health, Man and Society
  Theological Perspectives in Religion and Health Research

- Prof. Dr. med. Harold G. Koenig
  Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC/USA
  Recent Overview on Religion, Spirituality and Health Research

- PD Dr. phil. Sebastian Murken and Dr. phil. Christian Zwingmann
  University of Trier, Psychology of Religion Group, Germany
  Religion and Coping in Cancer Patients

Call for Abstracts

We encourage your abstracts for oral and poster presentations. Abstracts have to be submitted until January 20th 2008 at www.rsh08.eu/abstract.php
Symposia

- Spirituality and health: historical, cultural and ethical aspects
- Integration of spirituality in the patient-physician relationship
- Tools in assessing religion and spirituality
- Religion, spirituality and cardiovascular Diseases
- The role of religion and spirituality in chronic and palliative care
- Practical integration of spirituality in health care practice
- Issues related to spirituality in neuropsychiatric care
- Religion and spirituality in oncology

Registration

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The conference fee includes the costs for lunch, coffee breaks and the conference booklet. Students must provide proof of status. Please register at www.rsh08.eu.

Questions relating to the conference can be sent to Dr. med. René Hefti (Organising Committee: oc@rsh08.eu).

Scientific Committee

Prof. Dr. med. Jean-Marc Burgunder, Departement of Neurology, University of Bern; Dr. med. René Hefti, Research Institute for Spirituality and Health, Langenthal; Dr. med. et M.M.E. Peter Heusser, Institute of Complementary Medicine, University of Bern; Prof. Dr. med. Harold G. Koenig, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC/USA; Prof. Dr. Dr. theol. Christoph Morgenthaler, Institute for practical Theology, University of Bern; Prof. Dr. phil. Hansjörg Znoj, Institute of Psychology, University of Bern

Research Workshop

with Prof. Dr. Harold. G. Koenig, April 27-30, 2008

Preceding the conference there will be the opportunity to participate in a 4-day research workshop with Prof. Harold Koenig, accepting participants of any education level or degree, including theologians, chaplains, physicians, nurses, psychologists, pastoral counsellors, public health specialists or epidemiologists. Contact: rene.hefti@klinik-sgm.ch.

Organised by

Research Institute for Spirituality and Health; Institute of Complementary Medicine, Department of Neurology, University of Bern