

# World Organization of Family Doctors

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## Intervention by the World Organization of Family Doctors (WONCA)

### Agenda item 10: Hypertension control (WPR/RC77/7)

Seventy-seventh session of the WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific, Manila, Philippines, 19–22 October 2026

WONCA, the World Organization of Family Doctors, a non-state actor in official relations with WHO, speaks through its Asia Pacific Region and endorses the draft *Regional Plan for Accelerating Hypertension Control in the Western Pacific Region*.

One in three adults in this Region lives with hypertension. Blood Pressure control is below 20% in many countries and below 10% in some Pacific island countries. On current efforts, 98 million people will have controlled hypertension by 2030 but the Plan's target is 203 million.

That gap closes when every patient has a named primary care team that follows them over time, treats to target, and does not lose them after diagnosis. That is continuity, and it is what family doctors do because of its longitudinal relationship with patients and their families. WONCA has urged the World Health Assembly to invest in community-based primary care and essential medicines, with measurable targets and accountability. This Plan gives those a number in our region.

WONCA brings a commitment and two requests to this meeting.

First, WONCA commits the following. With member organizations in the Member States of the Western Pacific, we will support team-based, protocol-driven care by training and supervising primary care teams through family medicine training and continuing education. We will also encourage our members, including private practitioners, to contribute routine hypertension data to national registries, with proper data governance.

Second, WONCA urges Member States to build patient enrolment with a named primary care team into UHC benefit packages, and to finance follow-up and uninterrupted medicines, as the Plan proposes.

Third, WONCA calls on WPRO to involve family medicine and primary care associations in developing the PEN and HEARTS training modules and in the regional communities of practice. WONCA also calls on WPRO to report treatment intensification and follow-up intervals alongside the 80-80-80 indicators.

Control is won at follow-up, not at diagnosis. Thank you.