Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise-men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. Matthew 2:1-2

Much mystery surrounds the wise men from the East. They are called "Magi" from the Latinized form of the Greek word magoi, transliterated from the Persian, for a select sect of priests. An old Armenian tradition identifies them as Balthasar, King of Arabia; Melchior, King of Persia; and Gasper, King of India. However, modern scholars believe that they were most probably astronomers from Persia.

What is remarkable about these magi or wise men from the East? Firstly, they were very aware of the times. Pope Ratzinger says that it is possible that Balaam who in his ambivalence, ended up prophesying for Israel may have been responsible in spreading the story of the birth of the Messiah in the Eastern lands.

Balaam prophesied as follows in Numbers 24:17 “I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel…”

It is possible that these wise men, who believed this prophesy, connected it to the unusual astronomical events. Do we live in our narrow world or are we aware of the times that we live in?

Secondly, they were seekers; they suspended whatever they were doing to seek the truth. They must have been people who had a certain inner restlessness, a desire to transcend the status quo and look for a grander meaning. Do we invest time and money in “seeking” and knowing His will?

Then they were people who wanted to give rather than receive; they did not want material blessings but rather came to give worship and give expensive gifts.

Finally, they were men of wisdom; they were not fooled by the superficial pomp and splendor of King Herod. They were able to see through his deceit and thus saved baby Jesus from being killed.

Vinod Shah
CEO- ICMDA
Meeting and activities in Bolivia

In August, we visited Santa Cruz de la Sierra located in Bolivia. During this two-day visit, we met ACBAS (Christian Medical Fellowship of Bolivia) and we shared several activities in the University, School, and Local Church. The purpose of this meeting was to equip and prepare on the subject of ethical and sexual issues.

Latin America is harassed and threatened by diversity, gender perspective and radical feminism ideologies which have invaded our society through our schools, universities, and the law system. For this reason, we wanted to have a time to discuss on these issues and proclaim what God says about this subject.

We thank God for this opportunity of encouraging the National Association of Bolivia and for the deep communication among us.
Our Goal

The goal of ACMA organization is to promote the integration of vital faith in Jesus Christ with professional excellence as witness of Christ’s love and compassion in patient care in the practice of medicine and dentistry with the support of qualified nurses. ACMA believes that, as partners in the health care delivery in Armenia and other countries, priority should be given to the poor and the neglected and that there should be renewed emphasis on rural health efforts and health education for the prevention of illness. ACMA’s desire is to motivate, educate and equip Christian doctors and students by advancing biblical principles of health care within the Church and to the local culture. So, any Christian doctor, dentist, nurse or health care worker who feels this burden and has calling from God to serve people through medicine can join ACMA by being a registered member. Registered members of ACMA are expected to operate on Not-for-profit basis and within the policy framework of the MoH of Armenia & the by-laws of ACMA.

Annual ACMA Conference

ACMA has its annual conference every year in the month of September and is organized in the fascinating mountainous areas in Armenia. International guest speakers and locals are invited.

Seminars

Annually, ACMA conducts different types of seminars, courses, and lectures in different areas related to its departments and as per the need of its members.
Pray for Portuguese-speaking ICMDA Conference 2015

XIX ACEPS-Portugal Annual Meeting

8-11 October 2015

Lisbon • Portugal
Dr. Jacek Juszczak
Polish CMF Secretary Reports

We would like to give thanks to our Lord for this year 2014, for our conference, and for our new contacts with students.

We would like to ask you to pray for the conference which will be held next year in Wisła. Please pray for strengthening students’ part of Polish CMF and for new openings of our activities in the Universities.

UK CMF

“The Human Journey – a new resource to help you think biblically about health.”

A major new resource from the Christian Medical Fellowship (UK & Ireland) has been launched. The Human Journey will be a fantastic asset for equipping churches, healthcare professionals and student groups to think biblically about health.
It comprises an eight-session course including a book, Study and Leader’s guides, a DVD, website and social media community.

CMF members, church leaders and journalists came to the ‘London Institute for Contemporary Christianity’ for a special launch event on November 17, 2014.

A keynote address from Prof. John Wyatt on some of the medical and ethical challenges facing the church today was followed by a presentation by CMF CEO, Peter Saunders, who explained the background to ‘The Human Journey,’ how it came into being and how we envisage it being used.

Dr. Peter Saunders said: ‘Some of life's biggest questions are questions related to our health; but these questions need to be seen in the greater context of God's design for humanity, the universe and everything – His plan to unite all things under Jesus Christ's rule and authority.’

In producing ‘The Human Journey,’ we have drawn on the expertise of many Christian doctors and healthcare professionals along with CMF's extensive body of writing and research.

Our hope and prayer is that this new resource will be a valuable tool for churches – giving people a biblical framework for tackling some of life's biggest questions and bringing the Bible and healthcare together.

“We very much hope that you will use and promote ‘The Human Journey’ and we are excited to think that it could also have a significant global impact too.”

Visit the website www.humanjourney.org.uk to find out more.

To purchase a sample pack to try with your church or small group go to: www.humanjourney.org.uk/course-materials

Pictures can be downloaded from this link: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/lgqc5ywg6rtiwlo/AAAuy104Cy65m9yjaCFhf5FDa?dl=0
Dr. Klara Kisgeci Dudas
CMF Serbia leader Reports

International Saline Process - Medical student Camp was held at Novi Sad in the month of August 2014. The International Saline seminar was conducted and went on very good. Our IS Serbian Team had their first teaching in Serbian language; although, the group was small, but it was excellent for interactive teaching. Many questions were put across and we had time to give answers, mostly on problem-posed questions and on apologetic tools on evangelism.

The title of our Student gathering event was 'Doctor24h'.

We opened the meet with Worship and Prayer. The topics were "God's Call to Lead, I Have a Dream, Priorities and Decision Making, Cultivating Relationships with People by speaker Emil Kisgeci; Heart of Leaders and Strategic Planning by Klara Kisgeci and 'Christ -Who Heals Today' by pastor Greg Sivulka."

Pastor Greg shared his experience during the Bible study preparation on his topic how he was amazed about Jesus’ work as a Great Physician - Healer. He shared that he was surprised with this topic and how God has blessed abundantly. The Lord challenged him for the work of Christ visiting the sick. As he went through the Bible stories, he was amazed with Christ’s healings and miracles, which was not repetitive but were unique. Jesus taught His disciples and left them to be dependent on the Holy Spirit grounded in His holistic care and teaching.

One of the student participants gave his feedback about the conference at 'Bethel' as wonderful experience of refreshment, spiritual fulfilment in all - mentally, spiritually, and physically. He felt incredible 'turn-around' and strong influence of the Holy Spirit within himself. The Lord gave us the strength, the willingness of re-thinking, decision making and renewal; and above all,
the desire to overcome all the obstacles and run a good race toward the goal. He challenged us to learn to use God's principles and tools.

We were a small group in number, but were spiritually strong in Him as an army prepared for a battle led by Him. We learnt about God's protection, shield and light that keep our lives away from the darkness of the world. Jesus said that if two or three gather in my name He is there and His spirit is with us and we are winners on His side.

"Therefore, let us be Salt and Light in the world, without it life is not worth and let Him use us. The spiritual gifts received from God for His purpose - to be witness of the Truth and now it is our goal!"

At first, we want to celebrate God's goodness that has enabled us to gather. I thank all for cooperation with IHS-CMF Serbia, companionship and support Partners.

We closed our conference by prayer and blessings.

The conclusion verses from the conference were from Ephesians 2:8-10 (NKJV)

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."

Praise God for it!
Dr. ESTHER FREI, Reports

Students & Juniors Ministries in Western Europe

Madrid meeting, November 2014

After Rome, our prayers were answered immensely. The second get together in Western Europe was held in Madrid, Spain from November 28, 2014 to November 30, 2014 and was a great success.

The “7 Months Project” that ended during the World Congress in Rotterdam raised the question on how to continue the work in Western Europe, so we took the challenge to organise the Madrid meeting in a short time. The “3 Months Project” was started. We prayed, then equipped ourselves, prayed again and went into action.

God was with us. Unexpectedly, we had 72 participants and it strengthened our faith. We were not prepared for this big crowd, but God provided all our needs.

Dr. Rick Paul (ICMDA Eurasia Regional Secretary), Dr. Ralph Zarazir (ICMDA Student & Graduate Executive Officer) and Dr. Esther Frei (ICMDA Western Europe Regional Representative for Students & Juniors) took the participants for a Biblical walk with Daniel and understood Daniel’s challenges as a foreigner in an isolated place. The people saw clearly many similarities in Daniel’s situation and the daily life during this century.

Out of all this and as a conclusion, the team developed many new ideas on how to work together and shine through local CMF groups, as well as at the respective universities and working places.

New goals were drafted as guidelines for the coming months. Everyone was so blessed and encouraged for all the prayers and support that many around the world provided. Pray that the work will continue so that Western Europe will shine for God.

Do not be afraid, you who are highly esteemed. Peace! Be strong now, be strong. (Daniel 10.19).
Gulya, Secretary of MCAR Reports
MCAR (Christian Medical Association of Russia)

Plans for 2015:

1. Prayer retreat in Kazan in the month of January 2015 and Nailya would be responsible for this retreat.
2. MCAR Committee meeting in Voronezh in the month of March-April 2015 and Andrey Lichich would be responsible for this meeting.
3. Leaders retreat in Petrozavodsk from 19th to 20th September 2015 and Anya would be responsible for this retreat.
4. Leadership summit for CIS countries in Moscow in the summer of 2016 and Sergey Sytchoff in association with MCAR would be responsible for this summit.
5. Saline solution in Petrozavodsk Voronezh, Izhevsk, Irkutsk, Krasnoyarskiy district (Kansk), Moscow (Oxana Yarkina) and the dates would be announced later and Vera would be responsible for organizing this.
7. Eurasian Leaders conference in Hungary from 20th to 26th March 2015.
9. Summer camp for non-believers at Vyshniy Volochek during summer and Maris would be responsible for the camp.
Dr.Kristina Reports

First Turkey Christian Healthcare workers meeting
October 10th to 12th, 2014, Istanbul, Turkey

We had a wonderful meeting of Christian Doctors in Turkey, Istanbul for 2 days. Eight people were able to participate (6 medical doctors and 2 medical students) and 2 other doctors couldn’t come, but were very interested in meeting and would join this team later. It was amazing to see how people came from faraway places to attend this meeting. We had doctors from Ankara, Izmir, Izmit and other places.

Besides local doctors, Dr.Vinod Shah, CEO-ICMDA, Dr.Ehab Ayoub (Regional Representative of METNA region), myself and my husband Dr. Anri Alikhanyan came to support the local meeting.

On the first day, we introduced ourselves and shared our testimonies. We have heard about the persecution and difficulties of our Turkish Christian doctors, government created so many troubles for them, yet they continued to keep their faith and continued to do God’s will in their lives.

On the second day, we started with worship and heard the Bible talk from Pastor Behnan who spoke about importance of being a Christian doctor who can change the society. Dr.Vinod Shah introduced ICMDA and its vision and mission.

I presented how Armenian Christian Medical Association was started and Dr.Ehab introduced ICMDA work in the Middle-East.

At the end of our presentations, we had an open discussion on “How can Christian Medics serve Lord in Turkey: activities, ethics statements and planning.” We closed the day with prayer for everybody and for the needs of Turkey.
On the third day, Dr. Vinod shared with us Bible talk about “Victory in the Desert” and after that we closed our meeting with prayers.

**Acknowledgements:** First of all we are grateful to God for making this meeting possible.

We would like to thank Father Trdat, Priest in Armenian Orthodox Church in Turkey, who helped a lot with accommodation and meeting place. The accommodation was in a Hotel near by the center of Istanbul.

We are thankful to Father Ruben, Bishop in Catholic Santa Maria Church, who opened the doors of the church and provided place for meeting, projector and offered lunch as well as tea and coffee during the day.

**Outcome of the meeting:**

The Christian doctors decided to come together for fellowship and support.

Introduce ICMDA to the protestant church leaders during their “Annual Family Retreat” in January, Turkey.
Herng-Der Chern,
Regional Secretary, ICMDA East Asia

News

1. Taiwan: TCMA and CCMM had a joint annual retreat with 300 participants in Tainan on 4th & 5th October 2014. The joint retreat of these 2 major Christian Medical Association intensified across the boards’ cooperation in Taiwan.

2. Japan: ICMDA East Asia regional annual conference (also called The 43rd Asian Christian Medical Workers & Students Exchange Program) was held in Nagoya, Japan on 8th to 10th of October 2014. The pre-conference field trip had 30 students to visit the long-term care unit, hospice ward and cerebral palsy rehabilitation unit at Asian Health Institute.

3. Mongolia: MCMA has rented a 15 m2 room for medical students’ fellowship, library and homework.
4. Korea: The ICMDA East Regional Committee and Student group have regular online conference using the App "BAND" for 2 hours every 1-2 months. These communications have improved the mutual understanding and fostered regional activities.

Prayer

1. Pray for the medical missionary Rev. Angel Wang from Taiwan CMA member, working in Burkina Faso of West Africa under the threat of Ebola virus and recent political turmoil.

2. Pray for the safety of Christian medical students involved in the medical service for those who are involved in the Occupy Central movement in Hong Kong.

“My Life, My Work: for the King!” It brought together about more than 500 participants from all over India, abroad, and from across the streets to the Christian Medical College in Ludhiana for another superb EMFI Biennial National conference. We started with a bang, everyone warmly welcomed by our hosts and learning the superb student-written theme song.

The four days then just zoomed to the final Sunday with its deeply meaningful communion service and final cheery and teary good-byes! Old friends and new friends, brothers and sisters from far off mission-hospitals as well as MBBS and BDS freshers, speakers and seekers. God brought us together for four days of fellowship and inspiration.

How to compress 10,000 conference hours into a few words? Here are some glimpses: Dr. Kuruvilla Varkey reminding us of Jesus' invitation to ‘come and see’ – to experience Him. Ajith Fernando talking firsthand about the cost of discipleship – and unpacking how Jesus is both fully Lord and fully Servant at the same time. Challenging seminar tracks which spilled into animated conversations over glorious Punjabi food.

A bouncy fully-child exhausting-with-joy children’s time for the 60 plus kids thanks to the Beyond Barriers team. Times of mentoring which linked students and those in the thick of it – be it private practice,
government service or the mission hospital community. The busy-as-bees EMFI team flitting around, serving, helping, and laughing. The superb visuals all around us and the awesome sense of God’s presence as a whole hall was lost in worship to King Jesus.

Getting to Ludhiana was a long journey for most participants, but the trip was worth it many times over. They left savouring God’s goodness.
The first Georgian Christian Medical Conference, CMAG-1, was held under a major theme: “Love and Hope”.

Bakuriani, Georgia

CMAG-1 started on Friday, November 21, 2014 at 6.00 pm at a Small Guest House of Bakuriani, where 40 participants were gathered (8 medical students, 17 doctors, 6 dentists, 8 nurses and 1 pharmaceutics). They came from different parts of Georgia, but mainly from Tbilisi and Batumi.

After dinner, we had the first session and Dr. Rick Paul talked about Challenges of Being Christian doctor in the present days. Then there was a time for singing, worship, poetry and it was great to see so many talented people among healthcare workers.

The opening ceremony was started with wonderful worship, greetings and then Dr. Maya Imerlishvili, CMAG’s CEO, introduced CMAG as Christian Organization and its vision and aims. She also introduced speakers, Dr. Rick Paul (Thoracic surgeon) from Netherlands, who is regional representative of ICMDA Eurasia and Dr. Douglas Robertson (GP) and Dr. Justin Burdon (GP) from UK PRIME teachers. Dr. Kristina Alikhanyan gave small presentation and encouraged all participants to be “Bread Givers - our medical skills,” to the needy people, as Jesus did in Matthew 15:34-37. At the end of opening ceremony, all were invited for dinner.

The Plenary lectures were delivered by Dr. Rick Paul under the title: “Joshua as Leader,” which was helping the audience to learn and take messages of being a good leader. Dr. Douglas Robertson and Dr. Justine Burdon delivered lectures about Whole Person Medicine in academic session. During the conference, we also had medical topic “Acute Abdomen” by Dr.Rick Paul.
Every morning was started with prayer and it was good to see so many people who had heart to pray for the conference. We had two daily morning devotional bible studies, which were carried out by our invited pastors from different churches in Georgia. Pastor Spartak from Kutaisi and Pastor Mamuka from Tbilisi shared the Word of God to us.

At the end of conference, two certificates were given to participants - one was for attending “Whole Person Medicine” course which was delivered by PRIME and the second for attending “Acute Abdomen” session which was signed by CMAG and ICMDA. All participants became the members of newly registered organization.

At the end of conference, we have delivered the evaluation sheets which was prepared by PRIME and asked participants for their feedback and it was amazing to read their feedbacks and appreciation to whole conference. It’s very difficult to forget the words of one nurse who said with tears “I have never been as happy as I am now”. It’s really great to hear many encouraging words from the participants and to look at their smiling faces.

We would like to thank Bato Tsintsadze, who made the great job of translation during the conference, and Temur Gogitidze, who translated medical session of Acute Abdomen. All of them were blessed by the wonderful worship conducted by Nino Gogsadze. A special thanks to Irakli Khubashvili, who provided the good sound system and other technical parts.

A special thanks to Dr. Rick Paul and ICMDA who supported the conference financially which made participation of many students possible. We are very grateful to PRIME for their willingness to help and support our conference by their speakers.

During CMAG-1 conference, the atmosphere was calm and everything went so smooth. We felt the presence of our Lord in our midst.

Yours in His Service,
Dr Kristina Alikhanyan, MD, PhD
Dr. Maya Imerlishvili, MD
ICMDA Caucasian area representative CEO of CMAG
Dr. Osemwen Asemota, West Africa Reports

CMDA conference in Nigeria was held and 1650 participants attended.

Please pray for our plans to have a meeting of all the leaders of the different fellowships in the health sector.

Nigeria is sending people to Liberia and Sierra Leone to help fight against Ebola.

Pray for Nigeria as we fight against Boko Haram and for the forthcoming General elections.
West Africa Burkina Faso (Angels Voice)
Angel Wang from far away, West Africa Burkina Faso.

It is amazing grace! We worship an awesome God. Burkina Faso suddenly was changed by the political situation and our team decided to return to Taiwan and I was one of among them planned to return. Before departing, a final chance was given to decide to leave or stay. Dear friends, to overcome this sudden change in Burkina Faso and help these people, I preferred to stay and work together.

We have formed a small Christian Medical Doctor's group and have been conducting devotions in a hospital of NBC every Thursday morning and also connecting with BF CMD and student’s group through net twice a week. We use DLS for the devotions. We also pray for ICMDA and use Doctors’ Knee Support a book published from ICMDA 2014 for prayer points.

I have chosen to stay in Burkina Faso. Please continue to pray for me. Pray for Burkina Faso CM group and Taiwan CMA.

Thank you for upholding me in your prayers.

26th June 2014, HNBC,
Doctor's Life Support, Morning Bible readings
Face to face

Dr. Windsouri Mamadou
Dr. Diallo Izeekias
Dr. Ouedraogo Hane

Welcome to Doctor's Life Support, readings group for busy doctors...

Every Thursday morning devotion

22th May 2014, HNBC, Burkina faso
Collaboration with John Maxwell's leadership training in partnership with EQUIP and Kardia and my visit to MEDSEND.

I had useful meetings in West Palm Beach in the last week of October 2014 with Julie Dempsey of Equip, Jeff Russell of Kardia Foundation and Pastor Tom, Chairman of the John Maxwell's leadership training program.

They have shared their leadership material with us and we are to edit it for our use worldwide. They will validate it after our editing. An MOU will be signed later after the editing. Please pray for the development of this important material.

I had met the CEO of MEDSEND in November 2014 in Stamford in Connecticut. We have submitted Application to MEDSEND for scholarship for the ICMDA sponsored students for the MSc in Family Medicine. We need prayer as the application is being processed.

Dr. Vinod Shah
We Wish You Merry Christmas & Happy New Years.

ICMDA, Head Office, India
CONFERENCES CALENDAR 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 11-13</td>
<td>HOME conference, Alexandria, Egypt.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 23-05 Mar</td>
<td>CMDA conference at Chiang Mai, Thailand</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 18-21</td>
<td>Annual conference of PRIME, England</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 20-26</td>
<td>Eurasian Leaders conference, Budapest, Hungary</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 08-11</td>
<td>Portuguese Conference</td>
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For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Isaiah 9:6

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