

President's Report for the AGM 2021

The last calendar year, 2020, which this report describes, has seen rapid shifts to digital modes of operation in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and a sustained positive financial position. This has enabled the charity to deliver a full programme of work and to start to invest in self-funded projects in pursuit of our vision:

*A global population breathing and feeling well through universal access to right care.**

Creating value

This report shows how we worked towards our four value-based strategic goals in 2020:

1. Create value for our country members (34⁺ organisations and individual clinicians) by
 - a. improving their confidence and competence
 - b. promoting good clinical primary care practice including family physicians, general practitioners, pharmacists, nurses, physiotherapists, community health workers and other members of the primary care team
2. Create value for society by
 - a. raising awareness of respiratory health amongst citizens and policy-makers and
 - b. influencing the availability of good quality primary respiratory care in their community
3. Create value for our funders by
 - a. increasing the focus on respiratory health in communities
 - b. improving accuracy of diagnosis in primary care
 - c. reducing the variation and inequity in care and
 - d. improving outcomes in primary care
4. Achieve these three objectives efficiently, running an organisation with effective cost control and create additional value from income-generation programmes to allow the organisation to invest in infrastructure and projects for which fundraising is more challenging

2020 highlights

Response to [COVID-19](#)

- New desktop helper on [Desktop Helper 11 Remote Respiratory Consultations](#) based on the evidence supplemented with experience-led care workshops with patients and primary care clinicians from low, middle and high income countries to discuss the increased practice of remote respiratory consultations during the pandemic
- Formation of a self-funded evidence-based [question and answer service](#) developed by our members for our members on COVID-19 and other respiratory questions
- Highly accessed [Editorial](#) in npjPrimary Care Respiratory Medicine and also WHO-GARD [webinar](#) on the impact of COVID-19
- Free [webinar series on COVID-19 and respiratory health](#), generously supported by our industry partners gaining 1069 registrations from 550 individuals in 82 countries.

* *Universal access aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal of universal health coverage, and our call for respiratory care and access to medicines to be part of this; right care aligns with the World Health Organization's ambition that people have access to good quality care and with the Lancet definition of right care: addressing misuse, underuse and overuse to achieve the right care for health and wellbeing.*

+ *Note at the 2021 AGM three more members joined, bringing total to 37*

Education and change programmes

- Our first leadership school, online, to strengthen leadership capacity in the South Asian respiratory community
- Growth of our social movement for [Asthma Right Care](#) that is engaging more clinicians and patients in more countries to disrupt comfort with current reliance on episodic care and symptom relief and increase use of evidence-based management including anti-inflammatory therapy and continuity of care
- Creation by our community pharmacist network of an Asthma Right Care e-learning programme that is being piloted in South Africa
- Launch with EPG Health for Medthority, an [e-learning programme on treating tobacco dependence](#), including case studies and three assessments of learning.
- Adaptation of resources into Spanish, Italian, German and French with [Medscape](#) on the recognition, diagnosis, management and referral of difficult to manage asthma including innovative “medsims”
- Development of a self-funded project How We Breathe (and why we get breathless), a video using 3D visualisation and animation, for clinicians to use in conversation with patients due for launch in May 2021
- Roll-out of our Teach the Teacher programme to build teaching capacity to improve care for [children with asthma](#) in Malaysia
- Publication of translations of [Desktop Helper No. 10 - Rational use of inhaled medications for the patient with COPD and multiple comorbid conditions: Guidance for primary care](#) that was published in 2019, new teaching case studies and a filmed live discussion about in-country and between country differences. See all desktop helpers here: www.ipcr.org/desktophelpers

Research and research strengthening

- New leadership approach initiated – a global leadership team taking collective responsibility to steer and enable our commitment to primary care respiratory research
- New multi-stage e-Delphi exercise to determine primary care respiratory research priorities to update the exercise last completed in 2012 (manuscript under review)
- Research school online for RESPIRE on qualitative methods, with a focus on COVID-19, including a competition won by a team from Pakistan and runners up from India and Bangladesh
- Collation of an impressive set of publications from the [Global Health Respiratory Network](#) that we coordinate, improving respiratory health of the world's poorest through research collaborations
- Progress for our Romanian prize winners of our first Research School on qualitative research, as they deliver their project on adolescents' attitudes to e-cigarettes
- Increased research activity in 11 of our low and middle income member countries through their participation in three global health research programmes that are funded by the UK National Institute for Health Research, [RESPIRE](#), [Global RECHARGE](#) and [Breathe Well](#). These have the potential to generate data to inform national health policy using locally-generated evidence
- Further publications from our innovative [FRESH AIR programme](#), funded by a research grant from European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme

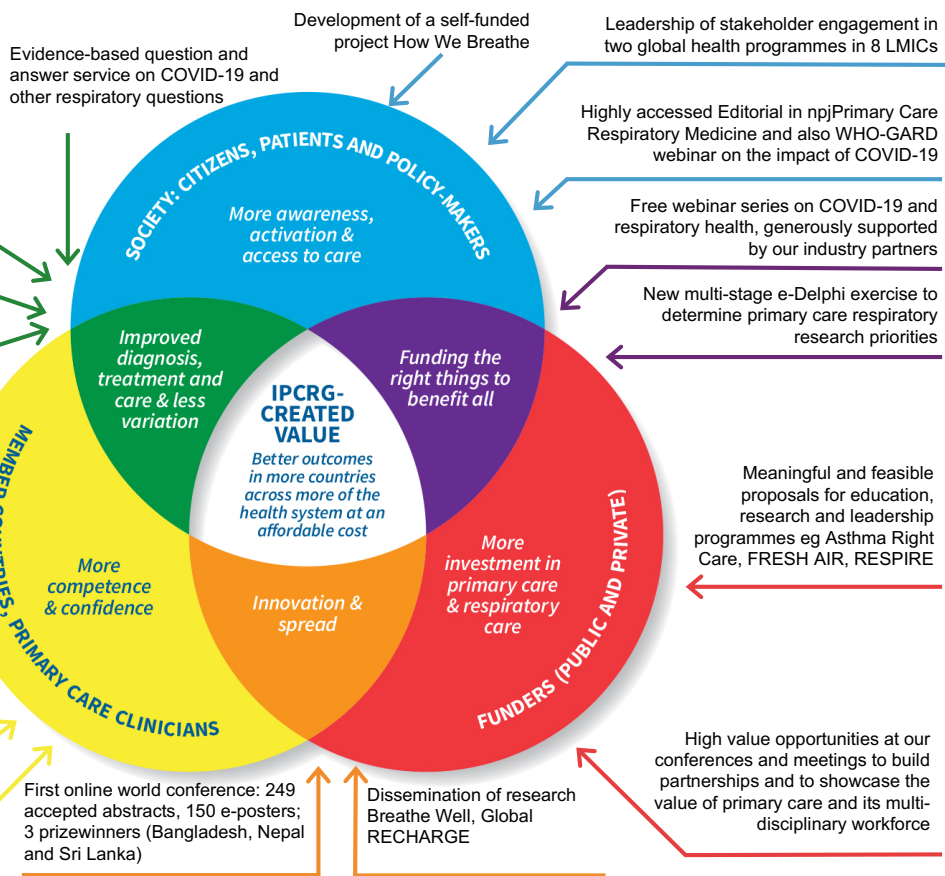
Operations

- Active Education sub-committee committed to building on the success of the [education strategy 2014-2020](#)
- Further use of online tools to enable colleagues from across the world to participate
- Recruitment of additional project managers to support our array of projects and
- A sustained positive financial position.

I am very proud of our achievements, commend this report to you, and urge you to join our network to help us achieve our vision!

Janwillem Kocks
President

Annual report for 2020, published June 2021



- New Remote Respiratory Consultations Desktop Helper and publication of other Desktop Helper translations
- IPCRG-WHO webinar on The Importance of tobacco cessation in primary care
- A Massive Open Online Course on chronic respiratory disease in primary care settings with University of Edinburgh for RESPIRE
- Growth of our social movement for Asthma Right Care and initiation of COPD Right Care
- Creation by our community pharmacist network of an Asthma Right Care e-learning programme
- An e-learning programme on treating tobacco dependence, launched with EPG Health for Medthority
- Adaptation of resources into Spanish, Italian, German and French with Medscape on difficult to manage asthma
- Roll-out of our Teach the Teacher programme in Malaysia
- Our first leadership and research schools, online, to strengthen capacity in the respiratory community