

First Announcement

## 5<sup>th</sup> European Conference on Religion, Spirituality and Health

**“Religion and Spirituality in Health Care:  
Risk or Benefit for the Patient?”**

May 12-14, 2016 • Gdansk (Poland) • [www.ecrsh.eu](http://www.ecrsh.eu)

The 5<sup>th</sup> European Conference on Religion, Spirituality and Health will focus on the integration of religion and spirituality into health care and its implications for patients. Keynote speakers approach the topic from their specific professional background. The Gdansk Lecture will be held by Prof. Dr. Halina Grzymała-Moszczyńska (Poland). Symposia invite for discussion and free communications allow research groups to present their research projects.

### Keynote Speakers

- Prof. Dr. Mariola Bidzan  
University of Gdansk, Institute of Psychology, PL  
**Spiritual Self-Care Practices as a Mediator between Quality of Life and Depression**
- Dr. Verna Benner Carson  
C&V Senior Care Services, Williamsville, USA  
**Spirituality in Nursing Care**
- Prof. Dr. Simon L. Dein  
Durham University and University College London, GB  
**Spirituality in Mental Health Care**
- Prof. Dr. Julie Exline  
Department of Psychological Sciences, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, USA  
**Religious Struggles and Spiritual Distress**
- Prof. Harold G. Koenig, MD  
Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC, USA  
**Breaking News from RSH-Research**
- Prof. Dr. Michael King  
Division of Psychiatry, University College London, GB  
**Religion and Mental Health - Empirical Findings from Europe**
- Prof. Dr. Dr. Ulrich H.J. Körtner  
Institute for Ethics in Medicine, University of Vienna, A  
**Theological Perspectives on the Integration of Religion and Spirituality into Health Care**
- Prof. Dr. Kevin L. Ladd  
Indiana University, South Bend, USA  
**The Psychology of Prayer and its Implications for Health Care and Patient Care**
- Prof. Dr. Stefanie Monod  
University of Lausanne, CH  
**Spirituality in Geriatric Care**
- Prof. Dr. Vasileios Thermos  
Department of Pastoral Theology and Pastoral Psychology, University Ecclesiastical Academy of Athens, GR  
**Religion and Mental Health - Concepts**

### The Gdansk Lecture

- Prof. Dr. Halina Grzymała-Moszczyńska  
Jagiellonian University, Cracow, Poland  
**Migration and its Consequences for Health - Importance of Religion**

### Call for Abstracts

Please submit your abstracts for oral or poster presentations until January 31, 2016

[www.ecrsh.eu/abstract](http://www.ecrsh.eu/abstract)

## Conference Fees

The conference fee's are graded according country categories I-III (see table beside). The country codes you find on the conference website [www.ecrsh.eu](http://www.ecrsh.eu). Fee's include lunch, coffee breaks and the conference booklet. They don't include the social evening. Students (BA, MA, PhD) must provide proof of status.

	Early Fee (until Jan. 31, 2016)	Normal Fee (from Feb. 01, 2016)	Early Student (until Jan. 31, 2016)	Norm. Stud. (from Feb. 01, 2016)
Cat. I	EUR 280	EUR 320	EUR 180	EUR 220
Cat. II	EUR 220	EUR 260	EUR 120	EUR 160
Cat. III	EUR 160	EUR 200	EUR 60	EUR 100

## Scientific Committee

Prof. Arndt Büssing, MD, Universität Witten/Hededecke, Germany (Head); Prof. Dr. Donia Baldacchino, University of Malta, Malta; Prof. Dr. theol. Klaus Baumann, University of Freiburg, Germany; Prof. Arjan Braam, MD, Utrecht/Amsterdam, The Netherlands; Prof. Jean-Marc Burgunder, MD, University of Bern, Switzerland; Ass.-Prof. Dr. Barbara Hanfstingl, University of Klagenfurt, Austria; René Hefti, MD, Research Institute for Spirituality and Health RISH and University of Bern, Switzerland; Prof. Dr. Niels Christian Hvidt, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark;

Dipl. psych., Dipl. theol. Constantin Klein, University of Bielefeld, Germany; Dr. hab. Piotr Krakowiak, Nicolaus Copernicus University, Torun, Poland; Peter La Cour, PhD, Gedhjem, Denmark; Prof. Dr. Tatjana Schnell, University of Innsbruck, Austria; Katarzyna Skrzypinska, PhD, University of Gdansk; Prof. Dr. John Swinton, Kings College University, Aberdeen, UK. International members: Prof. Mary Rute Gomes Esperandio, PUC, Brazil; Prof. Harold G. Koenig, MD, Duke University, Durham, NC, USA; Prof. Kevin Ladd, PhD, University South Bend, Indiana, USA.

## Pre-Conference Workshop

**Prof. Harold. G. Koenig MD and other experts**  
**May 08-11, 2016; University of Gdansk, PL**

Preceding the ECRSH16 we invite you to participate in the 4-day Pre-Conference Research Workshop with Prof. Koenig. The workshop is open to all interested in doing research on religion, spirituality and health (accepting participants of any educational level or degree, including theologians, chaplains, physicians, nurses, psychologists, pastoral counselors, public health specialists, epidemiologists, or other).

Prof. Koenig is known as senior author of the "Handbook of Religion and Health". Prof. Koenig holds a university teaching position as full professor at Duke University Medical Center (Internal Medicine, Psychiatry, and Behavioral Sciences). Furthermore Prof. Koenig is director of the Center for Spirituality, Theology and Health at Duke University and distinguished Adjunct Professor at King Abdulaziz University in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

The center at Duke University used to offer a 1-year post-doctoral fellowship in religion and health, which Prof. Koenig has compressed into 4-day workshops.

### The following topics will be discussed:

- Historical connections between religion & health
- Previous research on religion, spirituality and physical as well as mental health
- Strengths and weaknesses of previous research

- Theological considerations and concerns
- Highest priority studies for future research
- Strengths and weaknesses of religion and spirituality measures
- Designing different types of research projects
- Funding and managing a research project
- Writing a research paper for publication, getting it published
- Presenting research to public audiences, working with the media
- Developing an academic career in this area
- Overview on RSH research in Europe

Individual mentorship meetings allow participants to discuss their own research projects.

Combined participation of ECRSH16 and the research workshop is possible. For further information contact: [rene.hefti@klinik-sgm.ch](mailto:rene.hefti@klinik-sgm.ch) or [info@rish.ch](mailto:info@rish.ch).

**Notice: number of participants is limited!**