The World Health Summit (WHS) brings together stakeholders and decision makers from every field in the healthcare spectrum, providing the perfect forum for exchange with experts from academia, industry, politics and civil society. It is the world’s foremost strategic forum for global health, and promotes thought leadership in the scientific and global health agenda. The WHS was founded in 2009 on the occasion of the 300th anniversary of the Charité.

**WORLD HEALTH SUMMIT INFORMATION 2015**

**FACTS**

**Patronage**

*Angela Merkel*, Federal Chancellor of Germany  
*François Hollande*, President of France  
*Jean-Claude Juncker*, President of the European Commission

**Presidents 2015**

*Shunichi Fukuhara*, School of Public Health, Kyoto University  
*Detlev Ganten*, Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin

**Participants**

- More than 1,300 decision makers from 90 countries on site  
- More than 2,500 people worldwide via online live-stream

**Results**

Statements and recommendations of the National Academies and M8 Alliance to governments and international organizations

**Regional Meetings**

- **WHS Regional Meeting Asia**  
  Kyoto, April 2015  
- **WHS Regional Meeting Latin America**  
  São Paulo, April 2014  
- **WHS Regional Meeting Asia**  
  Singapore, April 2013

**Former Presidents**

*José Otávio Auler*, São Paulo (2014)  
*John Eu-Li Wong*, Singapore (2013)  
*Michael J. Klag*, Baltimore (2012)  
*Steve Wesselingh*, Melbourne (2011)  
*Axel Kahn*, Paris (2009)
WHS TOPICS

- Basic Biological & Medical Research
- Clinical & Patient Research
- Specific Diseases & Disorders
- Diagnostics & Therapy
- Medical Technology & Engineering
- Digital Health & Information Technology
- Education & Training
- Health Policies & Systems
- Universal Health Coverage
- Translational Science & Medicine
- Public Health & Prevention
- Environment & Climate
- Lifestyle, Physical Activity, Nutrition
- Patient Safety
- Healthcare Facilities
- Drugs & Vaccines
- Regulatory Aspects
- Health Visions, Strategies, Ethics
- Evolutionary Medicine
- Demographic Change & Healthy Aging
- Data intensive health research/Big Data
- Global Health and Development
The M8 Alliance of Academic Health Centers, Universities and National Academies is a unique collaborative network of academic institutions pursuing educational and research excellence. Founded at the inaugural World Health Summit back in 2009, the M8 Alliance is committed to improving health worldwide. Its 17 members from 13 countries provide the strong foundation of excellence on which the WHS is built.

WHS PROGRAM TRACKS

The World Health Summit 2015 program is structured along four main thematic tracks:

**Education and Leadership**  
Education is the basis for better health. Academics and educators must continue to be agents for change.

**Research and Innovation**  
Health research is pivotal in the creation of a supportive environment for new products and sustainable economic growth.

**Evidence to Policy**  
To advise policy makers, the health community needs to establish strong connections to all stakeholders on the basis of solid scientific evidence.

**Global Health for Development**  
Health must be treated as an essential, integral component of sustainable development and poverty reduction.

Summit Organizer / Academic Office

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CENTRAL TOPICS AT THE WHS 2015

Medical Education
High-quality healthcare is built on the bedrock of medical education. Training is important, but education is essential. Of course, young doctors fresh out of medical school need to broaden their knowledge-base and hone practical skills. But the learning they acquire during their formative years in higher education is the real key to establishing principles that will guide a doctor throughout his or her career. Medical students have to be educated in an atmosphere where excellence is expected – and excellence in turn means that students must be allowed to be curious about new ideas and approaches.

Climate Change and Health
Although global warming may bring some localized benefits – such as fewer winter deaths in temperate climes or increased food production in certain areas – the overall health effects of a changing climate promise to be overwhelmingly negative. That’s climate change will affect a wide range of social and environmental factors that influence health, and looks set to have a serious impact on issues like clean air, safe drinking water, food supply and housing/shelter security.

Translational Research
What is translational research exactly? Many people think the term refers to the “bench-to-bedside” process that involves harnessing knowledge garnered by basic research to produce new drugs, devices, and treatment options for patients. At the interface between basic science and clinical medicine, translational research is aimed primarily at the creation of promising new treatments that can either be used clinically or commercialized.

Healthy Aging and Prevention
In industrialized countries, people are increasingly trying to keep up with general expectations in a busy, changing society by participating more in sporting activities. Lifestyles among the middle-aged and older members of society are now focusing more and more on remaining active, healthy and productive well beyond the typical age of retirement. At the forefront of research into healthy aging is the concept of personalized medicine, which is encouraging a positive mind-set about healthcare in individuals, groups and entire societies.

The Digital Health Revolution
As the digital and genetics revolutions converge with healthcare into the exciting new field of Digital Health, we are increasingly able to track, manage, and improve both our own health and that of our loved ones. Digital Health is also helping to reduce inefficiencies in healthcare delivery, while at the same time streamlining access, reducing costs, improving quality and making medicine more personalized and precise. The essential elements making the digital health revolution a reality include wireless devices, hardware sensors and software sensing technologies, microprocessors and integrated circuits, the Internet, social networking, mobile and body area networks, health information technology, genomics, and personal genetic information.

The Changing Health and Development Paradigm – Post 2015
Much of the work involved in implementing the MDGs has clearly been left undone, and will have to be carried forward into the next iteration of global development. Fragile states and those affected by conflicts are least likely to achieve their goals, and are most vulnerable in the transition to new ones. For health to remain central in the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals, it can no longer be treated as a separate issue, but instead has to pervade every aspect of sustainable development – whether economic, social or environmental.

Additional topics include:
• Antimicrobial Resistance
• Mental Health: Evidence and Research
• Sexual Violence: The Health Sector Response
• Healthcare in Conflict Zones
• TTIP: Challenges for Global Health
MEDIA FACTS

- Press releases to over 1,200 German and 800 international media contacts
- Regular newsletters to a database of 16,500 subscribers
- More than 200,000 visitors from 188 countries at www.worldhealthsummit.org

Further information: www.worldhealthsummit.org/press-media

News agencies:
- Abrudergings
- Ärztezeitung
- Berliner Morgenpost
- Bild
- BR
- Business Spectator
- CCTV Africa
- CNTN
- Der Tagespiegel
- Deutsches Arzteblatt
- DW Deutsche Welle
- Deutschlandfunk
- DIE WELT
- Euactiv
- Focus
- Frankfurter Allgemeine
- Frankfurter Rundschau
- Hamburger Abendblatt
- Handelsblatt
- The New York Times
- KGN5.tv
- N-tv
- N24
- Phoenix (von ARD und ZDF)
- PHARMAZIENSCHER ONLINE
- SPIEGEL ONLINE
- Sterne.de
- Süddeutsche.de
- Telegraph.de
- Taz.de
- The Lancet
- Zeitonline
- Zeit wissen

Further information:
www.worldhealthsummit.org/press-media

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