



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI MILANO



# University of Ulster

## Postgraduate Diploma/Masters in Primary Care/General Practice by Distance Learning



Francesco Carelli (Italy)



Mario R Sammut & Jean K Soler (Malta)



Frank Dobbs (N. Ireland)





# Origin & development

- Arose as result of discussions between
  - Dr Jean Karl Soler, International Secretary of Malta College of Family Doctors, and
  - Prof. Frank Dobbs, Director of the Institute of Postgraduate Medicine and Primary Care, University of Ulster
- Dr Soler appointed coordinator for cutting-edge collaborative project in distance learning
  - between three countries
  - delivered on-line from Ulster
  - to family doctors in Malta and Italy



# University of Ulster PGDip/MSc in Primary Care/General Practice-DL

- Relevant to GPs and primary care professionals
- Designed to equip them with skills, knowledge and attitudes necessary to:
  - provide quality-based care
  - function at an advanced level
  - enhance ability to practice with expertise
  - develop and consolidate new ways of organising and delivering primary care
- Recognized as a Higher Professional Education Award by RCGP

[www.ulster.ac.uk](http://www.ulster.ac.uk)



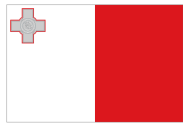
# PG Diploma PC/GP 2004-6

- Only one face-to-face workshop, forming part of the research module held in Malta in October 2004
- Otherwise, online participation on part-time basis after hours - ideal arrangement for busy GPs
- 4 compulsory modules:
  - Primary care: concepts and principles
  - Methods and techniques in primary care research
  - Commissioning, leadership and management in primary care
  - Evidence-based healthcare to improve practice
- 2 optional modules: exempted by demonstration of prior certified learning (diplomas, official letters)



# PG Diploma PC/GP 2004-6

- First University degree in General Practice to be awarded to Maltese and Italian family doctors!
- The successful graduands were:



- MALTA: Joseph Agius Muscat, Noel Camilleri, Saviour Cilia, Josianne Cutajar, Bryen Gatt, Alexandra Gauci, Anthony Mifsud, Mario R Sammut, David Sciberras, Jean Karl Soler, Tania van Avendonk, (Doreen Cassar\*)



- ITALY: Francesco Carelli, (Ferdinando Petrazzuoli\*)  
(\*in progress)



## Thesis for MSc PC/GP 2006-7

- Participants will now be required to complete a research project under supervision and present this as a Master dissertation.
- The dissertation will integrate the three main themes that permeate the programme:
  - the development of research/evidence;
  - knowledge of the empirical basis of practice;
  - leadership and interprofessional learning.