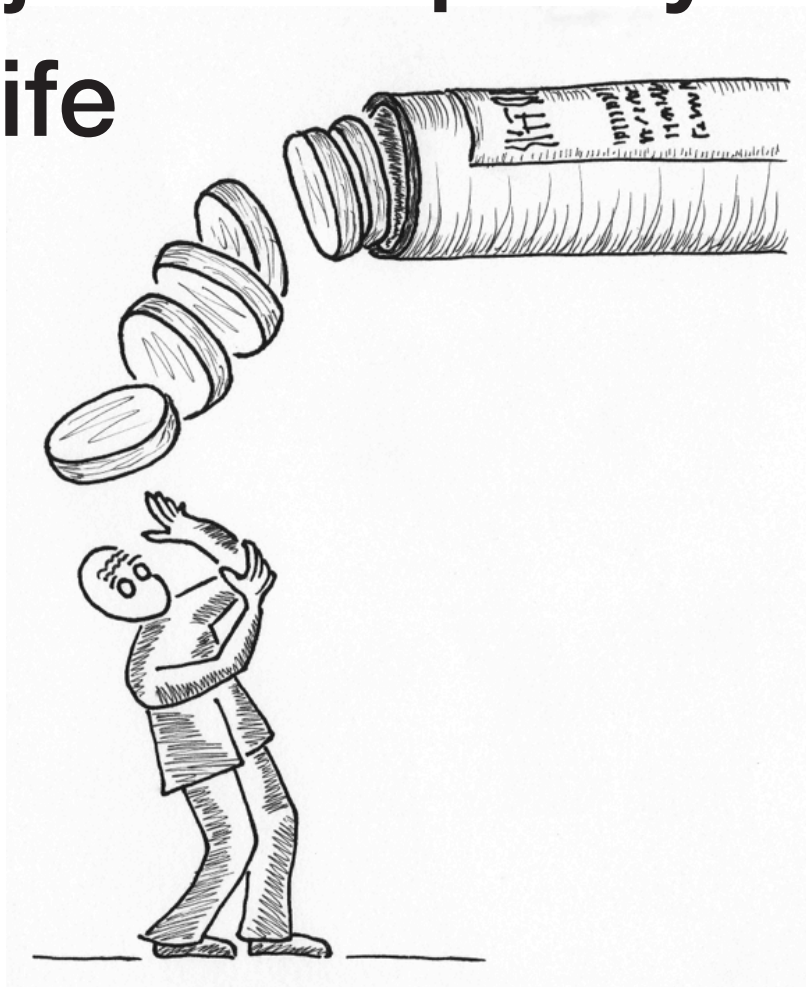




Médecine
de la Personne
International Group

When medical care prejudices quality of life



69th international meeting

August 16th to 19th 2017

MONTMIRAIL
Switzerland

www.medecinedelapersonne.org

The International Association for Medicine of the Person

The Medicine of the Person organization is formed of doctors and members of other caring professions who with our partners want to understand the ill person as a whole so that we can care for them better. At our meetings, we talk about the relationship between illness and other issues affecting our patients whether psychological, social or spiritual.

Starting in 1940, **Paul Tournier**, a doctor practising in Geneva, described 'Medicine de la Personne' in his books and lived it in his work: the doctor links his medical and technical knowledge to his understanding of the 'person' of the patient, looking beyond the psychological defence mechanisms which disturb health and can delay healing. In this type of medical care, the relationship between doctor and patient takes on a crucial importance.

The annual meetings of the association take the form of a conference with a theme relating to Medicine of the Person. Each morning, there is the option of a meditation session before breakfast. This is followed by some thoughts about a biblical text and by medical talks. In small groups, we talk about the practical applications of what we have heard to our daily lives.

The conference takes place in French, English and German and written translations are available in the other languages during each talk. The small groups (single language or bilingual) are central to the conference and what is said in those small groups remains

confidential. During the evenings there are other opportunities to share and to chat together. The conference finishes with an ecumenical service of Holy Communion.

Three days of relaxation and discovery before the conference give the opportunity to get to know the area where the conference is taking place and also to get to know friends from widely different countries, backgrounds and professions.



> In order to register

for the conference please return the enclosed form with payment to the secretariat of your country (see page 8) by 30th April. You can also register on-line at the website: www.medecinedelapersonne.org.

As the workshops in small groups and personal contacts play a fundamental role it is only possible to come to the whole conference.

For other information, see page 7.

When medical treatment makes life hard

In general people find it easy to put their trust in medicine since in most cases, medical treatment improves health and quality of life. Things become much harder when that improvement fails to occur or is only arrived at with additional suffering.

Are we aware, we doctors and carers, what we are asking of our patients when we try yet again to get a venflon or a needle into a difficult vein or when we prescribe a strict diet or start someone on chronic renal dialysis?

Some treatments for cancer are known to cause unpleasant side-effects which are difficult to endure. We can forewarn patients and prepare them to some degree. When an operation goes badly and ends up making things worse, confidence in the surgeon and his treatment is shattered. Can I still continue to treat that patient, as his surgeon? How can I manage my failure with regard to the patient and my relationship with him?

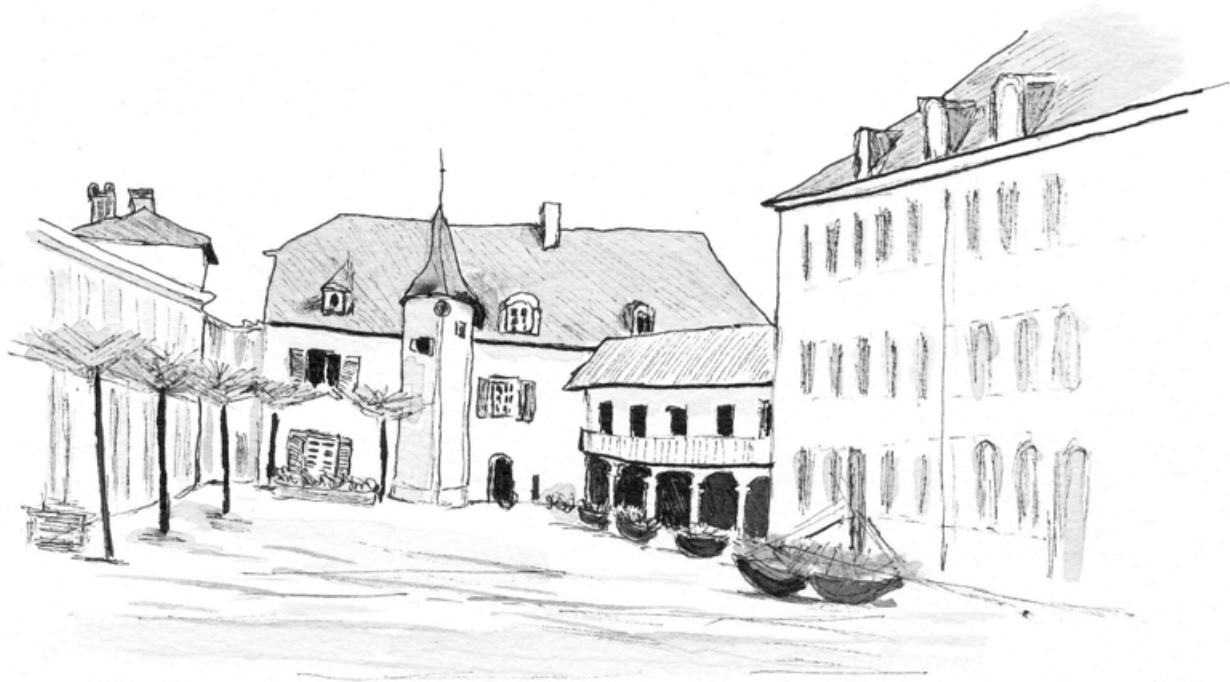
Other problems rear their heads at end of life. What are the treatments that we should, or wish to, or can administer to the patient in our care? What role is played by the family, as well as others around the patient on both the human and the

spiritual front, in the patient's decision and capacity to endure difficult treatment? As treatment become more technological, we as carers need carefully to assess what the patient can endure and to choose the right path for the individual in our care.

Expert speakers from different specialties and with plenty of experience will give talks to form the basis of our small group discussions and will be able to broaden our viewpoint as we meet in small groups. All who attend are invited to contribute their experiences, problems and solutions.

Frédéric von Orelli





MONTMIRAIL

Programme 2017

Daily at 07.40: meditation (optional)

Wednesday 16th August

From **16.30** onwards, Arrival of Participants

18.30 Dinner

20.00 Welcome, Information, Introduction to the Theme

Thursday 17th August

8.00 Breakfast

9.00 *Healing; steps towards wholeness (John 5, 1-15)* – Tom Fryers,
retired public health physician, UK

9.30 *That which constitutes true care, broadening our vision of care*
François Rosselet, minister and chaplain in palliative care, CH

10.30 Coffee-Break

10.00 Groupwork

12.30 Lunch

15.30 *Living with therapeutic failure* – Frédéric von Orelli,
pain specialist, CH

16.30 Coffee/Tea-Break

17.00 Groupwork

18.30 Dinner

20.00 Special evening: Awakenings

Friday 18th August

- 8.00 Breakfast
- 9.00 *Jesus as therapist (Mark 2, 1-12)* – Heiner Schubert,
Minister and Director of Montmirail, CH
- 9.30 *Unhook me doctor, I want to go home* – Étienne Robin,
nephrologist, F
- 10.30 Coffee-Break
- 11.00 Groupwork
- 12.30 Lunch
- 14.30 **Members' Meeting**
- 15.30 *I can treat you, but should I? Experiences of a hospital doctor*
Michael Terry, consultant surgeon, UK
- 16.30 Coffee/Tea-Break
- 17.00 Groupwork
- 18.30 Dinner
- 20.00 Personal Ideas

Saturday 19th August

- 8.00 Breakfast
- 9.00 *Light for blind eyes (John 9, 1-38)* – Michael Webb-Peploe,
consultant cardiologist, UK
- 9.30 *When medical care becomes a burden, at what point should we
decide that less is more?* – Rost Andreas Rainer,
oncologist and specialist in palliative care, D
- 10.30 Coffee-Break
- 11.00 Groupwork
- 12.30 Lunch
- 14.30 **Ecumenical Service**
- 15.30 End of the Conference

Médecine de la Personne, International Group Annual General Meeting

All participants having paid the annual fee are invited to attend the annual general meeting at 14.30 Friday August 18th 2017 at Montmirail. Members unable to attend may delegate a proxy using the form attached to the registration form.

Agenda:

- General Report
- Financial Report
- A.O.B.

Frédéric von Orelli, President

Days of discovery and relaxation

Sunday 13th to Wednesday 16th August 2017

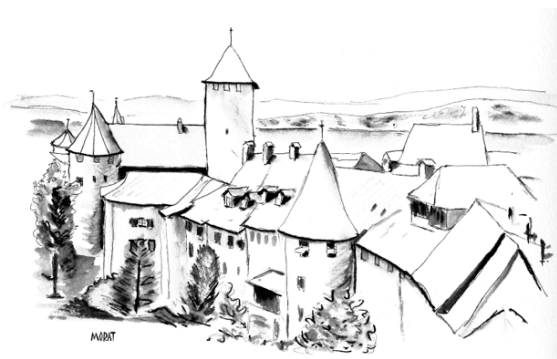
Sunday 13th August

- > Arrive 16.00 onwards
- > 18.30 Supper
- > 20.00 Welcome and information about the discovery days

Monday 14th August

In the canton of Fribourg

- > 09.15 Leave Montmirail by bus for Neuchâtel. Go by boat along the canal de la Broye which links the two lakes of Neuchâtel and Morat.



- > Lunch at the Schiff hotel, Morat, beside the lake.
- > Explore the picturesque, medieval town, with the only remaining intact ramparts in Switzerland.
- > 15.00 Leave by bus for Fribourg, attractive little university town, also with medieval origins but with a gothic appearance. Visit the cathedral, with its famous stained glass windows, guided by one of our members Thierry Collaud.
- > Around 16.30 Leave by bus for the shores of Lac Lemman (Lake Geneva) to visit the vineyard of Faverges, the biggest vineyard in Lavaux and in the St. Saphorin region, dating from 1138. Wine tasting, light meal and > then return to Montmirail.

Tuesday 15th August

In the Jura mountains near Neuchâtel

- > 09.00 Leave Montmirail by coach for the Roches pass.
- > Guided tour of the underground mills, built in a unique geological formation ('emposieu') where a river flows through a sink-hole.
- > Lunch at the restaurant of 'Napoleon's hat' overlooking the Val-de-Travers the 'cradle of the green fairy'.
- > 15.30 Leave for the Creux du Van. Walk along the spectacular cliffs of the first Swiss nature reserve (ibex and lynx) then > fondue at Soliat farm.
- > 21.00 The coach leaves to return to Montmirail.

Wednesday 16th August

From a historic site of the Cluny monastic order to the ancestors of our humanoid robots

- > 09.00 Leave Montmirail for Romainmotier. Guided tour of the 'Abbatiale', the oldest building in the Roman style in Switzerland,



by one of our members, Jean-Claude Jornod.

- > Lunch at the St Romain hotel

> 14.00 Return to Neuchâtel, stopping at the museum of art and history for a demonstration of the Jacquet-Droz automata

(animated dolls he designed to help him sell watches) including the 'fantastic-machines', display of programming and micromechanical techniques and the 18th century 'robots'.

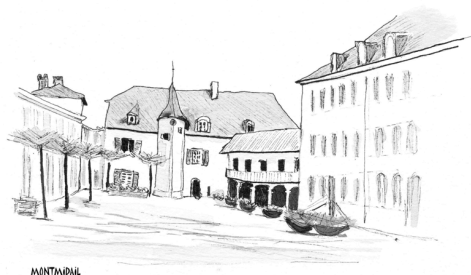
- > Return to Montmirail at about 16.30.

Booking information

Conference address

Don Camillo

Montmirail
2075 Thielle-Wavre
Switzerland
+41(0)32 756 90 00
<http://www.montmirail.ch>



Travel instructions

By car

(GPS: Thielle, Champs de la Croix)

If you are coming **from the Valais**, take the A12 signposted Fribourg. At Berne take the A1 towards Morat. Come off the motorway at Morat and follow the signs to Neuchâtel. Just after the Thielle bridge, branch right and follow signs to Cornaux. At the next crossroads turn right towards Montmirail. When you reach the sign for Montmirail, branch left and go up the drive.

From Geneva or Lausanne, take the A1 towards Yverdon-les-Bains. Take the A2 towards Neuchâtel. Take the Thielle exit. Once on the main road, turn right before the bridge towards Montmirail. After about 400 m, branch left at the sign to Montmirail and go up the drive.

By train

If you are coming from Neuchâtel or Berne by train, get off at 'Marin-Epagnier'. From the station, it is a 20-minute walk to Montmirail. The path is signposted.

If you call ahead, it may be possible to pick you up from the station (079 30 30 230).

By air

Geneva or Zurich Airport then by train.

Conference fees and methods of payment

Leisure days: 450 € | 370 GBP

Conference: 380 € | 315 GBP

Annual subscription included: 15 € | 11 GBP

It is **not possible to stay extra nights** at Montmirail but there is a wide choice of hotels and other accommodation in the area.

A **deposit** of 150 € | 125 GBP per person (70 € or 60 GBP if you are only coming to the conference) should be paid to your regional secretary (see back page), **accompanied by the application form** attached to this programme, **before the 30th April**.

The **balance must be paid before the 30th June**. The deposit is non-refundable if you **cancel** after 31st May. After 1st August the whole charge has to be paid.

Children of participants who are 10 and under may come free. Those who are 11 to 16 years old pay half price.

Students pay 75 € (64 GBP) for the conference only (they will be charged full price for the leisure days). Children of any age are welcome but they remain the responsibility of their parents. A programme of activities will be arranged for children over the age of 6.

In case of **financial difficulty**, do not hesitate to apply to a member of the "equipe" (organising committee) to discuss options. Particular arrangements can be made for participants from Eastern Europe: 50 € (40 GBP) for students, 100 € (80 GBP) for professionals.

For further information before the conference

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