

The International Congress on Academic Medicine (ICAM) Guiding Principles

The International Congress on Academic Medicine (ICAM) is fundamentally concerned with facilitating the presentation and creation of new knowledge in the enterprise of academic medicine and providing networking opportunities for an international audience who work within academic medicine.

We define academic medicine as the clinical, educational, and research/scholarship work that is carried out within schools and faculties of medicine, generally but not exclusively attached to institutions of higher learning such as universities. Within the field of academic medicine, educational programs are conducted in both classroom and clinical settings, as well as in more innovative environments as varied as community organizations and simulation centers. Research, on the continuum from laboratory to populational, to community-based, and encompassing a wide breadth of scientific, sociologic, and humanities disciplines also occurs within academic medicine. Finally, academic medicine exists with a primary responsibility to patients, often with institutions providing care from primary to quaternary. As such, the ecosystem of academic medicine includes professionals, learners, researchers, and many other members.

Centers providing academic medicine are accountable to the populations they serve through the organizing framework of social accountability.¹ As defined by the WHO, this framework asserts the obligations of medical schools to direct their activities in education, research and clinical care towards the priority needs of the populations they serve both locally and across the globe, and in co-creative partnership with them.

Understanding this definition, the International Congress on Academic Medicine commits to the three following guiding principles in its organization and mission, as expressed through its scientific committee:

- A strong focus on health professions education, particularly medical education, as a core component of our mission.
- A strong focus on the enterprise of health research as a key contribution of academic medicine to the societies it serves.
- An intersectional social accountability focus encompassing:
 - Medicine as a force for social justice and incorporate the principles of equity, diversity, inclusion, anti-racism/de-colonized practices/anti-oppression in teaching, research, and clinical care.
 - Medicine as a good within society with commitment to community engagement and accountability towards communities.
 - Interdisciplinarity and interprofessionalism as major approaches to accomplish greater social accountability.

We commit to alignment of ICAM's scientific offerings, peer-reviewed original submissions, and networking opportunities with these three guiding principles.

¹ Boelen C. Adapting Health Care Institutions and Medical Schools to Societies' Needs. *Academic Medicine*. 1999; 74(8): S11-S20.