

Fifth Hot Topic

Economics, Austerity Measures and Health

The questions are as follows:

- 1) How did economic crisis and austerity measures affect health and health care services in your country?
- 2) How did the economic crisis and austerity measures affect your patients' health and health behaviour?
- 3) How did these affect yourself and your family?
- 4) How did these affect your colleagues, especially younger GPs?
- 5) What the impact of the economic crisis on rural health can have on the current economic situation - short and long term consequences?
- 6) What measures are taken by your central and regional/ local government to prevent the deterioration of healthcare in rural locations?
- 7) What measures are taken by your professional body and particularly the GPs college/Association, if any?
- 8) Do you feel it's enough?
- 9) What could be done better there from your point of view?
- 10) Have you ever considered moving to another country as a result of the current economic situation and austerity measures either for work or change your life?

Would you be so kind to respond to these questions and send your replies to ovkdoc@yahoo.no

It would be useful if you could also include some additional information re. your age, gender, number of years as a GP (and as a rural GP) and type of your practice (solo vs. group, and how many GPs are in in the group if the latter) in the end of the reply.

The **deadline** for responses to this Hot Topic is **September 30th**