more opportunities to develop special interests, and incorporate more variety into their working week.

I wonder if this could be true. Firstly, have we asked patients what they really need, what they like, and are looking for in primary care? Literature is full of how much patients want a personal and counselling doctor, continuity of care, and a comfortable practice near home.

Also, what about all the international European Documents, such as the European Definition by WONCA and the EURACT Educational Agenda? In them, we defined, with European agreement, that a GP is a doctor with specific clinical skills and mainly, in this case, with a person-centred approach, with community orientation and, last but not least, with the unique and personal bio-psycho-social holistic approach.³

How could all the core competences and specificities of general practice be applicable for patients in structures like the GP-led health centres for specialists?

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Basic statistics

Having been enthused by the Editor's opener in March Focus, regarding the biography of Joseph Needham,¹ I of course turned immediately to the book reviews and got started.²

Alas, an abrupt halt was reached upon reading the description of Chongqing, '... said to be the world's biggest city with a population of well over 35 million.' Who said this exactly? Having just seen Oscar-winning 'Slumdog Millionaire', I knew Mumbai must be at least as big. A quick bit of googling confirmed this.³ As a city, Chongqing's official urban population is only circa 5million⁴ while Mumbai's is nearly 12 million; 2008 data. (As a municipality however, Chongqing's popululus does indeed exceed 35 million.) In world urban rankings, this puts Chongqing around 55th in between Madrid and Ahmedabad, while Tokyo, Jakarta, and New York are the top urban dogs, all exceeding 20 Million.

So why get vexed with these minor differences in population definitions? Well, they're just basic stats, and if misquoted, makes one wonder as to the accuracy of the rest of the review, and allows disinterest to seep in.

Therefore, having heartily taken up the Editor's challenge, I have failed miserably to be uplifted, and so claim my prize.

Tim R Wiggin,

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Editor's comment

Dr Wiggin certainly deserves a prize, although what the reward should be for failing to be uplifted remains an open question. Negotiations to follow — *Ed*