



4411 PT. FOSDICK DR. NW, SUITE 305 ▪ P.O. BOX 1697 ▪ GIG HARBOR, WA 98335  
PHONE: 800-228-0622 ▪ FAX: 253-853-6766 ▪ [www.functionalmedicine.org](http://www.functionalmedicine.org)

## **NEWCOMERS ORIENTATION PROGRAM**

It's not easy to come to a conference for the first time, and finding your way around a large event can be overwhelming. The **Newcomers Orientation Program** is designed to pair clinicians new to IFM and our Symposium with experienced functional medicine practitioners who can provide knowledge and advice and help them feel welcome.

### **Frequently Asked Questions about the Program**

#### **What is the purpose of the program?**

The purpose of the Newcomers Orientation Program is to provide new attendees with a contact experienced in functional medicine who can assist them in navigating the conference, selecting sessions to attend, and identifying networking opportunities.

#### **Why should I participate if I'm new to IFM's annual Symposium?**

Newcomers to IFM will gain valuable insight by getting to know practitioners experienced in functional medicine. And when attending a large conference for the first time, having a personal resource, someone who has been there before, is an invaluable benefit.

#### **How are the matches made?**

The names are collected and grouped according to degree and geography. While matching these criteria exactly is sometimes impossible, the IFM staff makes every effort to pair clinicians as appropriately as possible.

#### **How do I get in touch with the clinician I've been paired with?**

You will receive your match's contact information, including telephone number and e-mail address. It is important that you contact each other prior to arriving at the Symposium to get acquainted and determine when and where you will meet.

#### **When can we meet at the Symposium?**

There will be many opportunities for networking during the conference, such as an evening reception after the Preconference specifically designed for newcomers and IFM members to meet. You may also explore other opportunities such as sharing a meal or attending conference sessions together.