

**Strengthening Health Workforce Education (SHWE) Program in Papua New Guinea (PNG) – Stage 2****Brief 11: Fast Track Program 3 Workshop****Holiday Inn, Port Moresby - Monday 04th<sup>th</sup> May, 2026 – Friday 08<sup>th</sup> May, 2026****Introduction**

This brief provides an overview of the Fast Track Program workshop held in Port Moresby from May 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026 under the Strengthening Health Workforce Education (SHWE) Program in Papua New Guinea (PNG). This is the third cohort of PNG educators that have participated in this continuing development program.

Held in Port Moresby, PNG, the workshop aimed to build on existing skills and knowledge for health professional educators to critically evaluate current teaching processes and practices to improve the quality of teaching and student learning.

The SHWE Program is funded by the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) under the PNG-Australia Partnership. Supported by the PNG National Department of Health (NDoH), the Fast Track Program is implemented by WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Development at the University of Technology Sydney (WHO CCNMH UTS).

Twenty-seven (27) educators (15 females and 12 males) attended the workshop from 13 Nursing Schools and 16 Community Health Worker (CHW) Schools across PNG.

The week included discussions, group work, presentations, case scenarios, and write ups, working on Modules 1 & 2 concerning applied techniques on classroom teaching and learning for students.



*PNG Nursing and CHW educators participating in the FTP workshop*

**Objectives of the workshop**

1. Appraise contemporary theories and approaches
2. Explain and analyse how students approach learning tasks and how teachers can design learning to foster a deep approach in students
3. Apply research evidence to improve teaching and learning.
4. Critically reflect on personal approach to teaching and identify areas for improvement.

Dr Caroline Havery and Ms Lisa Townsend facilitated the workshop. PNG NDoH HRH Training Adviser Ms. Mary Kililo Samor was also present at the workshop.



*Dr Caroline Havery facilitating an activity with nursing and CHW educators.*

## Day 1

The first day of the workshop began with an ice breaker – engaging and recalling fellow participants and their associated schools the school from which each came from. The room opened up almost immediately, engaging participants in a relaxed atmosphere.

Dr Caroline Havery then summarised the lessons and objectives for the week.

The aim of the first session was to review current theories and approaches used and ask ‘*what might I need to consider to make a change to how I teach?*’. Participants worked on educational philosophy – what they believe and reflecting on activities on what they think is most important in teaching and learning. The exercise led to discussing key educational theories and its alignment with their beliefs.

Participants were tasked to work on a ‘change plan’ as a take-home exercise.



*Dr Caroline Havery and Ms Lisa Townsend from the WHO CCNMH UTS team facilitating group activities.*

## Day 2

### Student-centred Learning

Participants were paired up and given journal articles to read and share the information gathered from the readings.

This was carried out through the *Fish Pond* exercise which was structured for reading and understanding.

Some participants also shared tips on notetaking methods used in their schools.



*Nursing educator sharing insights on the Cornell method of notetaking used in her school.*

## Day 3

### Article Referencing and Annotated Bibliography

Lessons involved referencing articles and writing an annotated bibliography. Participants expressed importance and value in learning these skills.

*"I found this particular topic important because I may have heard of it but have never used it."*  
(Carolyn Yohang, participant)

*"The Fish Pond activity helped us to be active in our teaching"* (Mark Kumul, participant).



Small group work with PNG educators



### **Learner-centred Teaching: roles of teachers and learners**

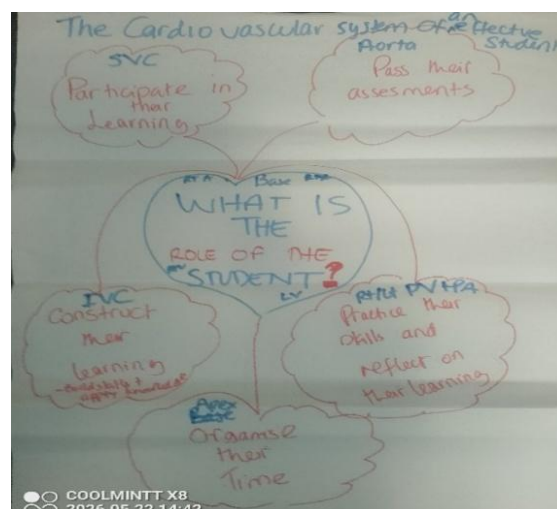
Discussions were had around the roles of educators/teachers and learners/students. In summary, the key points highlighted included:

**Role of a learner/student** – active learner, ample skills on analysing and interpreting information, literate, knowledgeable, self-motivated.

**Role of an educator/teacher** – guide student learning, assessing students, professional development, good classroom manager, etc.

The session also covered:

- different types of learning
- factors impacting teaching
- theories students build on what they already know: constructivism and socio-cultural research methods
- referencing and annotated bibliography.



Using energisers in between teaching subjects was identified as creative as it monitors energy in the room.

### **Day 4**

#### **Planning for Improving Teaching and Learning**

Discussions were had on evaluating changes in learning and teaching. At the end of the session participants were expected to critically reflect on their personal approach to teaching and identify areas that need improvements.

### **Day 5**

The final day focused on reviewing the lessons from throughout the week, key takeaways and what each participant had learned about learner-centred learning and an evidence-based approach to learning and teaching.

Participants applied student-centred teaching to a subject, analysed it and chose one aspect of their teaching practice that would require change.

Ms Lisa Townsend explaining module work to a Nursing and a CHW participant.



## **The Master Trainer Preceptorship program for NDoH**

The Preceptorship Program Master Trainer workshop was delivered alongside the FTP workshop. Six senior officers who were educators and clinicians from nursing schools and Provincial Health Authorities have reviewed the first draft of the program and endorsed the overall content.

The workshop was facilitated by Ms. Mary Kililo and Mrs Julie Dopsie from NDoH, with Ms Christabel Millar (WHO CCNMH UTS).

Full details of this workshop are found in Brief 12.



*The Preceptorship Program training team with NDoH Mary Kililo and Julie Dopsie and facilitator Christabel Miller.*

## **Next Steps**

The Whatsapp video sessions are scheduled weekly to held guide module assignments or address any issues and concerns. FTP participants are tasked with working on Modules 2 and 3.

The next FTP workshop is scheduled for August 17-21, 2026.

The second draft of the Master Preceptorship Program for NdoH will be developed and presented at the upcoming workshop.