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November 2017

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WHO CC Regional Update

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to another Regional Update. We have had a busy few months and want to ensure you are kept updated with the latest relevant documents and news from not only our Centre but also our partners, stakeholders and WHO.

We are currently redesigning the Regional Update so it will be easier to access and will load quicker for you, so watch this space!

This update also links to relevant publications and documents of the WHO CC. Please visit our website for current information. You can also reach us at whocc@uts.edu.au.

For information on the Global Network of WHO Collaborating Centres for Nursing and Midwifery click here. For information on the South Pacific Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers Alliance (SPCMNOA) click here.

WHO CC UTS Team look forward to the ongoing process of working with our fellow WHO Collaborating Centres and partners.

Congratulations to Mrs Elizabeth Iro - WHO Chief Nurse

Mrs Elizabeth Iro from the Cook Islands Ministry of Health has been appointed as the new **Chief Nurse for the World Health Organization (WHO)**, announced during the Sixty-Eighth Session of the WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific by the new **WHO Director-General, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.**

Dr Tedros said, **"WHO leadership now looks exactly as the world looks. Elizabeth will bring valuable experience, and contribute to our efforts to ensure all countries have a fit-for-purpose health workforce. Her appointment also means the Pacific region will be represented in WHO's senior leadership."**

As Health Secretary for the Cook Islands since 2012 and former Cook Islands Chief Nursing Officer, Mrs Iro has worked to meet the health needs of the people of the Cook Islands and the Pacific since graduating as a nurse in 1981 and midwife in 1986. Mrs Iro will commence her duties as Chief Nurse for WHO in January 2018.

She has been a close colleague and friend of the WHO CC UTS and a long-standing member of the **South Pacific Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers Alliance (SPCNMOA)** since its inception in 2004. The WHO CC UTS acts as Secretariat for the SPCNMOA which aims to enhance nursing and midwifery effectiveness through promoting and improving population health in the region.

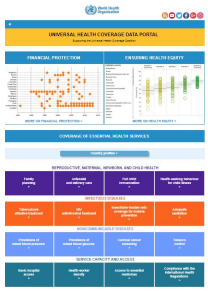
WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus and Mrs Elizabeth Iro, newly appointed WHO Chief Nurse >

The position of Chief Nurse at WHO has been vacant since 2010. The reinstatement of this position and the appointment of Mrs Iro indicates the value that the new WHO Director-General, Dr Tedros, places on the nursing and midwifery professions within this organisation.

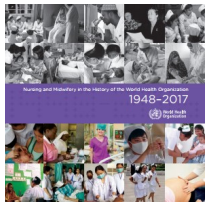
For more information click here
Link to the full speech here
For more information about **The sixty-eighth session of the World Health Organization Regional Committee for the Western Pacific** click here

Official Documents:

WHO Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel



WHO Universal Health Coverage Data Portal



Nursing and Midwifery in the History of the World Health Organisation 1948-2017

Nursing Now Special Update

On appointment to his new role as Director-General of the World Health Organization, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus pledged to *Nursing Now!* "you will have my full support around your campaign to increase the visibility, training and support systems around nurses. I also can commit to having a senior level staff person representing the nursing community on my team at WHO".

Nursing Now! is a program of the Burdett Trust for Nursing, and the three year global campaign will launch in January 2018. The campaign will build on nurses' unique position as the health professionals who are the heart of every health system, provide continuity of care for their patients and are part of their local community.

Lord Nigel Crisp KCB, Chair of *Nursing Now!* said, *"This appointment is a great boost for nursing and for everyone working to improve health across the world. Those of us who are optimistic about the future of global health know that we must recognise the value of nursing. Following this important milestone the Nursing Now! campaign looks forward to supporting both Dr Tedros and Mrs Iro to raise the status and profile of nursing".*

"Nursing has an important role to play in the implementation and monitoring of all the Sustainable Development Goals; therefore I and Nursing Now! congratulate Dr Tedros and Mrs Iro on this appointment and we look forward to collaborating and really working together to improve global health, especially the health of marginalised populations", **Professor Sheila Tlou, UNAIDS Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa, former Minister of Health of Botswana.**

We recognise that nurses are half the health workforce and that Universal Health Coverage (UHC) won't be achieved unless nursing is strengthened.

Together we will aim to raise the status and profile of nursing globally, enabling nurses to work to their full potential, maximising the contribution that nursing makes to UHC, women's empowerment and economic development.

Further information on *Nursing Now!* click here.

Pacific Society for Reproductive Health

Professor Caroline Homer represented the WHO CC UTS at the biennial conference of the Pacific Society for Reproductive Health held in July 2017 in Port Vila, Vanuatu. Caroline facilitated a 3-day Research Workshop before the conference and then was a keynote speaker. Her paper focussed on the midwifery workforce in the small island Pacific Nations and she presented data on the number of midwives in the 12 countries as well as their education and regulation systems. She also attended a Technical Advisory Committee meeting with UNFPA providing advice on the forthcoming State of the Sexual, Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Adolescent Health Workforce in the Pacific which will be conducted later this year.

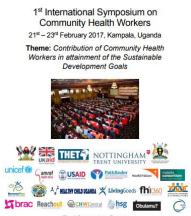
Photo: *Professor Caroline Homer with colleagues from the midwifery societies in Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Solomon Islands and New Zealand.*

International Confederation of Midwives

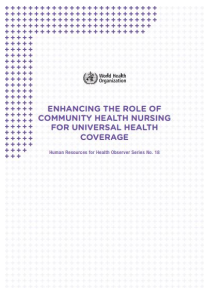
The Global Network for WHO Collaborating Centres for Nursing and Midwifery came together at the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) Congress in Toronto, Canada in June 2017 and held a symposium called ***Improving midwifery through global partnerships: working through the WHO Collaborating Centres***. The speakers were Professor Billie Hunter (WHO CC for Midwifery Development, Cardiff University) Professor Caroline Homer (WHOCC UTS), Dame Prof Tina Lavender (WHO CC for Global Women's Health, Manchester University, England) and Matrona Lorena Binfa (WHO CC for Development of Midwifery, University of Chile, Santiago). The symposium showed how WHO collaborating centres are contributing to improving sexual, reproductive, maternal and newborn health for women and adolescents, by providing examples from collaborating centres working on midwifery projects in different global regions. A lively discussion ensued which created networks and a better understanding of the work and capacity of WHO CCs.

PHOTO: *Colleagues from WHO CCs around the world together with Mwansa Nkowane and Fran McConniville from WHO Geneva.*

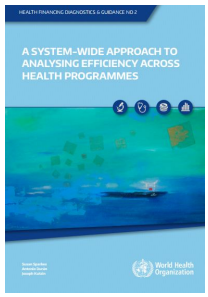
WHO Health Workforce 2030



Community Health Workers Report



Enhancing the role of Community Health Nursing for Universal Health Coverage



A system-wide approach to analysing efficiency across health programmes

WORLD REPORT ON HEALTH POLICY AND SYSTEMS RESEARCH
HPSR

SPCNMOA Universal Health Coverage

Universal Health Coverage - Regional regulation standards and accreditation framework for the Pacific

Chief Nurse of Cook Islands, Ms Ngakiri Teaea spoke on behalf of the South Pacific Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers Alliance (SPCNMOA) to the 12th Pacific Health Ministers Meeting, representing the nursing and midwifery leaders working in Governments across the South Pacific in 14 Pacific Island Nations.

From a nursing perspective, health workforce strategic planning and policy discussions with all health professional groups are vital to meet evolving and unmet population health service needs. The balance between the value of registered qualified and non-registered unqualified nurses and midwives has an impact on the quality of healthcare, and requires careful exploration, planning and action. Each country's legislation and regulations impact on nursing and midwifery services, and the gaps and barriers in the legislation must be properly understood.

Ms Teaea advocated for a regional body to oversee regional Regulation Standards and Accreditation frameworks to address some of these gaps so as to:

- provide clear educational pathways, with post-graduate education to strengthen regional and national health workforce;
- strengthen mechanisms to enable registered nurses, midwives and educators to gain clinical experience through country to country agreements;
- provide a regional alignment of standards and competencies across the Pacific;
- streamline curricula allowing mutual recognition between countries;
- explore country educational hubs for specialisation.

This has been under discussion for many years and at the 9th Pacific Health Ministers Meeting 2011 "a regional framework for regional professional competencies, accreditation and standards" was raised and the *Framework for Pacific Regionalism* was endorsed by Pacific Islands Forum Leaders in July 2014.

The SPCNMOA could be the body to develop a regional regulation framework for nursing and midwifery professional competencies, standards for educational accreditation.

Regional Leadership Research

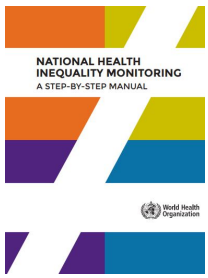
Australia Awards Fellowships for Nursing and Midwifery - Pacific nurses and midwives working together to develop country health projects.

WHO CC UTS team members recently visited eight South Pacific Island countries to follow-up on projects and provide support to previous Australia Awards Fellowship participants. The Australia Awards Fellowships are funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Australia. The program through WHO CC UTS has been developed in collaboration with the South Pacific Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers Alliance and has now seen 114 mid-level nursing and midwifery leaders participate.

In follow-up visits, fellows were interviewed and focus groups held in Solomon Islands, Nauru, Kiribati, Samoa, Tokelau, Vanuatu, Tuvalu and Fiji. Feedback was positive with all participants having developed projects contributing to health system strengthening in their countries. Many

World Report on HPSR. Launched in Stockholm 25 April at the inception of the Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research

UN High-Level Commission on Health Employment and Economic Growth



National Health Inequality Monitoring: a step by step manual

DFAT Australian Awards Fellowship Program

participants had also received career advancement. Qualitative data from this followup visit will be further analysed in months to come.

Whilst in the Pacific, WHO CC UTS noticed many ongoing issues of climate change impacting the islands, e.g. rising water levels. This global trend of significant climate anomalies and events is having an impact on human health due to injuries, fatalities and mental health impacts from severe weather events; asthma and cardiovascular disease due to poor air quality and pollution; malaria, dengue and other viruses spreading to different areas due to changes in vector ecology; repiratory allegies and asthma from increasing allergens; cholera, cryptosporidiosis and other bacterial diseases prevelant through water quality impacts; malnutrition and diarrhoeal disease due to water and food supply impacts; forced migration, civil conflict and mental health impacts through environmental degradation; and heat-related illness and death and cardiovascular failure due to extreme heat.

Nursing and midwifery are trusted and vital services in the islands which are often remote and isolated. As an integral part of local communities, nurses and midwives are in the forefront of meeting the challenges global climate changes present to the health of the community.

WHOCC UTS conducted research on climate change adaption was followed up during a visit to the Pacific in May this year. Click here to learn more.

COP23 UN Climate Change Conference in Fiji Click here

High Tide in Tuvalu (above) makes it difficult to return to lodgings.

Upcoming Events

Fourth Global Forum on Human Resources for Health
Building the health workforce of the future
13th to 17th November 2017, Dublin, Ireland Learn more

6th International Australasian College for Infection Prevention and Control (ACIPC) 20th to 22nd November 2017, Canberra, Australia Learn more

21st East Asian Forum of Nursing Scholars (EAFONS) &
11th INC (International Nursing Conference)
11th to 12th January 2018, Seoul, Korea Learn more

Biennial Conference - Global Network WHO Collaborating Centres
17th to 20th July 2018, Cairns, Australia.
GNWHOCC General Meeting will be held on the last day, 20th July. Learn more

2018 International Nursing Research Congress
Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing
19th to 23rd July 2018, Melbourne, Australia Learn more

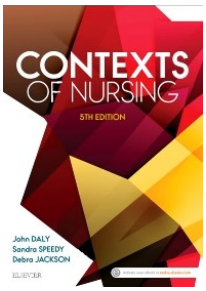
Media

The sixty-eighth session of the World Health Organization Regional Committee for the Western Pacific was held from 9 to 13 October 2017 in Brisbane, Australia. For more information click here.

The report on **Nursing and Midwifery in the History of the World Health Organization** has now been published, and is available on the WHO website at http://www.who.int/hrh/resources/Nursing-and-Midwifery-in-History-of-WHO/en/. We would like to thank Mwansa for her hard work on this.

Publications

BOOKS AND BOOK CHAPTERS



Rumsey, M. (in press) Global Health and Nursing in *Contexts of Nursing* 5th Edition (2017). Eds John Daly, Sandra Speedy and Deborah Jackson. Elsevier Health Sciences.

Daly, J., Speedy, S., & Jackson, D. (in press) *Contexts of Nursing* (2017). Elsevier Health Sciences.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Adjunct Professor James Buchan co- authored, with Ibadat Dhillon of WHO, a paper on the WHO Global Health Workforce Strategy, for “Health Voices”, the journal of the Consumers Health Forum of Australia.http://healthvoices.org.au/issues/november-2016/health-workforce-whos-global-strategy-to-meet-a-globalchallenge/

Moores, A., Catling, C., West, F., Neill, A., Rumsey, M., Samor, M. K., & Homer, C. S. (2016). What motivates midwifery students to study midwifery in Papua New Guinea Pacific Journal of Reproductive Health, 1(2), 60-67.

Rhodes, D., & Rumsey, M. (2016). An Innovative Approach to Supporting Health Service Delivery in the Pacific Appears to be Ticking Health Policy and Development Boxes. Health Syst Policy Res, 3, 1.

Rumsey, M., Catling, C., Thiessen, J., & Neill, A. (2016). Building nursing and midwifery leadership capacity in the Pacific. International Nursing Review.

Rumsey, M., & Homer, C. S. (2015). Global health and nursing and midwifery leadership. Journal of nursing management, 23(8), 963-964.

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