WHO CC UTS Regional Update September 2020

Welcome to the Regional Update (RU) for September 2020 of the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Development at the University of Technology Sydney (WHO CC UTS).

This Update showcases projects and initiatives undertaken in line with our Centre's newly designated 2020-2024 Terms of Reference devised in collaboration with WHO Western Pacific Regional Office (WPRO) to continue to strengthen WHO work in the region. This RU also includes resources from a range of sources to address the recent challenge of COVID-19.

We would also like to introduce our Facebook group for regional nursing and midwifery colleagues to share and update information across the Pacific Region. To access the Facebook group, please click here.

As we deal with the COVID-19 pandemic, the valuable work of nurses and midwives becomes highly visible around the globe. The WHO report on the Vital Roles of Nurses and Midwives in the Western Pacific Region has been developed to showcase key contributions of nurses and midwives and the diverse roles they play in providing quality care and improving the health of people in the Region. See the story inside.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect our lives and is heavily on our minds. As the world is facing unprecedented health, social and economic effects from COVID-19, it is important to talk about our preparedness to respond to future emergencies and building the capacity to prevent and contain emerging health threats in the region. See the story inside.

This Update links to relevant publications and documents of the WHO CC UTS, - please also visit our website for current information. You can also reach us at whocc@uts.edu.au. For more information on the South Pacific Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers' Alliance (SPCNMOA) click here.

The Vital Roles of Nurses and Midwives in the Western Pacific Region

Comprising more than two thirds of the health workforce in the Western Pacific region, nurses and midwives are at the forefront of delivering a range of critical services in primary and long-term care, health promotion, and disease prevention. Nurses and midwives are essential to the society and to the goal of achieving universal health coverage. They are well placed to help build a “future-proof” health system for all and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The WHO report on the Vital Roles of Nurses and Midwives in the Western Pacific Region has been developed to showcase key contributions of nurses and midwives and the diverse roles they play in providing quality care and improving the health of people in the Region. The development of this report was coordinated by the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific and carried out by the WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Development, University of Technology Sydney.

The case studies presented in the report were compiled through interviews and focus groups and provide real-life examples of work being carried out by nurses and midwives in the Western Pacific region. The case study development efforts are ongoing and highlight the importance and critical nature of the work undertaken by these professions in this diverse region to meet the evolving challenges and provide quality health care to their communities.

The report also suggests future policy directions for strengthening the scope and leadership of nursing and midwifery in the region, alongside actions to accelerate investment in their education, skills and employment. To read more, click here . To access the WHO report, click here.

Preparing for large-scale community transmission of COVID-19 in the Western Pacific

The WHO Western Pacific Regional Action Plan for Response to Large-Scale Community Outbreaks of COVID-19 was designed by the WHO Regional Office and country offices of the Western Pacific to support implementation of the WHO Guidance on preparing for large-scale community transmission of COVID-19 in the Western Pacific Region (link provided). The Regional Action Plan is aligned with the WHO Global Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan and long-term strategic priorities of the region, including addressing health emergencies, improving access to Universal Health Coverage and strengthening health systems.

The Action Plan and Guidance documents outline the actions to mitigate the impact of large-scale community outbreaks of COVID-19 in 10 priority areas:

- • Incident management, planning and multisectoral coordination
- • Surveillance and risk assessment
- • Laboratory
- • Clinical management and health-care services
- • Infection prevention and control
- • Non-pharmaceutical public health measures
- • Risk communication
- • Points of entry
- • Operational logistics

To access WHO Guidance on preparing for large-scale community transmission of COVID-19 in the Western Pacific Region, click here.

To access the full WHO WPRO Action Plan, please click here.

Triad Meeting - 16- 18 June 2020

World Health Organization

International Council of Nurses
The global voice of nursing

International Confederation of Midwives
Strengthening Midwifery Globally

Every two years, the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Council of Nurses (ICN), and the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) come together to

discuss priorities for advancing nursing and midwifery towards common goals at this important meeting. This year was the 8th Triad Meeting and was held virtually over three days, from 16th to 18th of June.

Over 600 representatives from 145 countries attended this year's Triad Meeting. The main themes were COVID-19, evidence-informed policy dialogue to advance nursing and midwifery, and the global strategic directions for nursing and midwifery. The discussions highlighted the importance of education, leadership and job safety/security and focused on how midwives and nurses can be protected, their leadership maintained and supported, and their contributions to emergency response, universal health coverage, and greater health and wellbeing maximized now and into the future.

As a result of the proceedings, the participants agreed to work on implementation of 10 critical actions to address the issues of education, leadership, job safety/security and others. These actions are outlined in the Statement which produced following the meeting. To read the Statement, click here.

To read the full story, click here .

The International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife
Indo-Pacific Centre for Health Security's podcast - 13 July

In this podcast, brought by the Indo-Pacific Centre for Health Security, Elizabeth Iro - Chief Nursing Officer, World Health Organisation and Michele Rumsey – Director WHO CC UTS, talk about the vital role of nurses and midwives are playing in ensuring health systems continue to function under increasingly stressful conditions.

This podcast celebrates the International Year of Nurse and the Midwife. Elizabeth Iro and Michele Rumsey discuss what this year means to the nursing profession, the challenges of being a nurse during a pandemic and propose actions that address issues such as chronic work force shortages, achieving Universal Health Coverage, gender inequity and the impacts of power imbalances in nursing and health care.

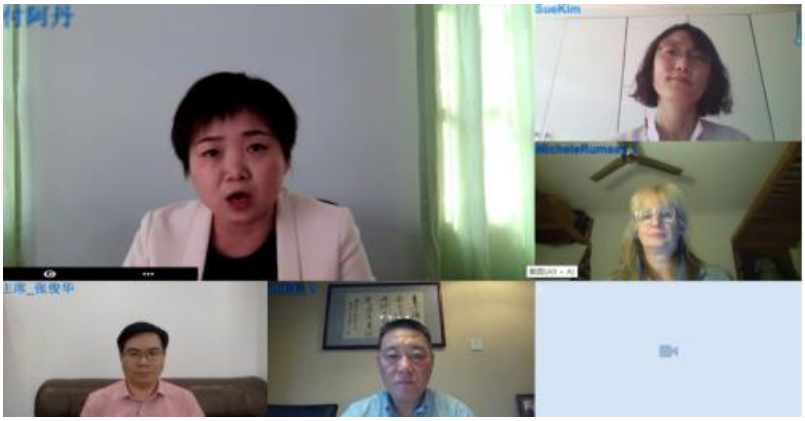
The speakers discussed the need for leadership, more support for education and more support for job security, and the impact of COVID-19 on the health systems and health workforce. In the words of Michele Rumsey:

"*People can never forget that nurses and midwives are there to look after them and you just have to keep remembering that. We have to provide the leadership, the education and the moral support, and recognise those nurses and midwives. Of course, at the end of the day they want to be supported and have good equipment but actually they just want to be recognised*".

To read the full story, please click here.

To access the podcast, click here.

Experiences of Chinese Nurses Webinar



This important live webinar took place in June 2020 and was organised by the WHO Health Human Resources Development Centre in Beijing, China. The webinar was supported by the Chinese Nursing Association and lasted over two hours. Participants included Chinese nurses and medical experts from China and other parts of the world.

The topics covered nursing care of COVID -19 ICU patients; construction of nurses' psychological quality and after-fight psycho-recovery support; and zero-infection prevention strategy. The webinar concluded with round table discussions and provided a useful platform for sharing of nurses' experiences in responding to the COVID19 pandemic.

Read more here.

Strengthening Nurse Education in Espiritu Santo

Participants at the Clinical Learning and Teaching workshop at the Northern Provincial Hospital, Luganville, Sanma Province, Vanuatu.

The WHO CC UTS continues to work closely with staff from the Vanuatu College of Nursing Education (VCNE) and other stakeholders to develop and upgrade the national nursing curriculum for accreditation and implementation. Technical support and advice are being provided by the WHO CC UTS through the Vanuatu Ministry of Health (MoH) with support from the Australian Government through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

In addition to stakeholder meetings in Port Vila and monitoring and evaluation activities, this recent in-country visit focussed on the delivery of the Clinical Learning and Teaching workshop at the Northern Provincial Hospital in Luganville, Espiritu Santo - the second largest hospital in the country.

The workshop took place over 2 days with participants made up of 20 senior nurses from a number of remote provinces in Vanuatu. The workshop was rated very positively and provided an opportunity to further strengthen the nursing profession and education in Vanuatu.

Read more here.

Bachelor of Nursing Graduates - Solomon Islands Campus

We congratulate the first group of Bachelor of Nursing graduates from the Solomon Island campus of the Pacific Adventist University.

Atoifi Adventist Nursing College is located close to Auki, Malaita Province of the Solomon Islands. The Bachelor of Nursing program is offered on this campus to students who come from across the Solomon Islands.

World Health Statistics Report

The World Health Organization launched the World Health Statistics 2020 report on 13 May. Compiling statistics for 194 Member States, the report summarizes trends in life expectancy and causes of death and reports data for 46 health and health-related sustainable development goal targets.

The 2020 report reveals that while life expectancy and healthy life expectancy both increased by over 8% (5years) globally between 2000 and 2016, life expectancy remains profoundly influenced by income.

The report also confirms the widely observed shift in the disease burden from infectious to noncommunicable diseases (NCD) while showing that prevention of NCD remains to be a major challenge particularly in low- and middle-income countries.

Read more here.
To access the full report, click here.

73rd World Health Assembly

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 73rd World Health Assembly (WHA) —it's first-ever to be have been held virtually— met with a reduced agenda to fit into two days, 18-19 May 2020.

Several heads of state spoke during the opening of the Assembly. To see speeches and news releases, click here.

In this historic assembly the delegates from over 130 countries adopted a resolution to bring the world together to fight the COVID-19 pandemic. The resolution calls for greater efforts to control the pandemic, and for equitable access to essential health technologies and products to combat the virus.

In his closing remarks, Dr Tedros said:

"*COVID-19 has robbed us of people we love. It's robbed us of lives and livelihoods; it's shaken the foundations of our world; it threatens to tear at the fabric of international cooperation. But it's also reminded us that for all our differences, we are one human race, and we are stronger together.*"

The World Health Assembly will reconvene later in the year.
Read more here.

Mamatuki Sosefo - Disaster & Emergency Preparedness in Fiji

As Fiji is bracing itself for its second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, Mamatuki Sosefo takes the responsibility of leading the Emergency and Disaster Nursing in Fiji. His current role is Nurse Unit Manager at the Emergency Department at Colonial War Memorial Hospital. His role involves active communication and effective listening, skills he has perfected through his recently completed Masters Degree in Emergency Nursing. Although he has prior experience to emergency nursing, this degree has assisted him in expanding his knowledge and capabilities of leadership skills, guiding him in his workplace.

Mamatuki stresses the importance of training within disaster situations, and that every 5 years, they are required to travel to update their training. However, gratefully, they now have a full faculty consisting of 10 practitioners in Fiji which allows them to run the training in-country. Unfortunately, there is a lack of nurses in Fiji, as well as a lack of succession planning, causing challenging situations for Fiji. Mamatuki notes that training should be held within the clinical environment for this best method of learning.

Through his Masters Degree, Mamatuki has been supported by a mentor, and worked with a group of nurses to develop a package for South African Triages to implement at Lautoka hospital. The various programs and work experience he has completed has prepared him for Fiji's second wave of COVID-19.

Although there was a lack of personal protective equipment (PPE) and unknown expectations, the first outbreak was able to be contained through isolation and the Hospital Major Incident Medical Management Approach (HMIMMS) program being implemented. However, this time, there is more preparation, support and education for the nurses to feel comfortable and safe. A system has been developed to ensure a synchronised working environment is in place; this will allow the response team to effectively contribute and communicate to each other.

Mamatuki mentions that before going back to into this clinical environment, he will need to stay in quarantine for 14 days. However, he highlights the importance of this time;

"*No I'm going to use the time to work on Action Plans and Guidelines, get lots of reflection and writing done and start working on writing Emergency Disaster Standards. If you don't have very detailed standards of care then you can't act or communicate effectively*".

He is dedicated to his work and to assist in community transmission of COVID-19.

Read more here.

New Videos on childbirth complications from Global Health Media Project

Global Alliance for Nursing and Midwifery (GANM) has announced the release of 8 new videos on managing Childbirth complications. The team spent a total of nine weeks filming in high-volume maternities in Nepal, Indonesia, Rwanda, and Ghana. The videos have been listed to help manage the complicated situations during childbirth. The videos cover management of twins, breech birth, stuck shoulders, cord around the neck, prolonged labor, severe pre-eclampsia, uterine infection, and the use of oxytocin to treat prolonged labour and can be accessed here.

The Lowy Institute Pacific Aid Map

An analytical tool has been developed and created for the purpose of aiding efficiency within the Pacific, through increasing coordination, alignment, and accountability of foreign aid through the augmentation of transparency of aid flows. Data on over 20,000 projects across 14 countries has been collected by The Pacific Aid Map, which has been supported by 62 donors since 2011. This interactive platform has made all data and information available for users. However, the data for 2018 and 2019 remains incomplete (note: this is not representative of all aid flows to the region).

On the web page, there are four layers to the map, and users can navigate their way through the page to investigate the database.

To see more, click here. here.

Policy Cures Research: Tracking the funding for COVID- 19 research and development

A tracker has been developed by Policy Cures Research in hope to aid funders, policy makers, researchers and others understand the evolving landscape of R&D for COVID-19. Users can use the dashboard of trackers to identify COVID-19's main financial and scientific contributors. The tracker includes the funding commitments for product development R&D and basic research, as well as the development of new drugs, vaccines and diagnostics, including the status of its progress.

COVID-19 in the Pacific member briefing: The Global Fund, Save Children and Michele Rumsey

Over 50 Global Health Alliance member organisations and Australian WHO CC were involved in the hosting of a member briefing to focus on the Pacific region's response to the global pandemic of COVID-19. Special guests include Lady Ros Maruato, Deputy Chair of the Board of The Global Fund for Malaria, AIDS and Tuberculosis, Ms Michele Rumsey, Director WHO CC UTS and Mr Mat Tinkler, Director of Policy and International Programs at Save The Children Australia.

During this briefing, a discussion of the adaptation and rotating of their organisations has occurred based on the COVID-19 experience in the Pacific, as well as a discussion on the next "phase" and the plans that will follow with this.

To read more, click here.

WHO CC UTS Interns

Spotlight on WHO CC UTS Intern - Olga Tikhomirova

A UTS Master's in Public Health student, Olga has been working as an intern at the WHO CC UTS through the COVID-19 period. Due to strict lockdown rules, Olga had to work remotely from home but despite this was able to maintain a strong presence and a sense of connection to the team. She contributed to many projects and particularly enjoyed the fast speed and variety of work she was exposed to at the Centre. Given the timing of her internship, much of Olga's work was related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

She worked extensively with WHO resources and other trusted online resources to gather evidence, technical guidance and training resources for the Western Pacific region. She was also involved in preparation of Regional Updates and worked closely with the Centre Director, Michele Rumsey.

Reflecting back on her time with WHO CC UTS, Olga was able to make the most of her time with the Centre and found multiple opportunities to apply her research and analytical skills. Through conducting literature searches, documents editing, and writing summaries Olga was able to advance her knowledge about Public Health and grow professionally.

We wish her well in her future endeavours.

WHO Academy Launches its COVID-19 mobile learning app

WHO Academy's COVID-19 mobile learning app was developed to give health care professionals' easy access to evidence-based information to assist them in managing the COVID-19 pandemic. It compiles the latest news, strategies and tools to provide health workers with all the information they need. The COVID-19 mobile learning app offers guidance, training and tools checklists.

Among the subjects covered are COVID-19 case management, occupational health, management of essential health services and systems, international health regulations, risk communication and community engagement, research and many others

The app also displays updated COVID-19 data in the user's country, showing the number of total confirmed cases and the number of deaths. In addition, it keeps the user up-to-date with the latest news regarding COVID-19 and provides recordings of workshops from several WHO offices and global collaborators. It also has a curation of relevant papers from scientific journals around the world. These studies are classified into categories like therapy, prognosis and diagnosis to facilitate the access to the latest literature and scientific evidence.

The app can be downloaded for free from the Google Play Store and Apple App Store, and it is available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish.

Optimizing the contributions of the nursing and midwifery workforce series - Human Resources for Health

In recognition that 2020 is the Year of the Nurse and Midwife, Adjunct Professor James Buchan, in his role of Editor in Chief of “Human Resources for Health” journal, has been publishing a series of papers on nursing and midwifery workforce research.

This thematic series has the goal to inform and support policymakers and to contribute to the growing evidence base on the roles and impact of nurses and midwives in achieving global development goals.

The series is now open for submissions with a focus on research and analysis that will contribute to improved policy, planning and implementation in nursing and midwifery, and that provide new evidence on the impact on health systems and outcomes. You can access the series page here .

CoHelp Covid-19 Healthcare E-Learning Platform

To help prepare for future outbreaks of COVID-19, the Papua New Guinea (PNG) National Department of Health, the WHO (PNG) and Australian Government Department of Health have developed an essential online training program for PNG health care workers related to COVID-19 care.

Being designed for both clinical and administrative PNG staff, the training is easy and simple to follow and can be accessed from your smartphone, tablet or computer. The online program contains practical resources and scenario trainings tailored to COVID-19 outbreak preparation.

You can acces CoHELP training in below link:

https://cohelp.learnbook.com.au/

Once signed up, you will have access to recorded lectures, interactive trainings, practical resources, discussion Forums, weekly live training seminars with Q&A’s with expert lecturers and certifications after you complete training modules.

Documents

WPRO White Paper

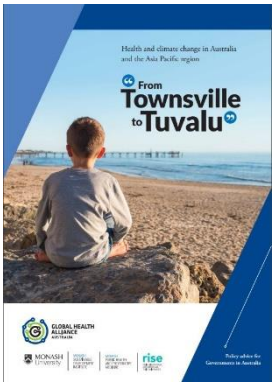
Download White Paper

Western Pacific Region Partners' Forum

Summary Report

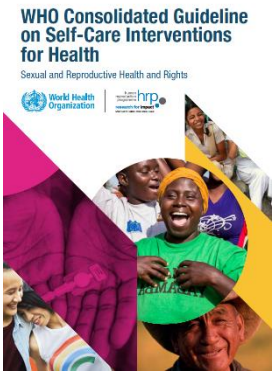
Surveillance of Antibiotic Consumption

Download report



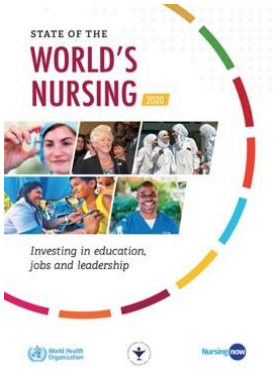
Health and climate change in Australia and the Asia Pacific Region

Download report



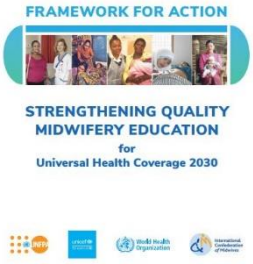
WHO Consolidated Guideline on Self-Care Interventions for Health: sexual and reproductive health and rights

Download report



State of the World's Nursing Report

Download report



Strengthening quality midwifery education for UHC

Download report

Global strategy for womens', childrens' and adolescents' health (2016-2030)

Download report

COVID-19 Educational Resources

WHO HQ - Daily Press Brief on Covid -19

WHO guidance on practical considerations and recommendations for religious leaders and faith-based communities

Covid-19 Dashboard - Johns Hopkins University

Johns Hopkins complimentary COVID-19 Webcasts

Covid-19 resources for nurses from the Royal College of Nursing Institute

WHO Guidelines on Critical preparedness, readiness and response actions for COVID-19

WHO Guidelines on Operational considerations for case management of COVID-19 in health facility and community

Medical certification of cause of

COVID-19 Medication Breakthrough

WHO Covid-19 training courses

WHO training on Infection prevention and Control

WHO training on Health and safety briefing for respiratory diseases

WHO Q&A - Violence against women during COVID-19

WHO Operational Planning Guidelines to Support Country Preparedness and Response

death for COVID-19

Simulation of the effects of COVID-19 testing rates on hospitalizations

A guide to preventing and addressing social stigma

Mamatuki Sosefo – Disaster & Emergency Preparedness in Fiji
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Publications

1. A civil society guide to the 73rd World Health Assembly Read more
2. Global Network WHO CC and WHO Resources and Publications.
3. Nurses and Midwives are key to Universal Health Coverage Read more
4. The Lancet - SRHR: unmet needs and unfinished agendas Read more
5. COVID-19 pandemic - the world's biggest psychological experiment Read more
6. WHO Briefing - COVID-19 reveals gaps in health systems Read more
7. The Lancet: Investing in sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and girls to reach HIV and UHC goals Read more
8. The Lancet Regional Health - a new suite of open access general medical journals publishing high-quality, evidence-based research focused on six regions of the world Read more
9. The Lancet Global Health - Decolonising COVID-19 Read more
10. The Lancet Global Health - A new vehicle to accelerate the UN Sustainable Development Read more
11. The Lancet Global Health - Recognising the burden of maternal infection worldwide Read more
12. WHO Maternal mortality Fact Sheet Read more
13. Consolidated Guideline on Self-Care interventions for Health: sexual and reproductive health and rights Read more
14. Strengthening Quality Midwifery Education for Universal Health Coverage 2030 Read more
15. The Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescent's Health (2016-2030) Read more
16. The State of the World's Nursing report Read more
17. WHO Report on Surveillance of Antibiotic Consumption Read more
18. WHO Bulletin – March issue Read here
19. WHO Bulletin – April issue Read here

20. WHO Bulletin – May issue Read here
21. WHO Bulletin – June issue Read here
22. WHO Bulletin – July issue Read here
23. WHO Bulletin – August issue Read here
24. WHO Bulletin – September issue Read here
25. Climate change – a study finds the human cost of the climate crisis will hit harder, wider and sooner than previously believed Read more
26. Independent - World must prepare for second and third coronavirus wave, WHO warns Read more
27. UN appeals for $6.7 billion to fight virus in poor countries Read more
28. World Health Organization is on course to become the most followed international organization on social media Read more
29. Five lessons from past global influenza outbreaks for Covid-19 Read here
30. Covid-19 and the international supply of nurses report for the international council of nurses Read here
31. Improving retention of health workers in rural and remote areas: Case studies from WHO South-East Asia Region Read here

Events

1. **October/November 2020** - SPNF and SPCNMOA Biennial Meeting
2. **18th – 24th November 2020** - World Antibiotics Awareness Week
3. **5th May 2021**- International Midwives Day
4. **12th May 2021** - International Nurses Day
5. **May 2021** – 74th World Health Assembly
6. **30th May - 3rd June 2021** - ICM 32nd Triennial Congress, Bali, Indonesia
7. **5th – 9th June 2021** – ICN Congress, Abu Dhabi
8. **14th June 2021** - World Blood Donor Day
9. **28th July 2021** - World Hepatitis Day
10. **29th August – 1st September 2021** - 11th ICN NP/APN Network Conference, Halifax Canada
11. **17th September 2021** - World Patient Safety Day