

Implementation of National Curriculum for the Diploma of General Nursing (DGN) and Certificate for Community Health Worker (CHW) Program

Brief 18: Dissemination of first semester subjects for new DGN and CHW curriculum implementation in 2024

Online Workshops 11th & 12th December 2023

The Strengthening Health Workforce Education in Papua New Guinea (PNG) program aims to support PNG's health workforce to meet current and future health needs through the review, development and implementation of revised National Curriculum for the Diploma of General Nursing (DGN) and the Certificate for Community Health Worker (CHW) Program. The program is run in partnership with WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Development at the University of Technology Sydney (WHO CC UTS), the PNG National Department of Health (NDoH) and funded by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

As part of this program, the WHO CC UTS Team, Prof. Michele Rumsey, Prof. Di Brown, Ms Alison Moloney, A/Prof. Caroline Havery,

and Ms Suzanne Rochester, conducted two online workshops with principals and teachers from 9 Schools of Nursing/Midwifery (SON) and 12 Community Health Worker Institutes for the two new curriculums. Held on the 11th and 12th of December respectively, the DGN and CHW workshops aimed to discuss the new subjects for the first semesters of each curriculum.

Workshop Activities

During the workshops, colleagues from WHO CC UTS presented all subject guides for Semester 1 from each curriculum. Written and designed in collaboration with PNG NDoH, as well as Nursing and CHW clinicians, educators and principles, each subject guide included subject outcomes, resources, assessment tasks, and weekly student and teacher learning guides/lesson plans.

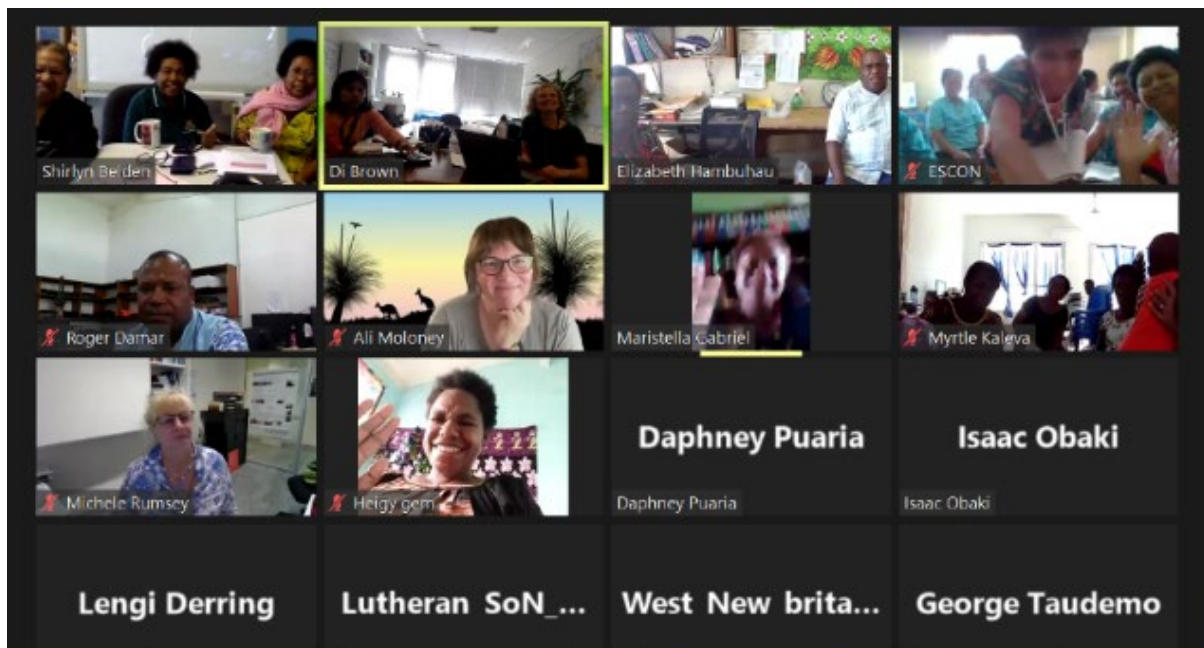


Figure 1: Participants in DGN workshop December 11th 2023

The WHO CC UTS team explained the design process of each subject, and how they were developed from the many previous workshops, feedback and discussions from the review, development and implementation programs for the curriculums throughout 2021, 2022 and 2023. The team also showcased the wide range of resources available to aid in teaching the new curriculum. These included textbooks, journal articles, PowerPoints and worksheets – which are all available online for free. A Google Drive link has also been sent to all principals and educators for easy access to subject materials.

Questions and Discussions

During both workshops, discussion time with participants and presenters was allocated. Some of the challenges and queries raised included concerns of photocopying and paper volume if students were given printed copies of learning guides and resources. Participants also asked for clarification about how the previous curriculum and subjects had been fit into the new curriculums, as well as queries on clinical placement. All questions were

answered in detail by WHO CC UTS and NDoH teams. Participants thanked both parties for their hard work on the subject materials, and expressed their enthusiasm to reading the material in detail before Semester 1, 2024 commences.

Subject Titles

- National Curriculum for the Diploma of General Nursing (DGN) Semester 1 subjects:
 - Fundamentals of Nursing
 - Introduction to Mathematics
 - Anatomy and Physiology
 - Nursing Practice
 - Communications and IT
 - Social Determinants of Health & PHC
- Certificate for Community Health Worker (CHW) Program Semester 1 subjects:
 - Anatomy and Physiology, Introduction to Microbiology
 - Communications, IT and Mathematics
 - Community Practise Placement
 - Foundations of CHW
 - Primary Health Care

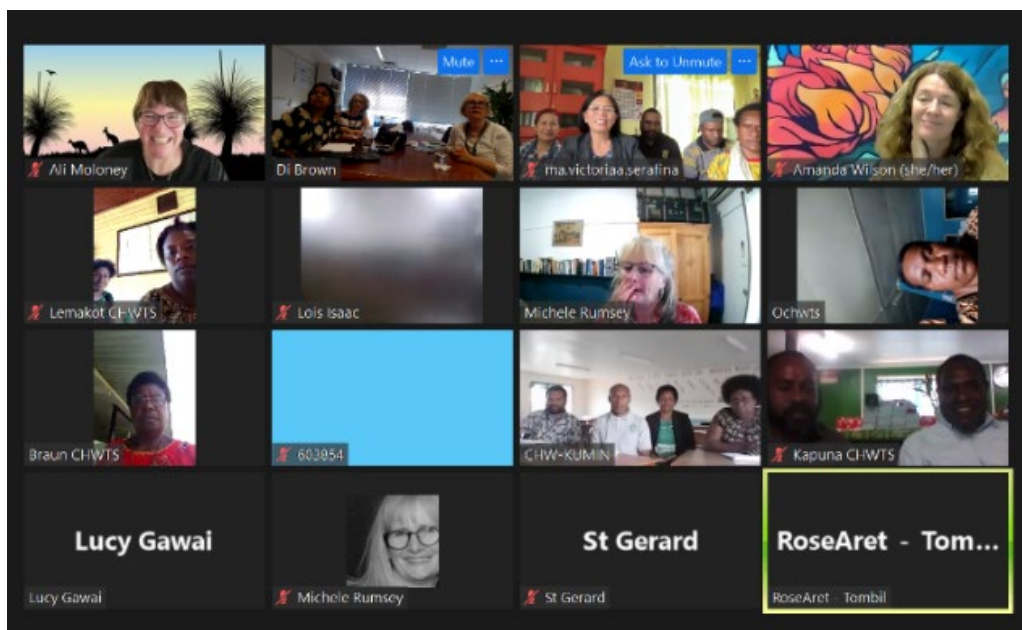


Figure 2: Participants in CHW workshop December 12th 2023