



COMMONWEALTH NURSES AND MIDWIVES FEDERATION

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Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting

London UK | 19-20 April 2018



Commonwealth Heads of Government met in London 19-20 April 2018 for two days of discussion hosted by the Government of the United Kingdom. The subsequent communiqué of the outcomes demonstrates the breadth of the discussion. Issues discussed included:

- Gender equality and inclusion,
- Strengthening democratic institutions,
- Promoting peace,
- Migration,
- Trade,
- Economic growth and sustainable development,
- Small and vulnerable states,
- Sustainable use of energy and natural resources,
- Climate change,
- Natural disasters,
- Health,
- Education,
- Human trafficking and child exploitation,
- Transnational organised crime.

Paragraph 32 of the communiqué focuses on health: NCDs, obesity, diabetes, nutrition, mental health and universal health coverage. It is important that all health professionals across the Commonwealth are familiar with the CHOGM communiqué and follow up with their governments as to how they are addressing the communiqué recommendations. The full text can be accessed at:

http://thecommonwealth.org/sites/default/files/inline/CHOGM_2018_Communique.pdf.

The CNMF was pleased to be able to attend the opening of CHOGM held at Buckingham Palace and the reception which followed at St James Palace. CHOGM 2020 will be held in Rwanda and in Samoa in 2022.

Commonwealth People's Forum

London UK | 16-18 April 2018

The Commonwealth People's Forum was held in London 16-18 April. One of the best features of the 2018 CPF was the integration of the CPF with the CHOGM and the Commonwealth Youth, Women's and Business Forum. The government of the United Kingdom is to be congratulated for the inclusive way the respective civil society forums were integrated with CHOGM.

The CNMF took part in three events. The first was a presentation on Legislative Reform in the Commonwealth when the CNMF was able to present its project on mental health reform. The second was a symposium hosted by the Commonwealth Health Professions Alliance on universal health coverage. The symposium looked at three aspects of UHC: financing, health workforce, and access. Three international speakers addressed the three issues: Dr Ravindra Rannan-Eliya; Professor James Buchan; and Ms Rosemary Mburu. Copies of their presentations can be found on the CHPA website, <http://www.chpa.co>. The third event was participating in the Commonwealth Foreign Ministers' meeting hosted by the Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP which provided the opportunity for the CNMF to engage Commonwealth foreign ministers in a discussion about mental health and the importance of mental health in relation to human rights, economic productivity, social stability, and impact on Commonwealth government health budgets.

The CNMF participation, sponsored by the Commonwealth Foundation, is gratefully acknowledged.



CHPA Symposium on Universal Health Coverage: holding countries to account.



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World No Tobacco Day 31 May 2018



Every year, on 31 May, WHO marks *World No Tobacco Day*, highlighting the health and other risks associated with tobacco use, and advocating for effective policies to reduce tobacco consumption. The tobacco epidemic is one of the biggest public health threats the world has ever faced, killing more than 7 million people a year. More than 6 million of those deaths are the result of direct tobacco use while around 890,000 are the result of non-smokers being exposed to second-hand smoke. Around 80% of the 1.1 billion smokers worldwide live in low- and middle-income countries, where the burden of tobacco-related illness and death is heaviest.

Tobacco users who die prematurely deprive their families of income, raise the cost of health care and hinder economic development. In some countries, children from poor households are frequently employed in tobacco farming to provide family income. These children are especially vulnerable to "green tobacco sickness", which is caused by the nicotine that is absorbed through the skin from the handling of wet tobacco leaves. To find out more, go to: <http://www.who.int/en/news-room/factsheets/detail/tobacco>.

ECSACON CONFERENCE

3-7 September 2018 Nairobi Kenya

THE 6th QUADRIENNIAL GENERAL MEETING AND THE 13th SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE OF THE EAST, CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN AFRICA COLLEGE OF NURSING (ECSACON)

Theme: Nurses and Midwives responding to global agenda on sustainable development goals and universal health coverage.

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

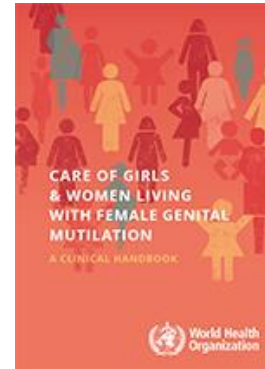
Get Involved. Participate.

VENUE: Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya
Dates: 3rd - 07th September 2018

The 6th Quadrennial General Meeting and the 13th Scientific Conference of the East, Central and Southern Africa College of Nursing (ECSACON) will be held 3-7 September 2018 at the Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya. For more information, go to: <http://ecsahc.org/news/1454/>.

WHO Handbook on FGM

<http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/health-care-girls-women-living-with-FGM/en/>

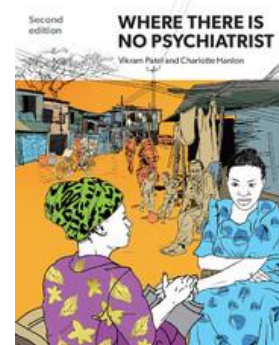


Published in 2018, this handbook is for health care providers involved in the care of girls and women who have been subjected to any form of female genital mutilation (FGM). This includes obstetricians and gynaecologists, surgeons, general medical practitioners, midwives, nurses, and health-care professionals providing mental health care, and educational and psychosocial support, such as psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers and health educators. The clinical handbook is based on the *WHO Guidelines on the management of health complications from female genital mutilation*, 2016.

Where there is no psychiatrist

Vikram Patel and Charlotte Hanlon

FREE DOWNLOAD



The second edition of this practical manual of mental health care has been released (1 March 2018) and is a vital tool for community health workers, primary care nurses, social workers and primary care doctors, particularly in low-resource settings providing a basic understanding of more than thirty clinical problems associated with mental illness and their assessment and management. <http://www.globalmentalhealth.org/resources/where-there-no-psychiatrist-2nd-edition>.