



COMMONWEALTH NURSES FEDERATION

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CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

The President and Board of the Commonwealth Nurses Federation wish those of our members and friends who celebrate Christmas a safe and happy holiday period.



NEW VIDEO FROM GLOBAL HEALTH MEDIA

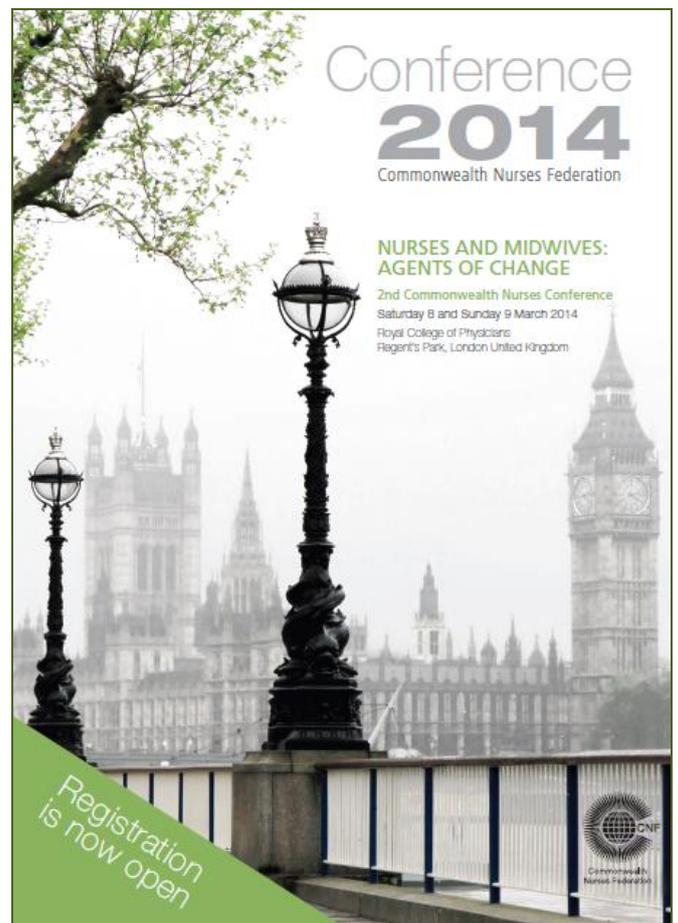


Preparing the birthing room

This film shows the supplies to have ready to prepare for a birth. The intended audience is frontline health workers in the developing world. The film and others from Global Health Media are available from: <http://globalhealthmedia.org/newborn/videos/>.

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN 2nd Commonwealth Nurses Conference 8-9 March 2014

Registration is now open for the 2nd Commonwealth Nurses Conference: *Nurses and midwives - agents of change* to be held at the Royal College of Physicians, Regent's Park London 8-9 March 2014. For more information and to register go to the CNF website: <http://www.commonwealthnurses.org/conference2014>.



ADVANCE NOTICE for CNF members



CNF 21st Biennial Meeting 2014

Venue: Royal College of Nursing
20 Cavendish Square London

Friday 7 March 2014

Hosted by the CNF and the RCN

Nurses and midwives:agents of change

http://www.commonwealthnurses.org/21st_CNF_Biennial_2014.html

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UNIVERSAL TRUTH: NO HEALTH WITHOUT A WORKFORCE

A new report is available on the Global Health Workforce Alliance website: *Universal truth: no health without a workforce*, available from: <http://www.who.int/workforcealliance/knowledge/resources/hrhreport2013/en/index.html>.

The report was commissioned by the Global Health Workforce Alliance Secretariat and the World Health Organization to consolidate the latest information available on human resources for health and inform the global community on how to attain, sustain and accelerate progress on universal health coverage.

The report found that:

- There are shortages of some categories of health workers, and more are forecast.
- The health workforce is ageing, and replacement is a challenge.
- Although skills-mix imbalances persist, advanced practitioners, midwives, nurses and auxiliaries are still insufficiently used in many settings.
- Availability and accessibility continue to vary widely within countries because of difficulty in attracting and retaining workers.
- Adapting education strategies and the content of pre-service education is a major challenge.
- Health workers need to be kept motivated in an enabling environment.
- Performance assessment and quality of care are afforded insufficient priority.
- Country capacity to estimate future human resources for health needs and design longer-term policies varies.
- Human resource information data and systems to meet the needs of decision makers require strengthening and investment.

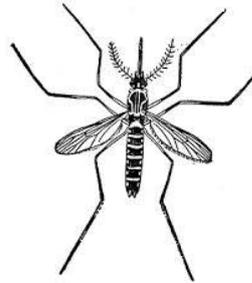
The report calls on countries to:

1. Recognize the centrality of the health workforce in translating the vision of universal health coverage and its constituent values.
2. Assess the gap between the health workforce needs, supply (stock, skills mix and competencies) and demand anticipated in the health system vision.
3. Formulate human resources for health policy objectives that encapsulate the vision for the health system and services.
4. Build the data, evidence base and strategic intelligence required to implement and monitor the policy objectives and sustain effective management.
5. Build and sustain the technical capacity to design, advocate for and implement policies at the national, regional, local and facility levels.
6. Build political support at the highest level to ensure continuity in the pursuit of universal health coverage.
7. Reform the governance and institutional human resources for the health environment.
8. Cost the various scenarios of health workforce reforms.
9. International partners focus their support, and track their official development assistance, on capacity-building.
10. International partners address transnational issues and strengthen global human resources for health governance, collaborative platforms and mechanisms.

The WHO Guidelines on Transforming and Scaling up Health Professional Education and Training have been launched on the following website: <http://whoeducationguidelines.org>.

INNOVATIVE MALARIA RESEARCH

Malaria remains a severe health problem in Sub-Saharan Africa, with approximately one million deaths and 365 million cases each year. In terms of malaria control, insecticide-treated bednets are an effective tool, and many organizations have distributed free or highly subsidized bednets in malaria endemic areas. Nevertheless, some recipients do not use bednets because of social, environmental or cultural factors. Research conducted in Malawi compared indirect observation of mosquitoes using educational leaflets with direct observation of freshly captured mosquitoes. Indirect observation produced no change in bednet use, while showing freshly captured mosquitoes led to a 13-fold increase in bednet use. Results suggest that direct observation of freshly captured mosquitoes can encourage bednet use and may potentially improve effective bednet coverage for malaria control and elimination.



Beyond buzzing: mosquito watching stimulates malaria bednet use. A household-based cluster-randomized controlled assessor blinded educational trial.

Tomonori Hoshi, Paul Martin Banda, Dylo Foster Pemba, Toshihiko Sunahara and Noboru Minakawa

Published online 9 October 2013

<http://www.nature.com/emi/journal/v2/n10/full/emi201367a.html>

The World Health Organisation recently released the World Malaria Report 2013

(http://www.who.int/malaria/publications/world_malaria_report_2013/en/).

The report found that global efforts to control and eliminate malaria have saved an estimated 3.3 million lives since 2000, reducing malaria mortality rates by 45% globally and by 49% in Africa. An expansion of prevention and control measures has been mirrored by a consistent decline in malaria deaths and illness, despite an increase in the global population at risk of malaria between 2000 and 2012. In 2012, there were an estimated 207 million cases of malaria, which caused approximately 627,000 malaria deaths. An estimated 3.4 billion people continue to be at risk of malaria, mostly in Africa and south-east Asia. Around 80% of malaria cases occur in Africa.

WHO GLOBAL REPORT ON TB

The WHO Global TB report 2013 has been released and is available from:

http://www.who.int/tb/publications/global_report/en/index.html.



Overall new TB cases are on the rise, and the most affected parts of the world are in African and Asian countries. Not only is morbidity on the rise but mortality is also on the rise, much of it preventable. This report raises the alarm for the whole world community and says that countries need to work together to fight this highly infectious problem.