Welcome to the Links Magazine, June 2019 edition!

As the WHOCCNM Secretariat, the team at Johns Hopkins School of Nursing is excited to highlight the recent work done by the WHO Collaborating Centers for Nursing and Midwifery. In this edition of the Links Magazine, we focused on Sustainable Development Goal 13: Climate Action. This goal encourages urgent action to be taken to combat climate change and its impacts.

We can see climate change all around us. Natural disasters are occurring more frequently and with more intensity, resulting in the loss of species and natural resources. As a global force, nurses and midwives can help to achieve healthcare for all by working towards a healthier, cleaner, and sustainable environment. Around the world nurses are conducting innovative research, providing patient care, and building capacity to address the impact and trajectory of climate change. By integrating this sustainable development goal into the fabric of our profession, collectively we can work to build a healthier and safer world for this generation and the next.

We want to thank all of our collaborating centers and partner organizations for their continued support, especially those who have contributed to this edition of the Links Magazine. This includes our colleagues at James Cook University, Christian Medical College and Hospital, The Midwifery Network, the University of Hyogo and Paracelsus Medical University.

Please feel free to reach out to us if you would like to be considered for future publication, or if you would like to learn more about the many exciting updates & opportunities presented here. We look forward to collaborating with more of our centers on upcoming editions of the magazine!

Patricia M. Davidson, PhD, MEd, RN, FAAN
Co-Secretary General

Nancy Reynolds, PhD, RN, FAAN
Co-Secretary General
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• University of Malawi, Kamuzu College of Nursing, WHO Collaborating Centre for Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice
• University of Natal, School of Nursing, WHO Collaborating Centre for Educating Nurses and Midwives in Community Problem-solving
• University of South Africa (UNISA), Department of Advanced Nursing Sciences, WHO Collaborating Centre for Postgraduate Distance Education and Research in Nursing and Midwifery Development

• University of São Paulo WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing Research Development
• McMaster University WHO Collaborating Centre in Primary Care Nursing and Health Human Resources
• Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Services and Nursing Development for Noncommunicable Disease Care
• Asociación Colombiana de Facultades y Escuelas de Enfermería (ACOFAN) WHO Collaborating Centre for the Development of Innovative Methodologies in the Teaching-Learning in PNC
• The UWI School of Nursing, Mona (UWISON) WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing and Midwifery Development in the Caribbean
• Escuela Nacional de Enfermería y Obstetricia, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México WHO Collaborating Centre for the Development of Professional Nursing
• University of Illinois at Chicago WHO Collaborating Centre for International Nursing Development in Primary Health Care
• University of Pennsylvania, School of Nursing WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing and Midwifery Leadership
• University of Alabama at Birmingham, School of Nursing WHO Collaborating Center for International Nursing
• Columbia University, School of Nursing WHO Collaborating Centre for Advanced Practice Nursing
• University of Michigan, School of Nursing, Office of International Affairs WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Clinical Training in Health Promotion Nursing
• Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing Information, Knowledge Management and Sharing
• New York University Rory Meyers College of Nursing WHO Collaborating Centre for Gerontological Nursing Education
• University of Miami, School of Nursing and Health Studies WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing Human Resources Development and Patient Safety

• College of Health Sciences, University of Bahrain WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing Development
• Jordan University of Science and Technology WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing Development
• Paracelsus Medical University, Institute of Nursing Science and Practice WHO CC for Nursing Research & Palliative Care Education
• Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Research Unit, Institute for Healthcare Policy WHO Collaborating Centre for Human Resources for Health Research and Policy
• Nursing Research Foundation WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing
• Lithuanian University of Health Sciences WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing Education and Practice
• Nursing School of Coimbra WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing Practice and Research
• Glasgow Caledonian University, Department of Nursing and Community Health WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing and Midwifery Education, Research and Practice
• Cardiff University, College of Biomedical and Life Sciences, School of Healthcare Sciences WHO Collaborating Centre for Midwifery Development
• Public Health England, Chief Nurse Directorate WHO Collaborating Centre for Public Health Nursing & Midwifery

• Christian Medical College and Hospital WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing and Midwifery Development
• National Institute of Nursing Education, Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing and Midwifery Development
• University of Nursing, Yangon WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing and Midwifery Development
• Faculty of Nursing, Mahidol University WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing And Midwifery Development
• Ramathibodi School of Nursing - Mahidol University WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing and Midwifery Development
• Chiang Mai University - Faculty of Nursing WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing and Midwifery Development

• University of Technology Sydney (UTS) WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing, Midwifery and Health
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• Yonsei University, College of Nursing WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training for Nursing Development in Primary Health Care
• The Catholic University of Korea, College of Nursing, Research Institute for Hospice/Palliative Care WHO Collaborating Centre for Training in Hospice & Palliative Care
• University of the Philippines Manila WHO Collaborating Centre for Leadership in Nursing Development
SDG13: CLIMATE CHANGE
Climate change is closely linked to the increased occurrence and magnitude of natural disasters, such as floods, storms, droughts, and heat waves, causing serious and widespread damage on society. The frequency of natural disasters in the past decade is almost three times what it was in the 1970s. Of particular concern is the increase of hydrological and meteorological disasters. Between 1998 and 2017, more than 1.3 million people have lost their lives and 4.4 billion have been affected by natural disasters, of which almost 90% have a direct link to climate-related change.

The health consequences of natural disasters include the increase in communicable diseases and the exacerbation of existing non-communicable diseases (NCDs). In addition, disasters cause the deterioration of the living environment and the disruption of health care services. Therefore, health access can be seriously disturbed for individuals with chronic illness in affected areas who require ongoing treatment.

In Japan, disaster research shows that elderly people and patients with NCDs are at an increased risk of health deterioration in the post-disaster period. Disaster-related death, defined as those deaths not caused directly by the disaster but rather post-disaster stress, exhaustion, and worsening of pre-existing illnesses due to evacuation and displacement, becomes a very pertinent social issue. In the period post the 2016 Kumamoto Earthquake, the number of disaster-related deaths was five times that of direct deaths.

Nurses fill an important role in providing care for at-risk people and the prevention of health crises immediately after and in the post-disaster period. Capacity building of nurses is therefore a crucial element of disaster planning and mitigation.
As the WHO Collaborating Centre for Disaster Risk Management for Health, we are actively engaged in research and practical and educational activities aimed at building nursing capacities to responding disaster related health issues. Currently, two major research projects are underway:

1. **Identifying the specific health needs and challenges for caring for the elderly after disasters, as they are a recognized vulnerable population.**

2. **Determining the interventions needed to maintain the psychosocial health of disaster responders, and the development of guidance and training programs for this population.**

This second project is vital because, although often ignored, disaster responders are affected enormously by the impacts of disasters and can at times go on to develop serious health problems both physically and mentally.

Disaster risk reduction is one of the critical global issues of our time. In practice, nurses make a large contribution to disaster risk reduction through the support and care of people in affected areas. However, the scientific evidence of disaster risk reduction for health, especially in nursing, is still lacking. More research must be done if we are truly going to improve the health of people affected by disasters.
CURRENT ISSUES

CLIMATE CHANGE: WE HAVE A GREATER RESPONSIBILITY THAN WE THINK

A/Prof Caryn West RN, MPH, PhD.
Ms Andrea Grimes RN, MPH
Dr Karen Yates RN RM PhD
Mr Christopher Rouen B.GOS, B.SCI (HON)

WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing and Midwifery Education and Research Capacity
Building. Nursing and Midwifery. College of Healthcare Sciences. Division of Tropical Health
and Medicine. James Cook University. Cairns QLD 4870 AUSTRALIA

There is an inextricable link between the health of individuals and populations and
the health of the environment. The effects of climate change can be felt through
variations in the intensity, frequency and distribution of heatwaves, droughts, super
storms and other weather events. While this will have a profound effect on the
environment in which we live, the implications on health are just as critical.

Shifts in weather patterns could potentially aggravate existing conditions and expose
populations to conditions not endemic to their local areas. Of particular concern is
the rise and spread of tropical related diseases beyond their existing distribution.
This will subsequently increase the global burden of disease at great cost to society.
Global healthcare systems will require immense transformation to adequately
prepare for and manage the problems climate change will present.

Nurses and midwives will be impacted by the effects of climate change on
professional and personal levels. As the largest component of the global health
workforce, nurses and midwives will be at the forefront. As spatial patterns of
health conditions change, nurses and midwives will need to constantly adapt.
Workplaces will need to become more dynamic and flexible to accommodate
education and skillsets calibrated to address an ever-changing environment. Keeping
pace with the changes will be key to success.

Hospitals and other healthcare infrastructure are major contributors to the
causative agents of climate change. Collectively they consume vast amounts of
water, energy, and consumables, while simultaneously producing unnecessary
volumes of waste. This presents nurses and midwives with an opportunity. The
opportunity to lead change. If 29 million nurses and midwives worldwide provide
leadership in adaptive strategies that influence improved energy consumption,
water efficiency, waste management procedures and sustainable procurement, the
results would not only be transformative but profound!

The consequences of climate change on global health outcomes do not allow for the
opportunity to wait. Our actions must be proactive not reactive. Nurses and
midwives are in a truly unique position to help prepare individuals, communities,
and the entire healthcare industry for an uncertain future.
Climate change is an inevitable truth linked to many issues around the world, be it economic crises or health issues. In the recent years “Mother Earth” has seen a drastic rise in temperature leading to the rise in sea levels, diminishing Arctic ice caps and leading to many natural calamities.

Global warming plays a key role in climate change. The impact of a one degree rise in global temperature has caused irreversible effects on planet Earth. Dr. Roxy Mathew Koll, a scientist at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology in Pune, said that regions in South Asia have been victim to extreme rises in temperature in the last few years, and therefore it is no surprise to us that these countries have seen an increase in droughts, water scarcity, heat waves, and changes in seasonal patterns. This in turn increases the risk of economic crises, where farming and agriculture are the major source of revenue and income.

Global warming is also responsible for aerosol pollution, which has an adverse effect on health to both the present generation and the next. Ms. Mythily Vandana S. Charles, a Junior Lecturer in College of Nursing at CMC Vellore, noted that climate change is the consequence of human activities, manifested in the drastic rise in temperature around the globe, altered seasonal patterns, and disrupted air currents. Organisms in their natural habitats, due to climate change, are now begetting diseases which were previously unfamiliar to those places.

As individuals we must be more aware of our environment and cautious about the damage our every activity can do. Reuse the things that can be reused and opt for eco-friendly materials. Being in the health profession, one thing we can do is promote minimal use of plastic resources. For example, avoiding the unnecessary use of gloves, using recycled paper folders instead of plastic files, and so on, are all small steps which can make a huge difference.

As educated citizens, it is our obligation to prevent further chaos through global warming. Go eco-friendly. It’s time we protect “Mother Earth”.

References
Since 2007, Prof. Osterbrink has been professor and chair of the Institute of Nursing Science and Practice at the Paracelsus Medical Private University (PMU) in Salzburg, Austria. In 2016, the Institute was designated as a WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing Research and Palliative Care Education. The main task of this collaboration is to develop educational models aimed at improving palliative care training in Europe, where, besides developing medical technologies, early integration and strengthening communication between professionals providing basic and specialist palliative care is of essence. Yet as in many other areas, networking and collaboration is the key. In 2018, the WHO CC in Salzburg conducted a fieldwork in Eastern- and Central-Asian countries. The WHO’s interest in local developments was much appreciated, as politicians and healthcare developers have not yet recognized the benefits of well-developed palliative care services.

When asked how he felt about these endeavors, Prof. Osterbrink replied, “Good palliative care is not only important for patients, but also for caregivers and family-members. It has been few years since my Mom died. Her care was administered so skillfully that I still feel empowered.” This is a clear example of how Prof. Osterbrink uses personal experiences to cultivate meaningful changes, making him a role model par excellence for nurses worldwide.
MIDWIFERY NETWORK UPDATE
In the Americas (AMRO) region, important educational initiatives are underway. University of Michigan Collaborating Centre is working with the Episcopal University of Haiti (FSIL), to implement a midwifery master’s degree program. These midwives will become health providers, leaders, and faculty across Haiti.

The University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Collaborating Centre for International Nursing has developed an Educational Quality Improvement Toolkit for nursing and midwifery schools in Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries and an online course for LAC nursing & midwifery educators. The University of Chile Collaborating Centre supports many LAC countries in strengthening midwifery competencies, including developing an Instructor’s Guide for Clinical Simulation.

In the Western Pacific region (WPRO), University of Technology Sydney (UTS) WHO Collaborating Centre collaborated with UNFPA Cambodia and Cambodian University of Health Sciences (UHS) to upgrade Cambodian midwifery educators’ qualifications to a Bachelor of Science in Midwifery. Since March 2018, 52 Cambodian midwives have attended Bridging Curriculum lectures and workshops led by the UTS team. The Collaborating Centre at James Cook University is producing a consumer-influenced model of maternity service accessibility, utilizing geographic information systems and consumer survey data. It will be applied to Far North Queensland, which has many rural and remote localities and a high Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population.

In the European (EURO) region, the Cardiff University Collaborating Centre has been field-testing its Midwifery Assessment Tool for Education (MATE) in Bulgaria.

We have many exciting future activities planned, including a series of webinars. Watch out for further news! We will also be requesting expertise from the Midwifery Network to support Fran McConville and team at WHO Headquarters as they prepare for 2020: the WHO Year of the Nurse and Midwife and publication of the 3rd State of the World’s Midwifery Report.

Here are some selected highlights of exciting midwifery activity across the Network!

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PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN THE MIDWIFERY NETWORK, AND PLEASE LET US KNOW YOUR MIDWIFERY NEWS!

YOU CAN CONTACT US AT: LBINFA@UCHILE.CL OR HUNTERB1@CARDIFF.AC.UK
EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES
The International Council of Nurses is delighted to invite you to the ICN Congress 2019 to be held in Singapore from 27 June to 1 July 2019. Hosted by the Singapore Nurses Association, this international gathering of thousands of nurses will explore the many ways in which nurses work to achieve universal access to health, not only providing health care but also addressing the social determinants of health, such as education, gender equality, poverty, etc. The Congress will provide opportunities for nurses to build relationships and to disseminate nursing and health-related knowledge. Learn more: https://www.icn.ch/events/icn-congress-2019-singapore

The Africa Regional Conference will be held September 12-14, 2019 in Namibia. This is an important event for midwives throughout the region that will allow not only a space for sharing midwifery knowledge, practice, but also for rich exchanges of experiences, learning and challenges. This year the theme aligns with International Council of Midwives 2017-2020 Strategy that focuses on Quality, Equity and Leadership. The conference theme is “midwives leading the way for quality and equity in Africa”. Each day will focus on quality, equity and leadership. Stay tuned and learn more: http://www.midwivesnamibia2019.org/

Sigma Theta Tau International's 30th International Nursing Research Congress, 25-29 July 2019! Join Sigma in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, to connect and engage with over 1,000 nurse researchers, students, clinicians, and leaders who are focused on evidence-based research. The theme of the event is "Theory-to-Practice: Catalyzing Collaborations to Connect Globally." Learn more: https://www.sigmanursing.org/connect-engage/meetings-events/congress-2019
PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE

WHOCC SIDE MEETING

AT THE

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES' CONGRESS 2019

LOCATION: MEETING ROOM A “ROSELLE JUNIOR, 4610–4710, 4TH FLOOR”, 60–132PAX
MARINA BAY SANDS CONGRESS CENTER, SINGAPORE

DATE: SUNDAY, 30 JUNE 2019
TIME: 11:30 – 13:30
GET CONNECTED

Do you or your institution have a Facebook or Twitter account? We would love to connect with you! Follow us at @whoccnm to get connected to our regularly held twitter chats, Facebook live videos, news, and updates on the Global Network!

If you live in a region or country in which these social media accounts aren't available, we'd love to hear from you! Let us know how we can better connect with you and your colleagues by emailing us at son-whocc@jhu.edu.

FOLLOW US!

@WHOCCNM
The International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) supports, represents and works to strengthen professional associations of midwives throughout the world, to achieve common goals in the care of mothers and newborns.

Operated by nurses and leading nurses internationally, the International Council of Nurses (ICN) works to ensure quality nursing care for all, sound health policies globally, the advancement of nursing knowledge, and the presence worldwide of a respected nursing profession and a competent and satisfied nursing workforce.

Jhpiego works to prevent the needless deaths of women and their families by developing strategies to help countries care for themselves by training competent health care workers, strengthening health systems and improving delivery of care.

Sigma aims to advance world health and celebrate nursing excellence in scholarship, leadership, and service.
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