



COMMONWEALTH NURSES AND MIDWIVES FEDERATION

e-News Vol.17 Issue 1 January 2024

UPDATE ON ORAL HEALTH PROJECT



The CNMF President and Board wishes all CNMF members and friends a healthy, safe, peaceful and productive 2024. Sadly, 2023 was characterised by wars, catastrophic climate events, and displacement of peoples seeking a safe and secure home for themselves and their families. It is the hope of the CNMF, that 2024 will bring a more settled and peaceful world where nations work together for the common good. Nurses and midwives are in a powerful position to be ambassadors for peace.

CNMF REPRESENTED AT PALACE RECEPTION

In October 2023, Professor Kathleen McCourt, CNMF President represented the CNMF at a reception at Buckingham Palace hosted by King Charles III, in honour of nurses from other Commonwealth countries currently working in the United Kingdom. Kath was accompanied to the reception by a wonderful nurse from Nigeria, Raluke Ekezie, who has been studying in the UK for his Master's Degree. Raluke has been very involved in the aged care nursing sector in Nigeria.



As part of the CNMF / C3 Oral Health Project, the Commonwealth Children's Choir has recorded the most delightful song: 'Brush my Teeth' sung to the tune of Frere Jacques. CNMF members and friends will remember the delightful music from the Commonwealth Children's Choir and Youth Orchestra at the 5th Commonwealth Nurses and Midwives Conference in 2020. Click on the photograph to listen to the song. The song may be freely used for educational purposes.

The Oral Health CPD for Nurses, hosted on the World Continuing Educationm Alliance platform has now reached 5,181 completions (96% pass rate) out of 6,400 completions of the course Colgate have so far funded in Africa. Improvement rate between pre- and post-test results was 20.88%. The course has an evaluation score of 98.2%.

An online CPD module specifically for midwives and maternal and child health nurses will shortly be available. Other initiatives are the development of educational material for parents and oral health lesson plans for teachers targeting children aged 3-9. Health promotion material on oral health is also being developed for community health workers.

All the initiatives, including the 'Brush my Teeth' song are funded as part of Colgate's Bright Smiles, Bright Futures® programme and their ongoing commitment to oral health.





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26th CNMF Biennial Meeting of Members 6TH Commonwealth Nurses and Midwives Conference

*HEALTH FOR ALL: Nurses and Midwives meeting the
challenge – showing the way*



Plans are underway for the 26th CNMF Biennial Meeting of Members and the 6th Commonwealth Nurses and Midwives Conference later in 2024. Dates and venue from the CNMF Board will be available as soon as possible as well as a 'Call for Abstracts'.

The Biennial Meeting of Members will be discussing three new policies:

- Universal health coverage
- Health equity
- Emergency and disaster preparedness.

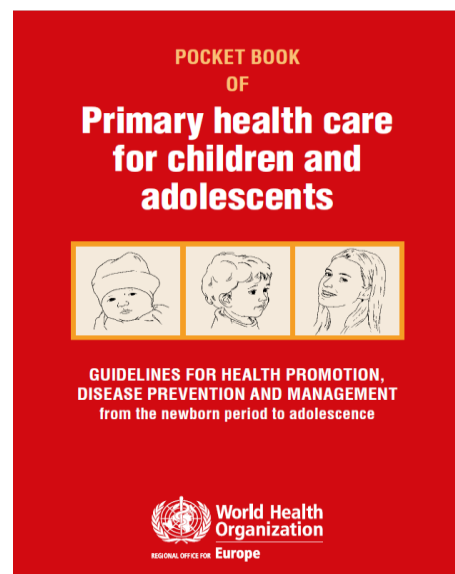
In coming editions of the CNMF e-News, these policies will be available for examination and comment prior to finalisation and presentation to the Biennial Meeting of Members, which is the decision making body of the CNMF, for endorsement.

**Stay up to date with all the very
latest news from the CNMF**



Pocket Book of Primary Health Care for Children and Adolescents

The Pocket Book of Primary Health Care for Children and Adolescents: guidelines for health promotion, disease prevention and management from the newborn period to adolescence (<https://www.who.int/europe/publications/i/item/9789289057622>).



The *Pocket Book* is for use by doctors, nurses and other health workers who are responsible for the care of children and adolescents at the primary health care level. It summarizes guidance on how to manage – and when to refer – children and adolescents presenting with common complaints and conditions. Preventive and promotive measures from the newborn period to adolescence include advice on the timing and content of well-child visits, the promotion of early childhood development and health messages for adolescents.

GROUP ANTENATAL CARE

CNMF has been made aware, through our membership of Healthcare Information for All (<https://www.hifa.org/>), of a very interesting open access article recently published about a study in Ghana which showed a higher level of health literacy and more frequent antenatal visits with the use of group antenatal care. Worth reading. Lori et al *BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth* 2024 24:37 <https://bmcpregnancychildbirth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12884-023-06224-x>