



COMMONWEALTH NURSES AND MIDWIVES FEDERATION

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ARE YOU A COMMONWEALTH SONG WRITER?

As a special, unique tribute to Her Majesty The Queen, a brand new Commonwealth Song is being commissioned to be sung by choirs in all 54 Commonwealth countries at the same time as the lighting of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons on 2 June 2022. The Commonwealth Resounds, a Commonwealth accredited music organisation established in 2005, is organising this important element of The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons.

Closing date for submission of entries is 23.59 pm British Summer Time 2 August 2021. More information is available from:

<https://www.commonwealthresounds.com/projects/the-queens-platinum-jubilee/>.



The International Council of Nurses (ICN) Congress will be held virtually from 2-4 November 2021. The theme is 'Nursing around the world'.

To register, go to:

<https://regoline.react-profile.org/profile/ICN2021/ICN/en/login>.

The program as it develops is available from:

<https://icncongress2021.org/scientific-programme/>.



The World Continuing Education Alliance

The mission of the World Continuing Education Alliance (WCEA) is to significantly improve access to evidence based, peer reviewed, continuing education to frontline health workers, developing skills in patient care and enabling capacity building, resulting in better health outcomes. To avoid duplication, WCEA does this by partnering with international education providers and hosting their e-health and m-health CPD courses on the WCEA platform. WCEA's work is supported by key partners such as Johnson & Johnson, Aga Khan University, the International Council of Nurses and the World Medical Association.

Since the ONEWORLD program began in January 2020, WCEA has partnered with 105 nursing and midwifery councils and national nursing and midwifery associations in 50 countries resulting in over 431,700 nurses and midwives accessing 3.09 million CPD courses. If your regulatory body or national association is interested or if you want to find out if your country is a part of the scheme, go to <https://oneworld.wcea.education/>.





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NEW CEO FOR RCN

The CNMF extends its very best wishes to Pat Cullen who has been appointed Interim Chief Executive Officer and General Secretary of the Royal College of Nursing UK on the retirement of Dame Donna Kinnair.



Pat has worked at the RCN since 2016 and was Director of RCN Northern Ireland since May 2019. Pat has had a prestigious career in both community, hospital, and leadership positions.

The RCN also has a new President.



Dr Denise Chaffer is a nurse and midwife and is currently the Director of NHS Resolution, a UK government body that focuses on resolving NHS disputes and concerns. Denise's term of office is 1 July to 31 December 2021.

The RCN is the UK member of the CNMF and provides administrative and collegiate support to the CNMF Executive team.

WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION ON ORAL HEALTH

At the 74th World Health Assembly in May 2021, an historic resolution was passed relating to oral health, requiring the World Health Organisation to develop a global strategy on addressing oral disease by 2022 and, by 2023, a global action plan for oral health.



More than 3.5 billion people globally are affected by oral diseases. Untreated dental caries (tooth decay) is the most common. Severe periodontal (gum) disease affects almost 10% of the global population and more than 530 million children suffer from dental caries of primary teeth. Oral diseases disproportionately affect poor and socially-disadvantaged populations. Most oral health conditions are largely preventable and can be treated in their early stages, however treatment is often not affordable and usually not part of universal health coverage packages.

The World Health Assembly resolution noted that oral health services were among the most affected health services as a result of COVID-19 with 77% of countries reporting partial or complete disruption. The resolution on oral health urges countries to address the key risk factors of oral diseases such as high intake of free sugars, tobacco use and harmful use of alcohol, and to enhance the capacities of oral health professionals.

The resolution also recommends a shift from the traditional curative approach toward a preventive approach that includes promotion of oral health within the family, schools and workplaces, and includes timely, comprehensive and inclusive care within the primary health-care system.

<https://www.who.int/news/item/27-05-2021-world-health-assembly-resolution-paves-the-way-for-better-oral-health-care>.

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