



Ms Diana Kidgell (Australia)

Should nurses seek a place at the table in trade negotiations



Should nurses seek a place at the table in trade negotiations?

Presenter: Dianna Kidgell

Supervisors: A/Professor Danny Hills
Professor Debra Griffiths
Professor Ruth Endacott

School of Nursing and Midwifery, Monash University,
Victoria, Australia



What does trade mean to you?



Accessed from https://cdn.pixabay.com/photo/2014/09/17/18/32/cargo-449784_960_720.jpg Downloaded 24/04/2019

What does trade mean to you?

Trade agreements seem remote from nursing practice, however, there are provisions of trade agreements which can have significant implications for public health, nursing practice and nursing workforce.



Accessed from https://cdn.pixabay.com/photo/2018/02/28/02/29/woman-3187087_960_720.jpg
downloaded 20/04/2019



Accessed from <https://pixabay.com/photos/close-up-drugs-medical-medicine-1853400/>
downloaded 20/04/2019

1. Implications of trade agreements for nursing workforce, nursing practice and public health



Image by CDC on Unsplash downloaded 18.02.2020

1. Trade agreements have potential implications for nursing workforce, nursing practice and public health

Six key issues were identified arising from the literature:

1. Lack of consultation
2. Strengthened intellectual property (patent) provisions
3. Dispute settlement provisions
4. Regulatory coherence
5. Maldistribution of economic benefits
6. Implications of labour provisions

1. Lack of consultation

Lack of consultation with public health and health professionals in trade negotiations.

Opportunities for health advocates to advise on trade agreements are limited. Trade negotiators are drawn from the experts in the areas of trade, finance, foreign affairs and international law rather than public health and health services.



Image by Gerd Altmann accessed from Pixabay downloaded 03/02/2020

2. Strengthened intellectual property provisions

Implications of strengthened intellectual property provisions (patents) for cost of, and access to medicines and medical devices.



Photo by CDC accessed from Unsplash downloaded 22/01/2020

3. Dispute settlement provisions

Threats to government capacity to regulate for domestic policy for public health and health services through 'Dispute Settlement' provisions.



Accessed from <https://www.kisspng.com/png-sugar-substitute-refined-sugar-refining-sugarcane-639301/download-png.html>
downloaded 25/07/2019



Accessed from https://www.desktopbackground.org/p/2012/12/30/507219_how-to-quit-smoking-wallpapers-full-hd-free-download_1920x1080_h.jpg downloaded 25/07/2019

4. Regulatory coherence

Threats to government capacity to regulate domestic policy for public health and health services through 'regulatory coherence'.



Image by truthseeker08 accessed from Pixabay downloaded 03/02/2020

5. Maldistribution of economic benefits

Potential maldistribution of economic benefits and labour provisions impacting on worker health access, equity and outcomes.



Image by Leroy Skalstad accessed from Pixabay downloaded 03/02/2020



Image by Leroy Skalstad accessed from Pixabay downloaded 03/02/2020

6. Implications of labour provisions

Increased use of temporary visa / temporary contract migration.



Photo by Good Free Photos on Unsplash Accessed 03/02/2020

Each of these six identified themes falls within the scope of the definition of nursing, defined by the International Council of Nurses including:

“... Advocacy, promotion of a safe environment, research, participation in shaping health policy and in patient and health systems management, and education are also key nursing roles” (ICN, 2002).



Photo by Zach Vessels on Unsplash downloaded 10/07/2019



Image by Gerd Altmann from Pixabay Accessed 03/02/2020

Policy changes such as these can have potentially profound implications on the dynamics of the nursing workforce, including numbers and distribution of nurses which effects equity of access to healthcare.

Implications for wider healthcare services

Increasingly complex interrelationships between trade, workforce, regulation, and provision of public services have potential implications for healthcare systems globally.



Workshop facilitates understanding the complementarity of trade and health disciplines, World Trade Organisation November 2017
accessed from https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/photo_gallery_e/photo_gallery_e.htm?subject=PF17 downloaded 20/07/2019

Implications for future trade agreements



Workshop facilitates understanding the complementarity of trade and health disciplines, World Trade Organisation November 2017 downloaded from https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/photo_gallery_e/photo_gallery_e.htm?subject=PF17 accessed 20/07/2019

Trade agreements **must** be negotiated with a clear understanding of the complex interrelationships between regulation, the provisions of health care and other community services.

Implications for future trade agreements

Nurses understand the complex context and interrelationships across all aspects of health service provision.

This knowledge **must** be available and utilised by trade negotiators and policy makers to anticipate unintended consequences, mitigate challenges and enhance benefits of trade agreements for health services.



World Trade Organisation November 2017 downloaded from https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/photo_gallery_e/photo_gallery_e.htm?subject=PF17 accessed 20/07/2019

Thank you

Contact

dianna.kidgell@monash.edu