



# COMMONWEALTH NURSES FEDERATION

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## MATERNAL HEALTH UPDATES in Sierra Leone

The CNF has been conducting maternal health updates in Sierra Leone in partnership with the Sierra Leone Nurses Association and the Sierra Leone Ministry of Health. The maternal health updates were funded by the Burdett Trust for Nursing. Training sessions were conducted in May in three Sierra Leone districts: Kenema, Bo and the Western District of Freetown. In February, training sessions were conducted in Freetown and Makeni. A report of the training sessions will be available on the CNF website in the near future.



KENEMA



BO



WESTERN DISTRICT FREETOWN

## DENOSA AND CNF PARTNER TO DELIVER SAFETY TRAINING

The CNF recently partnered with the Democratic Nursing Organisation of South Africa (DENOSA) to offer a safety workshop at DENOSA headquarters in Pretoria. The safety training focused on a safe patient, a safe workplace, a safe profession, and a safe nurse. DENOSA plans to replicate the training in other areas of South Africa. A report of the training will shortly be available on the CNF website.



## AFRICAN REGULATORY COLLABORATIVE 2<sup>nd</sup> Summative Congress

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Summative Congress of the African Regulatory Collaborative (ARC) was held in Johannesburg 20-22 June. The ARC is a partnership between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Emory University; the East, Central and Southern Africa Health Community; the Commonwealth Secretariat; and the Commonwealth Nurses Federation, which aims to support improvements in nursing and midwifery regulations and standards in the east, central and southern Africa region. In 2011, five countries received a small grant to work on regulatory improvements (Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Seychelles and Swaziland). The Summative Congress provided an opportunity for those countries to report on their progress. Six countries have received small grants in 2012 (Botswana, Kenya, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zimbabwe). Further information is available on the CNF website: <http://www.commonwealthnurses.org>.





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The East, Central and Southern African College  
of Nursing (ECSACON)

## 10<sup>th</sup> SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

Port Louis Mauritius 5-7 September 2012

*Acceleration toward attainment of Millennium Development  
Goals through revitalizing primary health care: nurses and  
midwives sharing high impact interventions.*

<http://www.ecsahc.org>



SOUTH PACIFIC  
NURSES FORUM

### 16th South Pacific Nurses Forum

*The future of nursing and midwifery: where are we heading?*

Monday 19 - Thursday 22 November 2012

Leonda By The Yarra Hawthorn, Victoria, Australia

For more information go to: <http://www.spnf.org.au>



### 10<sup>th</sup> CNF Europe Region Conference

*Advancing nursing and midwifery through evidence based  
practice*

15-16 March 2013 Larnaca Cyprus

### CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Closing date for abstracts: Friday 14 December 2012

For more information go to: <http://www.cyna.org>;

## THE WHO LAUNCHES PATIENT SAFETY GUIDE

The World Health Organisation recently launched the first global patient safety curriculum for health care workers, covering doctors, nurses, midwives, dentists and pharmacists. The curriculum promotes a new approach to health care, putting patients at the centre of care and embedding a culture of patient safety in health care institutions. The WHO said the current state of patient safety worldwide is deeply concerning and error occurs in approximately 10% of all hospital admissions. Key topics in the curriculum include:

- \* Managing clinical risks in health care,
- \* Understanding complex health systems,
- \* Recognising adverse events and hazards,
- \* Teamwork and clear communication,
- \* Engaging the patient and carer,
- \* Sustaining a culture of patient safety, and
- \* Improving medication safety.

Professor Merrilyn Walton, lead author in the development of the curriculum, said silos that currently operate between health care professionals act as a barrier to implementing a patient centred approach. Undergraduate students once they enter the hospital system find it difficult to maintain safe practice when the culture around them is not modelling best practice in areas such as hand hygiene, patient safety checklists and patient engagement.

*The patient safety curriculum guide: multi-professional  
edition* and supporting documents can be downloaded at:  
[http://www.who.int/patientsafety/education/curriculum/Curriculum\\_Tools/en/](http://www.who.int/patientsafety/education/curriculum/Curriculum_Tools/en/).

## ICN CALLS FOR THE WHO TO EMPLOY MORE NURSES

The International Council of Nurses (ICN) has raised serious concerns regarding the number of nurses in permanent policy making positions within the World Health Organisation. Data from the WHO human resources annual report of December 2011, cited by the ICN, reveals that only 0.7% of professional staff are nurses, while 90.5% are medical specialists; 2.5% are dietitians and nutritionists, and 2.0% pharmacists. As nurses make up the largest number of health professionals in most health systems, the number of nurses employed by the WHO is clearly inadequate. The ICN is calling on all national nursing associations and professional nursing organisations to lobby their governments and the WHO to employ more nurses. A fact sheet providing a detailed description of the situation and references is available at: <http://www.icn.ch>.

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