

2021 NCSBN Annual Meeting - The Pandemic and Lessons Learned from the WHO Video Transcript

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Event

2021 NCSBN Annual Meeting

More info: <https://www.ncsbn.org/15915.htm>

Presenter

and regroup, it is clear that we now have an opportunity to influence healthcare strategy, a mandate to lead in government and make the necessary shifts in policy and action.

To act as agents of change, we must ensure that our guidance, our strategies, and programs of transformation are informed by high-quality, accurate and current data. Another source of data becomes the evidence for change. This was evident in May this year when there was a historic moment with nursing when all member states endorsed a resolution at the 74th World Health Assembly.

The resolution was informed by the Global Strategic Directions for Nursing and Midwifery 2021 - 2025. Its policy priorities in four major areas, education, jobs, leadership, and service delivery will strengthen both nursing and midwifery and I hope it will ensure the further development of nurses as leaders at the most senior level in governments.

We know there is varying presence of nursing leadership in senior national posts, and our voice is often

Dr. Tedros has said that this would protect health workers and those in most risk, effectively ending the acute stage of the pandemic and saving a lot of lives. Also, it is not the role of the WHO to make vaccines mandatory amongst healthcare workers. I encourage those who are hesitant or anxious about having a vaccine to make informed decisions based on to update evidence from WHO.

By early July, WHO recorded that 540,260,775 people were fully vaccinated. That is 6.84% of the entire 7.9 billion world population. This includes 99.7 per 100 people in the USA, 113.5 per 100 in the UK, 45 per 100 in Brazil, 87 per 100 in Germany, and 0.8 in Zambia, only 0.17 per 100 in the Democratic Republic of Congo who are the least vaccinated countries in the world.

While this shows us that it is possible to vaccinate entire countries in a short space of time, it also highlights the huge inequalities that exist in the healthcare delivery between high and low income populations. Not only access to vaccines, but access to good healthcare must continue to be our goal as we learn our lessons from the pandemic and as we build our strategies around the Global Strategic Directions for Nursing and Midwifery.

We have learned that we need to strengthen our numbers, that we need to provide an educated and regulated profession, and that we need to lead the design and the delivery of healthcare services that can react and respond to whatever challenges we face in the years to come. Health for all must be our