

THE REGIONAL NETWORK OF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY EDUCATORS (RNNME)

The inauguration of the Regional Network for Nursing and Midwifery Educators (RNNME) is a strategic engagement of professional nurses to gain consensus, increase and strengthen the academic level of current and future nursing and midwifery educators that reflect global standards and improves the quality of nursing and midwifery education and research in the region.

Based on the foregoing, the RNNME was launched at the Accra Hotel, Barbados, October 10, 2007 with Nursing and Midwifery Educators representing Antigua, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Jamaica, St. Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, the UWI (Mona & St Augustine), Trinidad and Tobago (Appendix1). The launch was enabled at a luncheon meeting hosted by the Duke University School of Nursing in partnership with PAHO/WHO at its inaugural conference on “*Managing Cardiovascular diseases in the Elderly*”.

MISSION

The mission of the RNNME is to increase the academic credentials of current nursing and midwifery educators as well as supporting graduate level education for all future nursing and midwifery educators in the region thus improving the quality of nursing and midwifery education and research. RNNME will give voice and provide leadership for nursing and midwifery education and research in the CARICOM region. The RNNME will promote scholarship among nursing educators to influence best practices and excellence in teaching and learning.

FOCAL AREAS

The RNNME will focus on policies, capacity building, collaborative partnerships, best educational practices, standards in nursing and midwifery education and policies in the following areas:

- Higher Education for nursing and midwifery educators
- Competency and Evidence-based nursing/ midwifery curriculum and teaching/learning models
- Scholarship and Research capacity development
- Database development and maintenance
- Higher-level test items for Regional Examination for Nurse Registration (RENRR) Bank
- Regional Accreditation Standards and criteria for nursing and midwifery education
- Educational Technology for resource development and online programme delivery
- Specialization-based education programmes and experts (CCHII priorities)
- Accessible academic programmes through face-to-face, web-based and virtual methodology

ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES

- **Workshops**
- **Regional forums/meetings**
- **Conferences**

STRUCTURE

Membership will include all nursing and midwifery educators in the CARICOM region

Objectives are to:

- a. Build a cadre of nursing and midwifery educators at higher education levels and who are on par with counterparts and comparable with global standards and the changing needs in the region
- b. Develop and maintain a regional database of nursing and midwifery educators
- c. Provide a regional forum for addressing issues pertinent to the educational technology, advancement of nursing and midwifery education, scholarship and building capacity to integrate technology into nursing and midwifery education
- d. Strengthen the professional development of nursing and midwifery educators and contribute to the body of knowledge through research and dissemination of findings at conferences and publication in the regional publication- *Caribbean Journal for Nursing and Midwifery* and in international peer review journals and books
- e. Promote best practices and the upholding of high standards in nursing and midwifery educational practices through accreditation and adherence to global standards and constructive engagement with international scholars
- f. Advise regional entities on policies pertinent to educational practices and which address quality standards and accreditation in nursing and midwifery education
- g. Collaborate with RNB, other relevant regional authorities and international communities/organizations in determining and maintaining standards in nursing and midwifery education practices
- h. Promote the use of educational technology and online curriculum delivery in the education of nurses and midwives and in attaining higher education for educators.