

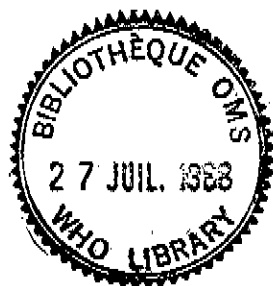
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GLOBAL  
PROGRAMME  
ON AIDS

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CONSULTATION ON  
NURSING AND  
HIV INFECTION

GENEVA  
7-9 MARCH 1988



WORLD  
HEALTH  
ORGANIZATION

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## Consultation on nursing and HIV infection

Geneva, 7-9 March 1988

A WHO technical consultation on nursing\* and HIV infection was jointly organized by the Global Programme on AIDS (GPA) and the Nursing Unit (NUR) of the Division of Health Manpower Development in Geneva from 7-9 March 1988. The seventeen participants from fourteen countries included the WHO Regional Nursing Officers, experts in the fields of curriculum design, infection control and AIDS care, and representatives from the International Council of Nurses (ICN), International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) and the World Council of Churches.

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### The consultation had three objectives:

1. finalize WHO/ICN Guidelines for the nursing care of persons with HIV infection;
2. review a core curriculum model for basic nursing education courses;
3. make further recommendations to WHO on the role of nurses in the prevention of HIV infection.

The meeting endorsed the WHO/ICN Guidelines for nursing management of HIV infection, and the AIDS basic nursing education modules.

Those present agreed actively to support the implementation of the guidelines and to encourage the integration of the modules into the curricula of nursing schools.

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### The consultation made the following recommendations:

1. The participants, realising the seriousness of the AIDS crisis, stress the urgent need for strengthening the leadership role of nurses to:
  - mobilize, emphasize and exemplify the empathy and humanism called for in caring for HIV-infected people;
  - identify nursing approaches, through primary health care, to enhance the effectiveness of AIDS prevention and control;
  - reinforce the role of nurses to protect human rights;
  - keep abreast of current information, adapting and disseminating this information.

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2. The participants, in conformity with WHO's Global Programme on AIDS, urge the ICN and the ICM to:

- reinforce the communication linkages bilaterally and internationally, between nongovernmental and voluntary nursing organizations in relation to AIDS prevention and control;
- stimulate the exchange of all relevant information concerning developments in nursing;
- continue to highlight and implement effective nursing educational strategies and preventive measures to protect individuals against HIV transmission;
- promote the application and implementation of the WHO/ICN Guidelines for Nursing/Midwifery Management of HIV infection at the national level;
- encourage the integration of the WHO AIDS basic nursing education modules into the curricula of nursing schools.

3. The participants request the World Health Organization to:

- stimulate active participation of nurses in National AIDS Committees;
- stimulate the development of a nursing component in national AIDS control plans;
- promote the involvement of nursing in regional AIDS prevention and control activities;
- recognize nursing as an important source of consultancy to participate in country missions;
- make available technical and financial support to conduct workshops for nurse managers and nurse educators at regional levels to:
  - encourage ministries of health to apply and implement the WHO/ICN Guidelines for Nursing/Midwifery Management of HIV infection;
  - adapt the WHO AIDS basic nursing education modules to local conditions and encourage integration into the curriculum of nursing schools;
  - train a core group of trainers in each region actively to strengthen nursing involvement in AIDS health education activities.

\* The term nurse/nursing includes midwife/midwifery