Nursing in Kenya

Role of the Private Nurse Practitioner and the educational needs for that role

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Kenya

- Population 34.3 million
- Independent from Britain in 1963
- Politically stable until elections in December 2007
Venue for visit

- Central Highlands of Kenya
- Province of Nyere
- Nyere town
- Surrounding rural area
Background to the project

ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED

Bournemouth University
Vanderbilt University
Burning Bush incorporated
Partnerships in Health Information
Levels of Health Care

- Dispensary with one nurse
- Health centre 2 nurses and a medical officer
- Sub-district Hospital
- District Hospitals
- Provincial Hospitals
Mount Kenya Cluster Group

- Set up in 1999 to support Private Nurse practitioners with NGO support
- 38 active members
- 4 RNs others are EN
- Majority over retirement age of 55 years
- Provides a means of sharing experiences
- Gives emotional support and reduces sense of isolation
- Opportunity to contribute financially to provide continuing professional education
Services provided by PNPs

- Curative
- Preventive
- Family planning
- Ante and post natal care and delivery
- Voluntary counselling and testing
- Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission
- Dispensary
- Laboratory services
20 Bedded Hospital
Opened 1962 by Josephine Gikunju
Kariumba Medical Clinic
John Kaburia and his wife
Ebenezer Medical Centre
Joyce Macharia set up in 1998
Samaria Maternity Clinic

Built 2004

Supported by Burning Bush Incorporated
New Life Home Trust Orphanage
Nurse Education

- 85% Kenyan nurses trained at Certificate level
- One RN (trained at Diploma level) per 27,000 people
- Bachelor of Nursing and higher degrees programmes available at Universities
- Since early 1980’s programmes have become Community Health focussed
Kenya Medical Training centre

- 27 Colleges across Kenya
- Attached to hospitals
- Prepare nurses to Enrolment, Registration
- Upgrade programme from EN to RN
- Post-basic education at Diploma level
- CPD to provide annual licensure
- Prepare Nutrition and Medical Assistants
Kenya Medical Training School at Nyere
Nyeri Medical Training College

- Provides RN training
- Upgrading for ENs
- Collaboration with AMREF in support of e-learning programme for ENs
- Cybercafe with computers and IT support from AMREF
- Poor resources otherwise
- Library unavailable
Practical Skills Room
University of Nairobi

- School of Nursing
- Dr Joyce Musandu
- Courses up to Doctoral level
- Until 2006 part of medical faculty
- Seeking student and faculty exchanges
Nursing Council of Kenya
Role of Council in relation to Private Nurse Practitioners

- Upgrading only available for Enrolled Nurse Community Health
- Apply in writing and are interviewed to obtain a licence to practice privately
- Inspection by a national level group and monthly reports made to District medical Boards
- Learning centres set up to provide e-learning facilities
National Nurses Association of Kenya
Role of National Nurses Association

- Membership of 8000 = 30% of total practitioners
- Plans to increase to 15000 by 2008
- 45 Branches and 10 Chapters
- PNP Chapter is active
- Chapters have annual conferences
- Set up of cluster groups funded by Intrahealth (US NGO) Funding now withdrawn
Goals of NNAK

- To Support the upgrading of the EN
- To support university education
- Provide an investment company where nurses buy shares and reap dividends
- Support the ICN Girl Child and a Boy Child project
ICN Mobile libraries

- 25 available for Kenya
- 3 Trunks in NNAK offices
- Funding available for distribution
Future Plans

- Proposal put forward by Rosemary Kamunya cluster leader in Nyere
- Approved by Burning Bush Inc.
- Building of education centre with facilities for storage and distribution of supplies
- 2 Centres of excellence to be created at Nyere (south) and Ndathi (north)
- Develop partnerships with US and UK to upgrade health workers
- Systems of mentorship and support to be put in place