



COMMONWEALTH NURSES AND MIDWIVES FEDERATION

e-News Vol.18 Issue 8 August 2025

WORLD EVIDENCE BASED HEALTHCARE DAY 20 October



To plan or join celebratory activities – go to
<https://worldebhcd.org/2025>

The World Evidence Based Healthcare Day was launched in 2022 and is celebrated on 20 October each year. The theme for World Evidence Based Healthcare Day 2025 is: *Collaborative Knowledge Communication*. The value and legitimacy of evidence based healthcare knowledge is constantly under attack – particularly right now, with the rise and spread of ‘fake news’, and social media influencers encouraging ‘treatments’ without evidence.

The World Evidence Based Healthcare website explains that in evidence-based healthcare, knowledge should not come only from scientific evidence (such as clinical trials, observational studies, and systematic reviews), but also from community values and preferences, clinical expertise, policy judgement, contextual understanding, evaluation of existing approaches, and experiences.

There are also different forms of knowledge: Explicit knowledge is documented, for example guidelines or clinical protocols. Implicit knowledge is gained through experience. Tacit knowledge is deeply personal, intuitive knowledge gained through lived experience. Indigenous knowledge includes spiritual, cultural and social knowing. Evidence, values, and experience each represent different yet equally valid ways of knowing.

Collaborative knowledge communication involves the exchange of information, ideas, and expertise in creative and collaborative ways to facilitate decision-making, problem-solving, and innovation based on shared knowledge.

A NEW CHAPTER FOR IFCO A tribute to Dr Nicholas Watts



IFCO stands for Independent Forum of Commonwealth Organisations. IFCO came into existence in 2016 to serve as a forum where Commonwealth accredited civil society organisations could meet together; network; exchange ideas and activities; and share in the development of joint responses to, and joint positions on, issues of mutual interest.

Since its inception, IFCO has been chaired by Dr Nicholas Watts who, during his long term in office, was a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for Commonwealth Studies.

It is a tremendous credit to Nicholas that he has been able to guide IFCO, from its very shaky and uncertain beginnings, to become an organisation that now values itself, has clarity about its role, and is developing more formal structures, such as a new constitution and elected office bearers.

Leading and developing a new and very large organisation, whose members have widely different mandates and objectives, while navigating the complex environment that surrounds the official Commonwealth structures and Commonwealth accredited civil society, is quite a challenge. The CNMF would like to formally congratulate Nicholas on his perseverance, dedication, skill and commitment which has brought IFCO to the point where it can confidently take the next step in its development. Well done Nicholas and thank you.

Nicholas will continue to be involved in Commonwealth activities through his representation of the Commonwealth Association of Museums.



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CHILDREN FOR HEALTH

Children for Health researches, develops, promotes and delivers child-focused health education materials around the world, in a relevant, fun and compelling way which delivers immediate and lasting benefits in disease prevention and treatment.

These materials are free and are distributed effectively and efficiently through print, website, video, radio, text and mobile.

Some of the topics include: immunisation; malaria; diarrhoea; nutrition; intestinal worms; HIV and AIDS; water, sanitation and hygiene; coughs, colds and pneumonia; oral health; menstruation; anaemia; ebola; and coronavirus among many others.

The poster below illustrates ten messages to children about preventing and responding to accidents. To any nurse and midwife working with children the Children for Health website is well worth exploring.



<https://www.childrenforhealth.org/>

