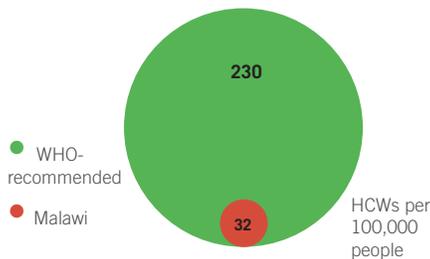


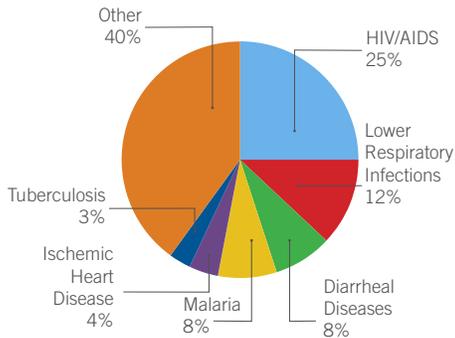
About: NEPI is addressing critical shortages of health care workers in six sub-Saharan African countries: Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Malawi, South Africa, and Zambia.

Key Health Challenges

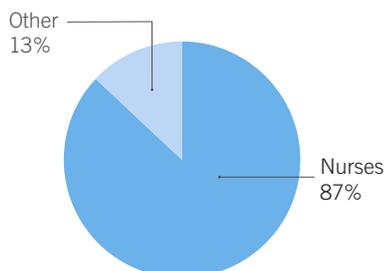
Health Care Worker Density in Malawi



Leading Causes of Death in Malawi



Health Care Providers in Rural Malawi



Background

In rural Malawi, nurses and midwives account for over 90 percent of health care providers. An acute shortage of health care workers coupled with a high disease burden, however, is placing considerable strain on the existing workforce. In Malawi, where the HIV prevalence rate is over 11 percent, sufficient numbers of adequately trained nurses are needed to address essential population-based health care needs, including antiretroviral treatment for HIV.

In 2011, ICAP launched the **Nursing Education Partnership Initiative (NEPI)** with support from the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through U.S. Health Resource and Service Administration (HRSA) to improve the quantity and quality of the nursing and midwifery workforce. Through NEPI, ICAP is working in partnership with Malawi's Ministry of Health (MOH) to enhance nursing and midwifery education at four institutions:

- Kamuzu College of Nursing at the University of Malawi
- Malawi College of Health Sciences
- Mzuzu University
- Nurses and Midwives Council of Malawi

In Malawi, NEPI is addressing the following challenges to nursing and midwifery education: 1) limited number of tutors and clinical preceptors 2) limited capacity to meet the needs of an increased number of students 3) under-resourced teaching and learning facilities; and 4) limited opportunities for advanced study and career development.

Achievements

Strengthening Nursing Education Infrastructure

NEPI is working to expand enrollment of pre-service nursing and midwifery students by: improving student access to rural practicum sites; upgrading classrooms; and outfitting skills labs where nursing and midwifery students complete clinical placements. Examples of NEPI's impact in Malawi:

- Established a fully equipped laboratory at Mzuzu University.
- Provided evehicles to support student transportation.
- Procured laptops and over desktop computers for NEPI partner schools and the Nurses and Midwives Council of Malawi.

Improving the Capacity of Nursing and Midwifery Faculty

NEPI is improving the capacity of nurses and midwives in Malawi by expanding educational and career advancement opportunities for nursing and midwifery faculty.

- Supported the development of a new PhD program for nurses in Inter-Professional Health Care Leadership--one of only two PhD programs in Africa.
- Supported the development of a two-year Masters in Nursing and Midwifery Education at Kamuzu College of Nursing.

Improving the Quality and Relevance of Teaching and Learning

NEPI is improving the quality of teaching and learning through the introduction of competency-based curricula, clinical preceptorship, and innovative teaching techniques.

Malawi

Nursing Education Partnership Initiative

About ICAP: A global leader in HIV/AIDS and health systems strengthening, ICAP provides technical assistance and implementation support to governments and NGOs in more than 21 countries. ICAP has supported work at more than 5,250 health facilities around the world and more than 2.5 million people have received HIV treatment through ICAP-supported programs.

Key Achievements

First-year students enrolled in pre-service education programs:

1,910

Number of students graduating from pre-service training programs:

1,330

Number of students successfully completing skills labs:

2,400

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- Developed a six-week university certificate in clinical preceptorship at Mzuzu University to train nurses as preceptors.
- Established four clinical model wards at four teaching hospitals: Kamuzu Central Hospital, Kasungu District Hospital, Mzuzu Central Hospital, Ntcheu District Hospital, and Zomba Central Hospital.
- Provided students two-year scholarships in nursing and midwifery education at Kamuzu College of Nursing.
- Provided nursing students three-year scholarships to Mzuzu University.
- Provided nursing students two-year scholarships to Malawi College of Health and Sciences for post-basic diplomas.
- Piloted and launched Option B+ online training for nurses and midwives for the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV at Mzuzu University and Malawi College of Health Sciences.

Strengthening Governance, Leadership, and Administrative Capacity of Nursing Education Institutions

NEPI is providing technical assistance and capacity-building support for regulatory councils to strengthen leadership, education and financial management, and quality assurance at nursing education institutions.

- Developed new Nursing and Midwifery Education Standards to guide training and practice across institutions and ensure standard accreditation.
- Supported the re-training of nurses and midwives in licensure assessment.
- Supported the training of technical and finance staff.

Enhancing Partnerships in Nursing Education Networks

NEPI is working to enhance partnerships between clinical services, and national and regional nursing and midwifery education institutions involved in pre-service education.

- Supported education partnerships between the MOH, Mzuzu University, and four hospitals (Mzuzu, Ntcheu, Zomba, Kasungu) to re-establish model teaching wards.
- Supported the development of the Clinical Practicum Placement Coordinator Forum to ensure nursing students have equal access to clinical learning opportunities.
- Facilitated the National Nurse Leaders and Tutors Forum between nurses and tutors to improve clinical teaching of nursing and midwifery students.
- Promoted south-to-south technical assistance partnerships with:
 - East, Central and Southern African College of Nursing (ECSACON)
 - Forum of University Nursing Departments in South Africa (FUNDISA)

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