



COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL NEONATAL NURSES
POLICY DAY: A CALL TO ACTION
OCTOBER 23, 2010

MAKE THE WORLD SAFE FOR BABIES

The Council of International Neonatal Nurses, Inc. (COINN) has been a leader in neonatal nursing, globally. Participating in the World Health Organization's (WHO) Partnership for Safe Motherhood and Newborn Health, as an Affiliate of the International Council of Nurses (ICN), and most recently joining the White Ribbon Alliance, COINN has had the opportunity to work on the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDG), specifically MDG #4 which calls for a two thirds reduction in under five years of age mortality. One third of the infant/child deaths occur during the neonatal period. Of these 75% occur in the first week and about 1/3 of these within the first 24 hours. Forty to seventy percent of these are preventable through basic inexpensive interventions such as providing hygienic conditions during delivery and after birth or providing nurses and health care workers with basic knowledge of neonatal care. (1-2). The causes of this morbidity and mortality are mostly preventable (i.e., infections such as malaria, pneumonia, tetanus, and diarrhea) through immunizations and the appropriate hygienic environmental conditions such as clean water. Progress has been made to combat the under five years of age mortality rate, with the death rate decreasing from 12.6 million in 1990 to about 9 million in 2007.

The purpose of this day is to gather experts in the area of maternal-child health and policy to offer projects to be undertaken and policies that need to be enacted in order to make the world a safe place for newborn infants.



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Invited Speakers



Joy is an African-born pediatrician and perinatal epidemiologist. She has 20 years experience in newborn health especially in Africa, including 4 years as a lecturer and neonatologist in Ghana. She shifted to public health and global estimation whilst at the WHO Collaborating Center, CDC Atlanta, USA (1998-2001), and then at the Institute of Child Health, London, UK (2001-2004), completing a Masters of Public Health at Emory University, Atlanta and PhD at University College London.

She is now Director Global Evidence and Policy with the Gates-funded Saving Newborn Lives program of Save the Children-US. She works with governments and partners to integrate, scale up and evaluate newborn care, particularly in Africa, including a network of 6 large-scale effectiveness trials.

Dr. Stephanie Ferguson,



A former White House Fellow under President William Clinton, she worked with U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Schalala. She was on staff at the International Council of Nurses (ICN) and acted as liaison and consultant to WHO. She led the Leadership for Change Program at the INC. She served as consultant to the Chief Nurses Scientists of WHO and has been instrumental in policy development impacting women's and children's health.



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Professor Phillida Nomusa Nzimande,



a Registered nurse, midwife, educator and researcher. Professor Nzimande has worked as an advocate for nursing throughout her career. She established three nursing organizations including the Democratic Nursing Organization of South Africa (DENOSA), where she served as the first President. She established a nursing college in 1976 and was the first Black South African Nurse to be awarded a master's of nursing degree by a South African University. Many South African nurses migrate to the United Kingdom (UK). To meet the needs of these nurses and to foster health policy work in both the UK and SA the Association of South African Nurses in the UK (ASANUK) was formed. This work won her the prestigious Dame Nita Barrow Memorial Lecture Award.

Dr. Margo Pritchard,



A neonatal nurse and midwife with a BA in political science awarded a PhD from the School of Medicine, The University of Queensland. Dr. Pritchard has focused her work on epidemiology, screening, early behavioral interventions, post-partum depression, and long-term development of the high-risk infant and family. She



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8:30 am	Registration
9:00 am	Opening and Welcome Carole Kenner, President COINN
9:15-11:15 am	The Context of Maternal-Child Health Globally-Drs. Lawn and Ferguson

This presentation will consist of each of our distinguished guests presenting will present the global data on neonatal, infant, and childhood morbidity and mortality along with some data on clean water, access to health services, health care financing, work force, and economic data. This presentation will lay out the context into which babies are born and children live. In addition to data from developing countries, we also will explore the urban-rural issues in both developed and developing countries as well as minority disparities in developed and developing countries.

11:15-11:30 am Question and Answers

11:30-11:45 am Break

11:45 am- 1:00 pm Education, Research, and Policy Initiatives-Drs. Nzimande and Pritchard

This session will explore educational projects that must be implemented to ensure that the work force and community members are able to make the world a safer place for babies. We also will have a paper on policy recommendations that should be implemented if we are to ensure the success of educational initiatives.

1:00-2:15 pm Lunch

2:15-3:15 pm Analysis and Charge for COINN-Dr. Ferguson
A discussion and analysis of the day's ideas and offer critiques of what has been suggested.

3:15-3:30 pm Break

3:30-4:30 pm Call to Action-Future Work for COINN: Priority Setting
Participants will engage in dialog with Distinguished Guests and COINN BOD to determine Action agenda for COINN.

4:30 pm Reception-Celebration!



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References

1. Jacobsen, K.H. (2008). *Introduction to global health*. Sudbury, MA: Jones & Bartlett.
2. Lawn, J.E., Cousens, S., Zupen, J. for Lancet Neonatal Survival Steering Team (2005). Neonatal Survival 1.4 million neonatal deaths: When? Where? Why? *Lancet*, 365, 821-822.