Forced migration: Sexual and Reproductive Health of Migrant Women

Facilitators

Prof. Dr. Eva Cignacco, Bern University of Applied Sciences, Department of Health Professions (Switzerland)

MSc Paola Origlia, Bern University of Applied Sciences, Department of Health Professions (Switzerland)

Lic. Phil. Milena Wegelin, University of Applied Sciences, Department of Health Professions (Switzerland)

MAS Emma Stirling Cameron, Dalhousie University, Halifax, (Canada)

Lic. Phil. Jean Anthony Grand-Guillaume-Perrenoud, Bern University of Applied Sciences, Department of Health Professions (Switzerland)

External Lecturers

Prof. Dr. Ines Keygnaert, Ghent University, Department of Public Health & Primary Care. International Centre for Reproductive Health (ICRH) / Centre for Social Studies on Migration and Refugees (CESSMIR) / UGent Human Rights Research Network (HRRN).

Description

Sexual and reproductive health is a fundamental human right and critical component of women’s quality of life. The ramifications and challenges of forced displacement, migration, and resettlement complicate access to sexual and reproductive health for asylum seeking, refugee, and undocumented women and their families. Barriers to healthcare, health literacy, and heightened rates of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) contribute to worsened SRH health outcomes for women and their infants.

The purpose of this course is to understand:

- Sexual and reproductive healthcare
- Specific SRH risks for women in forced migration (SGBV)
- Processes of forced displacement and limited access to care (in transit, in refugee camps and after displacement)
- Best practice models to improve SRH access and outcomes for women in forced migration
Course content will prove relevant to students from a variety of backgrounds, including medicine, epidemiology, psychology, sociology, public health, nursing, midwifery, international development, and social work. Expertise will be shared by an interdisciplinary team of lecturers in the fields of midwifery, health promotion, nursing, public health, and sociology. No prior knowledge of sexual and reproductive health or forced displacement and migration is required.

Objectives

Participants in this course will be able to:
1. Acquire a theoretically founded knowledge related to specific sexual and reproductive health concerns of women in the context of forced migration.
2. Acquire an understanding of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) in the context of forced migration.
3. Develop a grounded understanding of sexual and reproductive risks that women are exposed to during the migration route and in their country of refuge.
4. Develop an understanding of possible barriers and facilitators to sexual and reproductive health services and supports after resettlement or while seeking asylum.

Dates

15 – 17 November 2023

Eligibility

SSPH+ IGC PhD students, external PhD students, postdocs, lecturers, health care practitioners

Course Structure

The three-day course encompasses a series of lectures, group learning sessions, presentation of research projects, expertise sharing of NGOs and healthcare workers on the ground.

Assessment

Active participation in course, homework

Credits

1 ECTS

Preliminary Work: 4 h; Contact time: 18 h; Wrap-Up Work: 8 h
(1 ECTS corresponds to appr. 25-30 hours workload)
**Location**
Bern University of Applied Sciences in Bern, room tba

**Course Fees**

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SSPH+IGC Students</td>
<td>30 CHF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postdocs from SSPH+ partner institutes</td>
<td>30 CHF</td>
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<tr>
<td>External PhD students and MD students</td>
<td>500 CHF</td>
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<td>Others</td>
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**Registration**
[www.conftool.com/ssph-phd-courses2023](http://www.conftool.com/ssph-phd-courses2023)

**Deadline for registration**
15 October 2023

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