

Forced migration: Sexual and Reproductive Health of Migrant Women

Facilitators

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

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

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

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

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

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 sexualized violence contribute to worsened SRH health outcomes for women and their infants. The purpose of this course is to understand:

- Sexual and reproductive healthcare, processes of forced displacement and resettlement, and how this shapes access to care
- The specific SRH risks migrant women are exposed to
- Factors that may limit women's access to SRH before displacement, in transit, in refugee camps, and after displacement
- Best practice models to improve SRH access and outcomes for migrant women

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 psychology. No prior knowledge of sexual and reproductive health or forced displacement and migration is required, though it is expected that students prepare for the course through pre-lecture readings/videos and self-reflection.

Objectives

Participants in this course will be able to:

1. Acquire solid knowledge related to specific sexual and reproductive health concerns of women in the context of forced migration.
2. Develop a grounded understanding of sexual and reproductive risks women are exposed to during the migration route and in their country of refuge.
3. Develop an understanding of possible barriers and facilitators to sexual and reproductive health services and supports after resettlement or while seeking asylum.

Specific objectives:

1. Define sexual and reproductive health and how this is impacted by the process of forced displacement.
2. Understand the concepts of diversity, social inequality, vulnerability, and the social determinants of health and their relationship to the sexual and reproductive health of women.
3. To analyze and critically assess barriers and facilitators to SRH and how these contribute to health inequalities looking at the situation in several countries (e.g. CH, GR, CND).
4. Recognize specific risks facing migrant women in conflict, transit, and resettlement, and how they can lead to negative health outcomes.
5. Understand concepts of health literacy, cultural competency, and its influence on health access after resettlement.

Dates

16 – 18 March 2022

Eligibility

SSPH+ IGC PhD students, external PhD students, postdocs, lecturers

Course Structure

The three-day course on SRH of migrant women encompasses a series of lectures, videos, research examples, expertise of NGO and healthcare workers, as well as pre-course reading and preparation.

Assessment	Final evaluation project								
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	Depending on the pandemic situation the course will be offered either at the Bern University of Applied Sciences in Bern or online on zoom								
Course Fees	<table><tr><td>SSPH+ PhD Students</td><td>30.- CHF (processing fee)</td></tr><tr><td>External MD/PhD Students</td><td>300.- CHF</td></tr><tr><td>External Academics</td><td>850.- CHF</td></tr><tr><td>Other Participants</td><td>1250.- CHF</td></tr></table>	SSPH+ PhD Students	30.- CHF (processing fee)	External MD/PhD Students	300.- CHF	External Academics	850.- CHF	Other Participants	1250.- CHF
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Registration	https://www.conftool.com/ssph-phd-courses2022								
Deadline for registration	16 February 2022								