

Netzwerk Gesundheit für a Réseau Santé pour tous Network Health for All

WORKSHOPS

No 'business as usual' against non-communicable diseases

The global economy, politics and healthcare systems are presented with the challenges of a global epidemic

Group A:

Challenges for the organisation of NCD care

With Manfred Zahorka, Swiss TPH; Monika Christofori-Khadka, SRC & Nicusor Fota, CRED Foundation

NCD care requires a more complex set of interventions, particularly when combined with multimorbidity conditions, old age and additional social needs. Due to the lack of a cure option, activities related to the prevention of disease or disease aggravation are of high importance. Service needs are frequently beyond pure medical care and include social care and general life support. The coordination of such services remains frequently a challenge. In its World Health Assembly 2016 WHO formulated the concept of "People centred integrated Services" as a way out. The workshop discusses challenges, options and good examples on how countries, communities and service providers respond to this challenge and offers locally or regionally applied solutions and best practices.

Group B:

Addressing NCDs through health promotion at community level

With Helen Prytherch & Sunghea Park, Swiss TPH

In the context of the rising global burden of NCDs, health promotion helps to address the social and economic determinants as well as the behavioral risk factors that determine community health. We will discuss different approaches and experiences of using health promotion to increase health literacy and promote healthier lifestyles for better population health.

Questions:

- 1. NCDs and NCD-related disabilities have many social and economic determinants: how can health promotion help to address them and what are the potential limitations?
- 2. Health promotion often makes use of a settings approach (e.g. introducing interventions at schools/the workplace/markets/families/health facilities) how can this be relevant for NCDs? Please share your experiences.

Group C:

Advocacy work - political action for addressing the determinants

With Martin Leschhorn Strebel, Medicus Mundi Switzerland

Besides the challenges that the NCDs cause for health care and health systems in low- and middle income countries, NCDs cannot be addressed without ignoring the their determinants. Many of these determinants are influenced by the world economy, by the way goods are produced and the consumption patterns of people in rich countries. The Network Medicus Mundi Switzerland regards that Switzerland has a specific responsibility as a powerful business location of the food and tobacco industry. The federal government has to take over the responsibility in addressing NCDs globally by taking an active and positive role for health protection regulations globally. The next occasion could be the UN high-level meeting on NCDs 2018.

Key questions in the working group:

- Which topics that influence the NCD epidemic globally should be addressed on a global scale by the Federal Government?
- How should Switzerland's civil society influence the Swiss position at the UN high-level meeting on NCDs?