

Ethical dimensions of migration, diversity and health – implications for policy and practice in a globalised world

The workshop roundtable is being organised by the UK Faculty of Public Health in collaboration with the EUPHA section 'Ethics in public health'.

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The Session will be Chaired and supported by:

Dr Farhang Tahzib, Chair, Public Health Ethics Committee, UK Faculty of Public Health

Panelists will include:

*Angus Dawson, Professor of Bioethics and Director
Sydney Health Ethics, Sydney School of Public Health, University of Sydney*

Verina Wild, Dr., Institute of Ethics, History and Theory of Medicine, LMU Munich

*Ronald Labonte, Professor and holder of the Canada Research Chair in Contemporary
Globalization and Health Equity, University of Ottawa*

*Nadav Davidovitch, Professor of public health and health policy, Ben Gurion University of the
Negev*

Background and objectives:

There is a growing number of empirical and technical studies on the nature, scale and the service needs and economic implications of migration, diversity and health. The large body of empirical data on migrant health and changes in the world have profound ethical relevance for example around risk-benefit-analysis, justice and discrimination at the individual, micro and macro levels, in an increasingly interconnected and interdependent world, with significant health inequalities and injustice. The policy decisions and actions to address the issues though appear to be often guided by self-interest and increasing pressures to protect national interests and resources. There also appears to be a striking neglect from public health leaders to explicitly point towards and discuss ethically relevant issues; and from the discipline of public health ethics to engage more thoroughly with normative issues in relation to migration, diversity and health. The main objective of this roundtable will be to outline and discuss ethical dimensions of migration, diversity and health and implications for policy, research and practice at local, national and global level.

The workshop will reflect on questions as to how migrant health considerations are addressed in light of public health values such as solidarity and interdependence of all people and their right to resources, the interconnectedness of people and their environments, and the responses of individuals, communities and institutions of society - as key protagonists and chief stewards for health, through the organised efforts of society.

Workshop plan:

The workshop roundtable is being organised by the UK Faculty of Public Health in collaboration with the EUPHA section 'Ethics in public health'. This will be a multidisciplinary session with a panel of senior ethicists, academics, leaders in global health, and practitioners. There will be brief presentations by the panellists followed by reflection and consultations on the issues and options for next steps around policy, research and practice in a globalised world. The panellists will provide an overview of the critical ethical significance of the issue, the role and challenges of researchers and practitioners in an increasingly polarized world, the possible use of public health ethics frameworks and application to migrant health, and critically how such conceptual inquiry and understanding can be translated into policy and practice for humanity in a globalised world. . Migration policies it is suggested should be founded on shared humanity and options for shared futures on planet earth. There is a case to reimagine the earth as one country and mankind its citizens with its implications on policy and practice, for individuals, communities and the various structures and institutions of society at this time. It is hoped that the presentations, reflection and consultations will assist to systematically advance the discourse, scholarship and learning on the issue.

Main messages:

There is urgent need to advance the discourse, scholarship and learning on the ethical dimensions of migration, diversity and health and implications for policy, research and practice at the local, national and global. The proposed roundtable will share current thinking and issues and reflect and consult with participants on collaborating the next steps of the discourse, scholarship and practice.