Migrants Health, the 61st World Health Assembly Resolution and the Madrid Global Consultation

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WHO
Most migrants are healthy but conditions surrounding the migration process can pose health risks

- Poverty, social exclusion, stigma, discrimination, cultural & linguistic, legal & admin hurdles etc
- Inequalities in accessing health services
- Sub-standard quality of care
- Negative outcomes for migrants and communities
2008 WHA Resolution on Migrant Health & Global Consultation

● 2008: 61st WHA Resolution on "the health of migrants"
  - Migrant-sensitive health policies and equitable access to services;
  - Capacity building of health service providers and professionals;
  - Bi- and multi-lateral cooperation, intersectoral action

● 2010: Global Consultation on Migrant Health to:
  - Take stock of actions by MS & Stakeholders
  - Reach consensus on priority areas and strategies
  - Initiate an operational framework to assist MS and stakeholders
Paradigm shift: from exclusion to inclusion

Traditional approach:
- Exclusion
- Security
- Disease control
- National focus

Modern multi-dimensional approach:
- Inclusion
- Reduction of inequities
- Social protection in health
- Multi country & inter-sectoral policy development
Public health strategies

- Ensure migrants' health rights
- Reduce excess mortality & morbidity
- Avoid disparities in health status & access
- Minimize negative impact of the migration process
Operational Framework: Key Priorities

- Monitoring Migrant Health
- Policy-legal frameworks
- Migrant sensitive health systems
- Partnerships, networks & multi-country frameworks
Monitoring Migrants' Health, priorities

- Ensure the standardization and comparability of data on migrant health
- Support the appropriate disaggregation and analyses of migrant health information in manners that account for the diversity in migrant populations
- Improve the monitoring of migrants’ health-seeking behaviours, access to, and utilization of health services
- Map: 1. good practices in monitoring migrant health; 2. policy models for equitable access to health; and 3. migrant-inclusive health system models
- Develop useful data for decision-making and monitoring of the impact of policies and programs
Policies and legal frameworks affecting migrant health, priorities

- Adopt and implement relevant international standards on protection of migrants and respect for rights to health in national law and practice.
- Develop and implement national health policies that incorporate a public health approach to health of migrants and promote equal access, regardless of status.
- Monitor the implementation of relevant national policies, regulations and legislations responding to the health needs of migrants.
- Promote coherence among policies of different sectors that may affect migrants’ ability to access health services.
- Extend social protection in health and improve social security for all migrants.
Migrant sensitive health systems, priorities

- Ensure that health services are delivered to migrants in a culturally and linguistically appropriate way and to enforce laws and regulations that prohibit discrimination.

- Adopt measures to enhance the ability of health systems to deliver migrant inclusive services and programmes in a comprehensive, coordinated, and financially sustainable fashion.

- Enhance the continuity and quality of care received by migrants in all settings, including from NGOs and alternative providers.

- Develop the capacity of the health and relevant non-health workforce to understand and address health issues associated with migration.
Partnerships, networks & multi country frameworks, priorities

- Establish and support on going migration health dialogues and cooperation across sectors and among large cities and countries of origin, transit and destination

- Address migrant health matters in global and regional consultative migration, economic and development processes

- Harness the capacity of existing networks to promote the migrant health agenda,
Integrating health into existing key global migration platforms

- Global Migration Group
- Global Forum on Migration and Development:
- High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development in 2013
- Other Regional Platforms