

Resources from Partnerships in time of Covid-19 – THET Virtual Conference

April 25th 2020 – Hosted by THET/ESTHER Alliance/Medics Academy

<https://www.thet.org/>

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Keynote

Welcome from Lord Crisp, co-Chair of the APPG on Global Health, UK Parliament and co-Chair of the Nursing Now campaign.

Short welcome. Ben Simms, CEO, THET & Conference Chair

Solidarity in the time of COVID-19. Hon Dr Joyce Kaducu, State Minister for Primary Care, Uganda

Impact of Covid-19 on health workers. Professor Dr Julia Del Amo, National Centre for Epidemiology, Spain

Striking the balance: COVID-19 & the maintenance of quality essential health services. Dr Ed Kelley, WHO

- The importance of politicians being trained on Covid-19, Dr Mwebesa Henry, Director General of Health Services, Uganda Ministry of Health expressed recently can be accessed here on [the Independent](#).
- Private sector shows solidarity in fight against COVID-19 on [Sunrise](#).
- COVID-19: Operational guidance for maintaining essential health services during an outbreak from WHO can be accessed [here](#).
- Continuing essential Sexual, Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, Child and Adolescent Health services during COVID-19 pandemic, Operational guidance for South and South-East Asia and Pacific Regions (WHO/UNFPA/UNICEF) can be accessed [here](#).
- Spain launches drug trial into preventing coronavirus contagion among health workers (EPICOS Study). More info can be accessed [here](#).
- [‘We must work together to fight Covid-19 outbreak’ \(DFID\)](#)
- First ever State of the World’s Nursing report launched amid COVID19 pandemic can be accessed on WHO [here](#).
- You can join national Nursing Now group [here](#).

- Dr. Monica Musenero, featured as ['The woman at Covid-19 battlefront'](#)
- From Dr. Ed Kelley from WHO, It is no "one size fits all" and has to be a choice that is about "healthy societies" not just about case numbers. But [here](#) is one of WHO's documents on this topic.

Perspectives from the frontline

To anchor the conference in an understanding of the challenge faced by frontline health workers

**Spotlight on the impact Covid-19 is having on one health system: the UK National Health Service.
Discussion facilitated by Dr Saleyha Ahsan**

Dr. Raliat Onatade, Group Chief Pharmacist and Clinical Director for Medicines Optimisation, Barts Health NHS Trust

Scott Purser, Deputy chief Nurse at Notting University Hospital

Dr Mark Simmonds, Divisional Director for Medicine at Nottingham University Hospital

- Dr. Ahsan: "['We The NHS are here for you, but we need you to stay at home for us.'](#)"
- Read more on when we will see a way forward for keeping staff and NHS volunteers safe when travelling overseas, [here](#).
- First experience of COVID-19 screening of health-care workers in England can be accessed on the Lancet [here](#).
- NHSBartsHealth do a daily roundup of #COVID19 expert guidance & other clinical resources.'

Email bartshealth.pharmacymedicinesinformation@nhs.net to receive the resources!

- [Health care bodies call on Government to pledge that no worker should die of work-acquired COVID-19.](#)
- [ICN says worldwide death toll from COVID-19 among nurses estimated at 100 may be far higher \(international Council of Nurses\).](#)
- No NHS staff member should die from work-acquired covid-19 on [HSJ](#).
- Emergency service workers are already at high risk of burnout – coronavirus will make this worse on [The Conversation](#).
- Several young doctors in China have died of the coronavirus. Medical workers are far more vulnerable to infection than the general population on the [Business Insider](#).

- Health Systems in Low-Income Countries Will Struggle to Protect Health Workers from COVID-19 on the [Center for Global Development](#).
- Factors Associated With Mental Health Outcomes Among Health Care Workers Exposed to Coronavirus Disease 2019 can be accessed [here](#).
- What It's Like to Be a Nurse Working on the Front Lines of COVID-19 on the [Health Line](#).
- [Turkey is facing its own coronavirus crisis – so why is it sending medical supplies to the UK?](#)
- Supporting Occupational Health and wellbeing professionals(SOM) resources:

[What could make a difference to the mental health of UK doctors? A review of the research evidence \(SOM\)](#)

[Psychological well-being in these uncertain times](#)

- Emergency Doctor Saleyha Ahsan reports from her own hospital department about preparations for Coronavirus and gets fitted and trained in putting on personal protection equipment can be accessed on BBC [here](#).
- RCoA responds to on-going PPE situation, can be accessed [here](#).
- Exclusive: deaths of NHS staff from covid-19 analysed can be accessed on HSJ [here](#).
- Looking after doctors' mental wellbeing during the covid-19 pandemic [on BMJ](#).

Reflections

Dr Thinn Thinn Hlaing, THET Country Director Myanmar

Dr Claudia Aguirre, Chair, ESTHER Alliance

Prof Victor Mukonka, Director of Zambia National Public Health Institute

Dr Sheba Gitta, THET Country Director Uganda

- Community health workers will be the main defense in rural Uganda against coronavirus on [STAT](#).
- In Myanmar's Rakhine state, conflict and internet blackout mar COVID-19 response on [DevEx](#).
- Why social distancing won't work for us on [The Correspondent](#).
- THE ANSWER TO PANDEMICS? STRONG PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEMS on [WeMos](#).

- Feature: Social distancing a challenge in Zambia COVID-19 fight on [Xinhua Net](#).
- Uganda scientists develop devices to fight Covid-19 on the [Daily Monitor](#).
- Testing our stamina from all perspectives': How Myanmar is coping in the face of Covid-19: great [blog piece](#) by Dr.Thinn Thinn Hlaing, Country Director Myanmar at THET.

1st BREAK

'Solidarity in a Covid-19 era' reflections

The long view. Mark Honingsbaum, author of The Pandemic Century: One Hundred Years of Panic, Hysteria and Hubris

The Ebola view – African perspective

- 'Nurses fell like ninepins': death and bravery in the 1918 flu pandemic, article can be accessed on the Guardian [here](#).
- The Pandemic Century, A History of Global Contagion from the Spanish Flu to Covid-19 (Book by Mark Honingsbaum). You can buy the book [here](#).
- What Might Africa Teach the World? Covid-19 and Ebola Virus Disease Compared on [Africa Arguments](#).
- Strategies combining self-isolation, moderate physical distancing and shielding likely most effective COVID-19 response for African countries can be accessed on LSHTM [here](#).
- 4 CHECKLISTS TO PREPARE FOR COVID-19 IN LOW-RESOURCE SETTINGS on Doctors Worldwide [here](#).
- [Employers have duties concerning the provision and use of personal protective equipment \(PPE\) at work](#).

Personal engagement across borders in a time of Covid-19

To signpost conference participants to global solidarity initiatives underway

Volunteer your expertise through Health Partnerships

Professor Koichi Izumikawa, Nagasaki University, Japan

Dr Peter Harrington, General Practitioner, Ireland

Professor Eva Kantelhardt, University Halle, Germany

Donate funds. Richard Skone James, THET

Let your voice be heard through advocacy. Amanda Banda, Co- Chair of Health Workers for All Coalition

Create a research and learning agenda. Dr Matt Harris, Imperial College, UK

- Pleased to share more information on our Health Worker Action Fund shared by Richard Skone James in his presentation this afternoon. Head [here](#) for more information!
- Corruption can have no place in our COVID-19 recovery on the [World Economic Forum](#).
- COVID-19 Humanitarian: A new platform bringing new and best practice to humanitarian actors on [ReliefWeb](#).
- [Fair Allocation of Scarce Medical Resources in the Time of Covid-19](#).
- With no labs for testing, Somalia braces for COVID-19 on [DevEx](#).
- [Integrating health and social care in the Covid-19 \(coronavirus\) response](#).
- National UK programme of community health workers for COVID-19 response on the [Lancet](#)
- Supporting Occupational Health and wellbeing professionals(SOM) resources:

[Pop-up OH Service Challenge at the Nightingale Hospital, London](#)

[A safe working environment is a cornerstone of protecting the health of the workforce](#)

[COVID-19: Key workers at risk of moral injury](#)
- [Free course](#) now being used in 30 countries and starting partnerships with groups in Malawi, Kenya, Ghana and India
- Where infection prevention/hand hygiene information is being included, how is this being informed by experts? See barriers in WHO hand hygiene guidelines [as example](#).
- [Guidance on the use of personal protective equipment and infection control procedures](#)

2nd BREAK

‘Solidarity in a Covid-19 era’ reflections

The Role of diaspora. Dorcas Gwata, mental health nurse UK NHS

The role of students - Nebojša Nikolić, President of IFMS

- Local Medics Team Up with Diaspora to Battle COVID-19 in Cyberspace on [IOM](#) response
- Medical student involvement in the COVID-19 response [commentary](#) in the Lancet.
- Series of [evidence-based 1-page briefing notes](#) on issues that are likely to be relevant during the covid-19 response.

Reflections - panel discussion - Priorities for action

Dr Anup Bastola, Kathmandu Hospital, Nepal

Dr Sarah Urassa, Director of Hospital Service, Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre, Tanzania

Dr Monica Musenero, Senior Presidential Advisor on COVID, Uganda or Hiwot Solomon

Dr David Weakliam, Global Health Lead, Health Service Executive Ireland

Dr Shams Syed, Quality Team Lead, World Health Organization

- The Global Impact of COVID-19 and Strategies for Mitigation and Suppression from [Imperial College COVID-19 Response Team](#).
- Nepal Must Ramp Up COVID-19 Action to Protect Its People, Revive Economy on the [World Bank](#).
- Can We Use Digital Technology to Cushion the Pandemic’s Blow—and in the Longer Run, Deliver on the SDGs? on the [Center for Global Development](#).
- Dr. Anup Bastola published ‘The first 2019 novel coronavirus case in Nepal’ in the [Lancet](#) in early February 2020, now 48 cases confirmed in Nepal with 0 deaths.
- Dr. Shams Syed and Matthew Harris recently published [‘Review of the reverse innovation series in globalization and health – where are we and what else is needed?’](#)
- On the Kathmandu Post, [‘Better record-keeping needed to prevent outbreaks: Experts’](#)

Concluding Remarks

Professor Judith Ellis, THET Chair in conversation with Ben Simms, CEO, THET & Conference Chair

- Watch: How Rwanda got ahead of the pandemic curve [on DevEx](#). Rwanda has so far registered fewer than 200 cases of COVID-19. According to its former health minister Agnes Binagwaho, the low numbers are due to government action that was faster than in other countries.
- Covid-19 virus offers the chance to reshape our world on [BMJ](#). Countries across the world may learn useful lessons and come together to form “international solidarity” in the common fight to tackle the covid-19 pandemic, experts are predicting.