



International Confederation of Midwives (ICM)

Midwives, Midwifery and Covid-19

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ICM conducts virtual meetings in 10 sub-regions

To provide a platform for exchange of best practices, lessons learned and support among Member Associations

Lack of evidence to inform practice

Midwives were not provided with PPE, or information and did not know where to find it

Midwives redeployed out of maternity to care for the general population sick with Covid-19

Non evidence-based policies introduced

- Dehumanizing birth practices
- Violating Human Rights for women and babies

Reduced access to SRH services
And
Increased SGBV reports

Midwives not seen as frontline health workers and
Left out of planning, policy discussions impacting on women midwives and babies



ICM RESPONSE

Global Advocacy via social media and statements,

Statement on PPE

Statement on Upholding Women's Rights during Childbirth

ICM/UNFPA Global Call to Action

Regional support

10 regional virtual meetings were held to provide a platform for exchange of best practices, lessons learned and support among Member Associations

National advocacy

Letters to governments

Support for Member Associations in-country advocacy

Website development

To provide midwives with Evidence and practical advice/guidance on provision of midwifery care in context of COVID-19

Sharing of UNFPA & WHO Guidelines, as well as other evidence-based guidelines

Sharing of resources developed by Member Associations

Research

Preparing for research study on experiences of all our Members to fully understand issues and to make recommendations for the future

LESSONS LEARNED

1. Primary maternity services need to be located in communities near where women live.
2. Midwives, as primary health practitioners, need to be supported to continue to provide community-based care when centralised services cease or are overloaded.
3. Midwives need to be included in policy dialogue and pandemic planning for maternity services.

THANK YOU



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