

VERONICA SUGLO

Global Health “ is an area for study, research, and practice that places a priority on improving health and achieving equity in health for all people worldwide. Global health emphasizes transnational health issues, determinants, and solutions; involves many disciplines within and beyond the health sciences and promotes inter- disciplinary collaboration; and is a synthesis of population- based prevention with individual-level clinical care.”

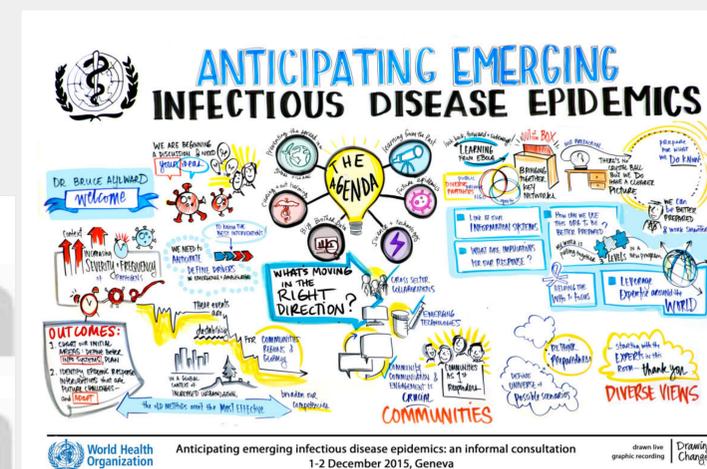
“Each year nearly 11 million children die from malnutrition or disease before reaching their fifth birthday; most of these deaths would be easily preventable in any developed country. Over half a million women die every year in childbirth from lack of appropriate health care, malnourishment, or disease.” – World Health Organization

Global Health Priorities:

- Preventing Malaria Deaths
- Eradicating Polio
- Reducing Measles Mortality
- Mobile Health for Development
- Innovating Health Finance
- Improving Health For Every Woman, Every Child



World Health Organization



Facts On The State of Global Health:

- Life expectancy at birth increased globally by 6 years since 1990
- Around 6.6 million children under the age of 5 die each year
- Preterm birth is the leading killer of newborn babies worldwide
- Cardiovascular diseases are the leading causes of death in the world
- Improving sanitation, water supply, personal hygiene and management of water resources could prevent nearly 10 percent of diseases and 6.3 percent of all deaths around the world.

Recent Global Health Issues

- Within the last 16 years, the world has seen the devastation that infectious diseases can cause to the global community.
 - In February 2003, the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, also known as SARS, spread over to more than two dozen countries in North America, South America, Europe and Asia. As a result of this global outbreak, the World Health Organization reported that about 8,098 people worldwide were infected with SARS and 774 died.
 - Then little over two years ago, West Africa experienced the worst and largest Ebola outbreak in history. According to the CDC, there was a reported over 27,000 cases and a death toll greater than 11,000.
 - Even more recently, in February 2016, a flavivirus that is mainly transmitted through mosquitoes known as the ZIKA virus, moved into our focus. According to the World Health Organization, “By the start of February 2016, local transmission of ZIKA infection had been reported from more than 20 countries and territories in the Americas, and an outbreak numbering thousands of cases was under way in Cabo Verde, Western Africa.”

Summary: As the Honourable Aileen Carroll, Minister of International Cooperation of Canada, said “The ultimate goal of global health is to reduce the number of people, importantly children, dying unnecessarily from ill-health and disease.” In order to reach this goal, and stop unnecessary deaths around the globe, global health professionals are called to investigate the probable causes for these deaths by investigating how individuals in low resources areas around the world experience healthcare. They collaborate with international and community leaders, government officials, and relief organizations to promote health living and in order to raise the public’s medical awareness about the basic medical knowledge that could possible save their lives.

References:

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