

# The need to invest in nursing: lessons learned from the pandemic

Webinar  
11 May 2021  
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (EDT)

## THE NEED TO INVEST IN NURSING: LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE PANDEMIC

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### Concept Note

Human Resources in Health have gained visibility and prominence due to their importance and contributions to maintaining the health of the population, ensuring that countries achieve access to health and universal health coverage, the Sustainable Development Goals and more recently in 2020, to cope with the pandemic.

For this reason, to value the essential role that health workers have played in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the World Health Organization has designated 2021 as the International Year of Health and Care Workers.

In the Region of the Americas, there are approximately 9 million nursing professionals, who represent more than 56% of the health workforce.

Around the world, the International Nurses Day is celebrated on 12 May, the anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale. The Pan American Health Organization celebrates this day in recognition of these professionals, who are fundamental in health systems and in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Objective

The objective of this webinar is to celebrate the International Nurses Day and discuss the need to protect and invest together in nursing professionals.

### Participants

Representatives of the ministries of health and education, universities, PAHO/WHO Collaborating Centers, national nursing associations, government nurses and health professionals, and students.

### Organizer

Pan American Health Organization / World Health Organization  
Department of Health System and Services / Human Resources for Health Unit  
525 23rd Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20037  
United States of America

**Registration link:** <https://bit.ly/3aIS3KR>

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**PAHO**

## PROGRAM

Virtual meeting by Zoom.

Simultaneous interpretation in Spanish, English and Portuguese

### 11 May 2021

**Moderator:** Silvia Cassiani, Advisor on Nursing and Allied Health Personnel, PAHO/WHO

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|--------------------|--|
| 10:00 - 10:10 a.m. | Opening session<br>James Fitzgerald, Director, Health Systems and Services Department, PAHO/WHO  |
| 10:10 - 10:25 a.m. | Mobility of Health Professionals during the Pandemic<br>Oscar Ocho, Director/Senior Lecturer of University of the West Indies School of Nursing, PAHO Collaborating Center for Nursing, Trinidad and Tobago  |
| 10:25 - 11:10 a.m. | The Role of Health Professionals in COVID-19 Vaccinations<br>Ethel Maciel, Associate Professor, School of Nursing, Federal University of Espirito Santo, Brazil<br>Ana María San Martín Venegas, Director of Nursing, Ministry of Health, Chile<br>Gloria Lucia Arango Bayer, Associate Professor, Faculty of Nursing, National University of Colombia   |
| 11:10 - 12:00 p.m. | Closing <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presentation of Infographic on the “Situation of Nursing in the Region of the Americas”</li><li>• Launch of the publication "Contributions of Nursing and Midwifery Professionals to Women's Health - Reports from the Region of the Americas"</li><li>• Video presentation from the PAHO Collaborating Center for Nursing at the University of Illinois at Chicago</li><li>• Closing remarks – Fernando Menezes, Unit Chief, Human Resources for Health, PAHO/WHO</li></ul> |