

## Foreword

Arising from the recommendations made at the Fifth Commonwealth Medical Conference in New Zealand in November 1977, the Commonwealth Secretariat was requested to assist member countries with their health manpower production programmes and to ensure an exchange of information on training facilities in the various health disciplines.

The Secretariat decided, therefore, to produce a directory covering as comprehensively and in as much detail as possible the wide range of training resources for health personnel available in Commonwealth countries.

Commonwealth governments were asked to co-operate by supplying information on health training facilities. Universities, colleges and other institutions which provide health training were in turn asked to supply detailed information and a positive response was received from about 75-80 per cent. Most of the information relates to the year 1978-79. In some instances, however, relevant information has been extracted from *Education and Training Resources in the Developing Countries of the Commonwealth* published by the Commonwealth Secretariat in October 1977; such entries are identified by the code, ETR-77.

Because of the complexity and the range of health training resources in Australia, Britain and Canada, information for those countries has been restricted to post-basic training; and the information has been presented under subject headings rather than by institutions.

The 1977 Medical Conference also recommended that the Commonwealth Secretariat should obtain and summarise information about existing patterns of primary health care. Each country section of the directory is therefore prefaced by such a summary. Most governments responded to the Secretariat's request to supply this information; for those which did not other sources have been used, such as the country papers produced for the 1977 Conference.

The directory does not include information on traditional medicine. The Commonwealth Secretariat is, however, aware that increasing attention is being paid, particularly through and by the World Health Organization to the place of traditional medicine in the delivery of health care and the need to integrate the traditional with the western systems.

The Commonwealth Secretariat wishes to thank Government departments, the High Commissions in London and all the other agencies and institutions which have supplied or helped to supply information for the directory. In particular, acknowledgement is made for the valuable assistance in the preparation of the entries on nursing provided by Margaret Brayton, Executive Secretary, Commonwealth Nurses' Federation; and of the information made available by the West African Health Community.

The preliminary work on the directory was undertaken, as Consultant Editor, by the late Norman Tett and completed by Ronald Macfarlane with the assistance of Yvonne Messenger and the staff of the Medical and other divisions of the Commonwealth Secretariat.

Inevitably, directories of this nature contain some errors and deficiencies and become out of date. Users of the directory are invited to supply additional information, changes or corrections to Medical Division, Commonwealth Secretariat.

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