



Maldives Allied Health Council

Ministry of Health, Male', Republic of Maldives

Scope of Community Health Workers and Primary Health Care Workers

Introduction

Community Health Worker (CHW) and Primary Health Care Workers (PHCW) are community health professionals who deliver primary health care services and play an important role in increasing access to health services.

Scope of Practice.

This scope applies to Community Health Worker and Primary Health Care Workers

1. Patient assessment

- Performing history taking and physical examinations and making a differential diagnosis
- Perform routine medical screenings.

2. Clinical Investigation and Diagnosis

- Obtaining and interpreting simple diagnostic tests.

3. Treatment

- Determine whether the CHW/PHCW could diagnose and treat directly or whether a referral is required to a physician or specialist, treat or refer as appropriate.
- Developing or assisting physicians to develop treatment plans
- Assessment of patients
- Prescribing medications according to standard treatment guidelines and designated lists for CHW/PHCW.
- Providing death care in absence of a nurse
- Death certification in absence of a medical officer

4. Therapeutic interventions.

- Applying rapid intervention in case of trauma management and other emergencies and refer to specialist as appropriate.
- Performing procedures such as injections, insertion of IV cannulas and intravenous infusions, immunizations, suturing, simple incision and drainage,

nasogastric tube insertion and feeding, male and female (adult) catheterization and performing practical first aid

- Providing care for bedridden patients

5. Other activities

- Providing public health and patient education in areas such as hygiene, disease control, healthy lifestyle and STI etc.
- Conducting immunization programs.
- Conducting growth monitoring program
- Provide basic health care functions such as case management and records management
- Dispensing medications – in under resourced settings where pharmacist is not available as per medicines regulations (R46-2014) and with permissions from Maldives Food and Drug Authority.
- Conducting reproductive health clinic
- Carryout activities required by International Health Regulation (PHCW with BSc degree)
- Designing and conducting surveys on health issues of the community (PHCW with BSc degree)

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