



National Nurse  
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Conference  
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# *LIFE-CHANGING AND CHALLENGING – PROVIDING HEALTH WORKER EDUCATION IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA*

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# Session Outline

## PNG intro:

- Country
- Health system



Educator experiences

# Papua New Guinea – “Expect the unexpected”



# Snapshot

- PNG has the largest land area and largest population of any Pacific island nation.
- The population is approximately 6.89 million, and 40 percent are under the age of 15.
- Over 800 languages are spoken and a clan-based social structure exists.
- Average life expectancy is 57 years.
- The average adult has received just over 4 years of schooling.
- PNG has the second-highest maternal mortality rate in the Asia-Pacific region.

# Health

- PNG has the highest rate of HIV prevalence in the Pacific.
- The poorest state of health in the Pacific region, especially in rural areas where health services are deteriorating, difficult to access or closed down.
  - Patients, health workers and supply deliveries at times must negotiate raging rivers, muddy roads and rugged mountains.

# Health workforce

	Australia	Papua New Guinea
Per capita government expenditure on health	US\$2,132	US\$35
Life expectancy at birth in years	81 (ATSI 70)	57
Ratio of physicians	25 per 10,000 people	1.26 per 10,000 people
Ratio of nurses and midwives	97 per 10,000 people	15.3 per 10,000 people

# Educator experiences

- Volunteer placement Goroka 2006
- Employed as Technical Advisor, Sexual Health Nursing. Port Moresby & Oro Bay (near Popondetta) 2011 & 2012





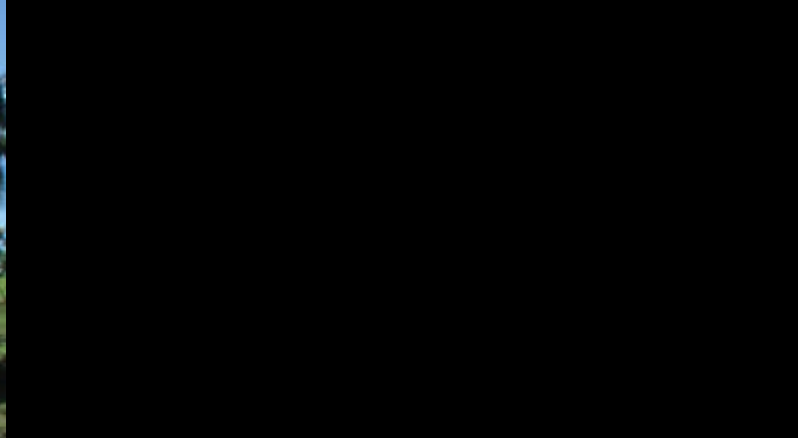


# Road travel













## LOCAL CUSTOMS, BELIEFS AND PRACTICES DURING PREGNANCY.

△ We believe that what our forefather/ancestors practised to maintain and continue our custom and beliefs is passed on from generation to the next and makes our culture the way it is because it happens.

△ Some differences or similarities that make one culture different from another is:

- \* Pregnant women is not allowed to weave bilum.
- \* Pregnant father/mother is not allowed to go into the bush herself esp. @ nocte. <sup>Nice</sup> Baby → Devil (<sup>Baby</sup> Siango)
- \* Sores will get big when a pregnant woman gives food to someone who has sores.
- \* Pregnant woman turn into devil and attack those walking @ nocte.
- \* Pregnant woman are not allowed to eat terns.
- \* Pregnant





02/02/2005



don't  
take the risk



**wear**  
A CONDOM



if you fish  
in  
strange waters



**BODY BUILDING FOOD**  
**KAIKAI BILONG GROIM BODI**





# Schools: sexual health





# Contraceptive choices

# STI Game







Thank you PNG for  
the privilege

