

Resource List on International Occupational Health Nursing

Country	Description of basic nursing education (what does it take to become a Registered Nurse in the country?)	What other nurse training is offered beyond graduation?	Does the country have a specialty in Occupational Health Nursing? (Specific training for OH nursing qualification)	Does the country have a certification program in Occupational Health Nursing?
South America				
Brazil	This varies from 2 year courses conducted at Technical Schools (Nursing Technician qualification) plus 6 months on the job training through to 4 years university level bachelors equivalent degree plus 1 to 1.5 years of working as a practical nurse.	After graduation from the programs mentioned, any other training is “on the job” and that would provide “specialization” but not necessarily recognized as a qualification internationally. This extra training is known in Brazil as “Nurse Job”.	Occupational Health is considered as a “Nurse Job” after the 4 years university plus on the job experience of 1-1.5 years.	The certification is given by the universities after completion of the courses and approval of exams.
Colombia	5 years studying at the University level for a Registered Nurse qualification plus 1 year providing services as a nurse practitioner in a hospital (usually in a rural zone).	There are several options depending of the area of knowledge and time of study. Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post graduate studies in OH • Specialization in Administration of Medical services (2-3 years) • Emergencies • Postgraduate studies in mental health, etc. • Other examples: http://www.univalle.edu.co/english/programas/postgrado/salud.html 	Yes, different options depending on the period of time and hours per week: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specialization in OH: 2-3 years. • Masters in OH: 2-3 years. • Also there is the possibility of study to be a Professional in OH (5 years) or Technician (3 years). 	The certification is given by the universities after completion of the courses and approval of exams and projects. After that, the nurse can obtain a license to provide services in OH presenting the documents to the Government.
Ecuador	4 years studying at the University plus 1 year providing services as practitioner in a hospital (usually in	<u>Specialization:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administration of Medical 	There is no specific expertise in Occupational Health	There is no certification program in Occupational

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	a rural zone).	services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical Emergencies • Hospital health <u>Postgraduate Studies:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specialist nurse in Dialysis (1 year) • Surgical Instrumentation (1 year) • Critical Care Medicine (1 year) • Perinatology (1 year) • Pediatrics (1 year) • Oncology (1 year) 	Nursing. There are different Universities that offer masters degrees in Occupational Health but degree is accessible to any professional. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specialization in Safety & OH: 1 year. • Masters in Safety & OH: 2 years. 	Health Nursing.
Guatemala	Studying 3 years in a technical college, plus 3 years for the degree, including practical experience as a nurse practitioner	There are many options to major in specialty nursing : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respiratory therapy • Epidemiology • Oncology • ICU etc. 	There are post graduate technical studies in Occupational Health but not specifically for nurses. Study time is 2 ½ years	The certification is given by the universities after completion of the courses and approval of exams and projects. After that, the nurse can obtain a license to provide services in OH presenting the documents to the Government.

Europe				
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European Union	Occupational health nursing education is a post graduate activity. Each nurse should already have achieved the first level qualification of a nurse as established in the EU directives preferably with experience in public health care.	Graduate coursework	There is an EU core curriculum training- but it is not a “formal” graduate program.	
Belgium	3 years basic training		There is one educational program especially for occupational health nurses. It is a Bachelor education degree, which can be accessed only after completing the 3 years basic training as a nurse.	
Denmark	3 years basic training	The education is based on the Core Curriculum for occupational health nursing in Europe developed in 1997 by the Federation of Occupational Health Nurses within the EU (FOHNEU). The education department at the Danish Nurses Organization promotes and organizes the course as a joint venture project between Denmark and The University of Sheffield UK. The	There is no legislative requirement for Occupational Health Nurse education. Post-graduate Education for Occupational Health Nurses in Denmark	

		University sends lecturers to teach on the course and carries out audits on the quality of the work. Through the university merit system, credits are given allowing access to further academic qualifications.		
France	3 years basic training	The GIT participated in the creation of the French University Diploma in Occupational Health (Diplôme Inter Universitaire de Santé au Travail).	There is a Diploma in Occupational Health Nursing. Diplome Inter Universitaire de Sante au Travail – DIUST started in Strasbourg in 1994 and is now taught in 7 universities throughout France and 1 in the French-speaking part of Switzerland.	
Ireland	3 years basic training		Occupational Health courses in Ireland are multidisciplinary, open to all Health Service professionals. There are no nurse specific Occupational Health courses available at present	
Spain	3 years basic training		In Spain there exists the specialty of occupational health nurse, by the Royal Decree (RD 450/2005) approved on the 22 April 2005 and published on the 6-May-05 in the Official State Bulletin (BOE).	

UK	3 years basic training		Undertaken as a post registration course in Universities, with students now qualifying with a minimum first level degree in Specialist Community Public Health Nursing (OH).	
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Asia Pacific				
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Australia	All training for general nurses is conducted at university level and is a Bachelors program.	<p>After successful completion of the bachelor program there are Graduate Certificates of Nursing in specialties such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute Care • Aging and Dementia • Oncology • ER • ICU • Pediatrics • Professional Studies • Women's Health. <p>Graduate Diplomas can be undertaken in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinical Leadership • Child and Family Health • Mental Health • Midwifery. 	<p>Graduate Diploma (after successful completion of Bachelors program) available in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occupational Medicine Health and Safety <p>There is also a Masters in Occupational Medicine, Health and Safety.</p>	Yes. See previous column.
Hong Kong	All training for general nurses is conducted at university level and is a Bachelors program. Candidates can complete a Bachelors of Science Nursing or a Bachelor of Science Mental Health Nursing.	<p>After successful completion of the bachelor program there are Masters programs in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philosophy • Masters of Science Nursing • Masters of Science Healthcare <p>Post Graduate Diploma in Specialty Nursing.</p>	The certificated courses for Occupational Health do not require a nursing degree for entry with the exception of the Diploma in Occupational Health Practice (listed in the next column). Programs available include a Diploma in Occupational	Yes. There is a Diploma in Occupational Health Practice which is a 1 year post-graduate program specifically designed for those with a nursing qualification.

			Health, Food Safety, and Environmental Hygiene as well as a Professional Diploma in Occupational Safety and Health.	
	The Hong Kong Occupational Safety and Health Association www.hkosha.org.hk	There are numerous on-line courses available in different disciplines that come under the OH banner. Some offered by private enterprise and others by educational facilities and professional associations / hospitals.		
North America				
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Canada	Diploma, Bachelors	Post-basic RN, Masters, PhD, Post Doctorate	Yes	Yes COHN(C)
Mexico	Unknown	Bachelor, PhD	Unknown	Unknown
USA	Diploma, Associate, Bachelor	MS, MSN, MPH, DNP, PhD, Post Doctoral	Yes	Yes COHN; COHN-S
Africa				
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South Africa	Nursing Act No 33 of 2005 identifies three categories of nurses: 1. Professional Nurse, 2. Professional Midwife, and 3. Staff Nurse and Auxiliary Nurse. The new (3/09) nursing qualifications registered on the	South African Society of Occupational Health Nursing (SASOHN) has 10 regions with designated representatives throughout S. Africa. C.E. offered includes: regular monthly meetings at national and regional levels, an annual conference, and publications	In 1981, the OHN certificate course was given statutory recognition when the South African Nursing Council (SANC), the nursing governing	

	<p>National Qualifications Framework (NWF) Section 31(1) allows the following categories of nurses to practice if registered by the Council upon fulfillment of the prescribed education and training requirements: A. National Certificate: Auxiliary Nursing (technical) B. National Diploma: Nursing (registration as a staff nurse), C. Bachelor of Nursing (registration as a professional nurse), D. Master’s Certificate: Nursing (16 electives required), E. Masters of Nursing (degree) with 17 electives including research. B-E require education at accredited higher education institutions, while A. is non-university. Occupational health settings will have a Professional nurse with an additional qualification in Occ. Health. Larger industries may have Staff nurses working under the supervision of the Professional nurse. An Auxiliary Nurse or Nursing Assistant has a 1 year training level and is almost seen as a “caregiver.”</p>	<p>including a bi-monthly multidisciplinary journal, entitled <i>Occupational Health Southern Africa</i></p>	<p>body, recognized it as a formal postgraduate specialization. Occupational Health is an elective that is done post-basically as an additional qualification over 2 years. Currently, OHN practitioners may choose to further their education in the discipline of occupational health through studies at the postgraduate certificate, diploma, bachelor’s degree, master’s degree, and doctoral level. The programs are offered at technikons (technical institutes) and universities. Undergraduate nursing programs and postbasic community nursing diploma include a component of occupational health. OHN practitioners also take a</p>	
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			variety of short courses, such as first aid, HIV and AIDS counseling, occupational health and safety, spirometry, and audiometry.	
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