

Training Course in Sexual and Reproductive Health Research 2011 - Interviews
with the course participants - Fatima Kozacoka

Interview with

Laureen Chiweshe

Bokamoso Private Hospital, Gaborone, Botswana

Tell about yourself

I hold a diploma in Nursing awarded by Parirenyatwa School of Nursing and Midwifery Zimbabwe. I have five years experience.

Why you have chosen to study this course?

Being a nurse in southern Africa have given me insight of problems faced by people regarding complications of sexual transmitted infections, obstetric conditions as well as women health which are exacerbated by poverty and lack of resources. I embarked on this course to acquire more knowledge on the subject and possible share my experiences.

How do you manage to combine your work commitments with course commitments?

I dedicate about three hours after work for study. Weekends are exclusively family time.

How does a typical day at your work look like?

Work starts at 7:30 AM, I will be doing sample sorting according to urgency and attending to clients who come for laboratory investigations. Making follow up on results sent to other referral laboratories, performing venectomy in the ward especially when there is a client with difficult vein.

What was your biggest work challenge you have dealt with? (Share the outcome or the results)

I once dealt with an obese patient who was uncooperative, I had explained to her the situation that it might be difficult to locate the vein but she insisted that you are a professional therefore you must not fail to perform venectomy. I performed the procedure and it was unsuccessful, the patient became very angry and became violent such that I had to call the Lab manager to counsel her. She later agreed to let me draw blood on the femoral vein and it was successful.

What would you like to achieve in five years?

In five years I would like to have completed Diploma in Midwifery, Degree in Obstetrics.