


PAHO/WHO Collaborating Centres: Celebrating the Achievement of Our Common Goals

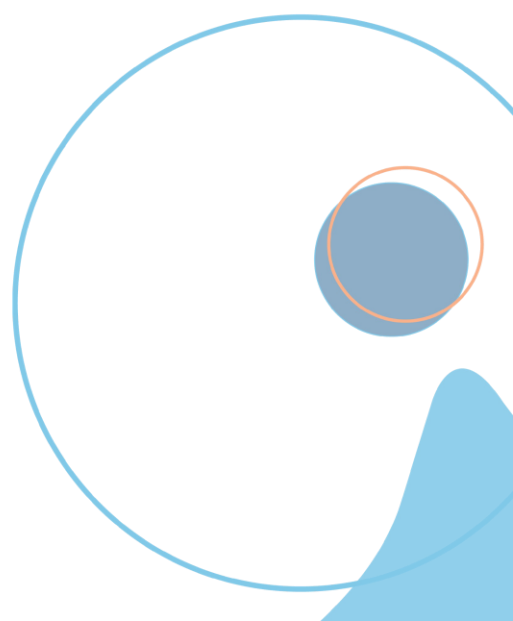
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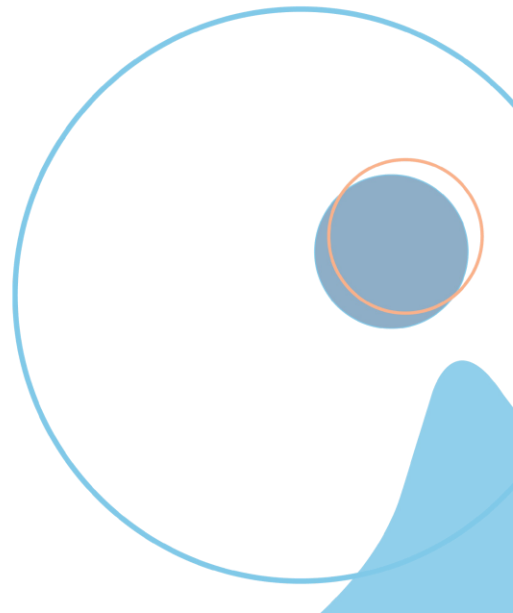
Healthy Aging and Care of the Older Adult with Chronic Disease: A Qualitative Needs Assessment conducted in Eastern and Southern Caribbean Islands

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Overview of Article

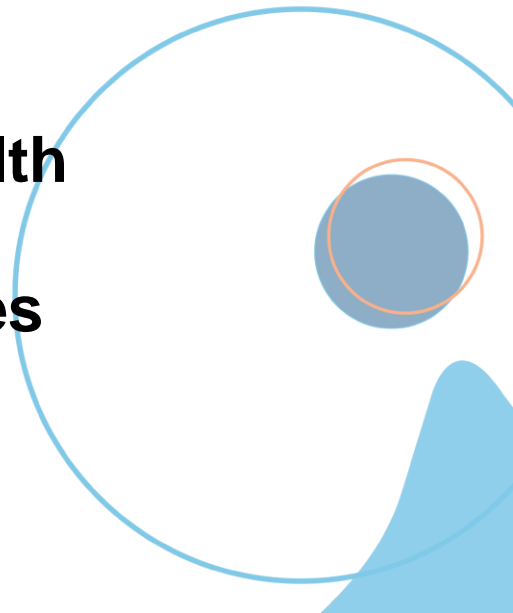
The objectives for this study were to identify health priorities and strategies to strengthen health system-based integrated care for Caribbean older persons consistent with the WHO goal of building inter-professional workforce capacity. This qualitative, needs assessment informed by the Consolidated Framework for Implementation Science was conducted with islands in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and 2 southern islands.



Conclusions/results?

The results assist in prioritizing the needs for education of health professionals and the general population about non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in particular, obesity, diabetes, hypertension, and heart disease. The development of most NCDs is attributed to lifestyle and diet. Additional priorities included assessment and services for individuals with Dementia, Alzheimer's disease, depression, and harmful alcohol use. All pose significant challenges for older adults.

The needs assessment outcomes are foundational to planning educational interventions. These will be developed by local health providers with the collaboration and support of Meyers WHOCC, Regional WHOCCs/PAHO and enhanced use of existing resources



How does this activity support the Organization's goals and mandates?

This needs assessment supports PAHO/WHO'S goals for the decade of healthy aging by assessing baseline needs of this Caribbean population that will be used to guide the development of educational and services programs to enhance healthy aging in the region.

