



Connecting Commonwealth Doctors

The Commonwealth of Nations is currently made up 54 countries across all six continents of the world.

The Commonwealth Medical Association is made up of the national medical associations from at least 41 commonwealth countries.

There are indeed diverse levels of development, cultures, health services, disease patterns and a rich of knowledge and experiences.

Commonwealth doctors share a common language and medical education but many are widely separated from each other geographically and they work in different environments and are exposed to different diseases. One of the main themes of the new strategic plan of the Commonwealth is 'Connecting People' and in the past the Commonwealth Medical Association (CMA) has brought doctors together under the auspices of the National Medical Associations. The CMA is now poised to deepen the interaction, knowledge, experience and voluntarism among doctors in the commonwealth as the association now strive to connect individual doctors by facilitating exchanges between doctors of different countries who visit hospitals in Commonwealth countries.

The CMA cannot provide funding to subsidise these exchanges but it will post offers from hospitals in various countries on its website and it will match applications from doctors in different Commonwealth countries. Hospitals offering to host Commonwealth doctors at their institution and doctors wishing to visit hospitals in Commonwealth countries are encouraged to contact the secretariat of the CMA and the appropriate matching or attachments will be done to meet the best possible expectations.

The conditions for these attachments shall be flexible and the doctors and hospitals / other health institutions would negotiate the terms of the exchange between them. Known general conditions would eventually be made available on the website. The CMA's role will be limited to making these matches and it cannot be held liable for any problems arising out of individual agreements. This project of Connecting Commonwealth Doctors is a big step forward for the CMA and it is expected that it will not only enhance the medical knowledge and exposure of the doctors but it will also enhance the co-operation and friendships between Commonwealth doctors to the great benefit of our patients.