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***Innovation in Nursing Practice and Research: Building on Best and Gender-sensitive Practices***

Innovation, which refers to mobilizing new ideas and strategies, is required to respond to the healthcare’s swift pace while addressing the challenges of quality of care. Social determinants of health, including the socio-economic structure of equity and gender, are known to be associated with opportunities as well as barriers that may influence access, quality and effectiveness of care. It is well documented that health and health access issues are not gender neutral. As gender disparities are embedded in healthcare, implementing gender-sensitive innovation into nursing research is needed to contribute in transforming norms and inequalities, which will undeniably improve nursing practice and hence, quality of care and its sustainability. However, transferability of research insights into evidence-based nursing practice and gender-sensitive innovative strategies can prove to be challenging. In such a context, it is critical to consider the influence of sex and gender on health outcomes throughout research development, design and reporting into evidence-based practice. The main goal of this presentation is to reflect upon and discuss such challenges as well as ways to overcome them. Avenues for reflection will be anchored in innovative strategies which aim to be sensitive to nursing practice, health care context as well as socio-economic gender disparities.

**At the end of this session, participants will be able to:**

1. Delineate the role of research in improving effectiveness of care and outcomes through evidence-based nursing practice.
2. Circumscribe the contextual challenges associated with implementing sex and gendersensitive innovation in a health care setting for quality of care.
3. Recognize the importance of gender-sensitive innovation in nursing research and practice for quality and equitable care.
4. Identify best practices and optimal gender-sensitive strategies for quality and evidencebased health care practice by discussing sex and gender with selected examples of tuberculosis and type 2 diabetes mellitus prevention and management.