



## GENERAL INFORMATION

Cameroon is a country with an approximate area of 475 thousand square kilometers (UNO, 2008). The population is 19,958,351 and the sex ratio (men per hundred women) is 100 (UNO, 2009). The proportion of the population under the age of 18 years is 47% and the proportion above age 60 is 4% (UNO, 2009). The literacy rate is 88% for men and 84% for women (UN Statistics, 2008). The life expectancy at birth is 49 years for males and 51 years for females (UNO, 2005-2010). The healthy life expectancy at birth is 45 years for males and 51 years for females (UNPD, 2010). The country is in the lower middle income group (based on 2010 World Bank criteria). The total expenditure on health as a percentage of gross domestic product is 5.02% and the per capita government expenditure on health (PPP int. \$) is \$20.0 (WHO, 2006). Suicide rate information is not available. In Cameroon, neuropsychiatric disorders are estimated to contribute to 6.1% of the global burden of disease (WHO, 2008).

## GOVERNANCE

An officially approved mental health policy doesn't exist. However, mental health is specifically mentioned in the general health policy.

A mental health plan doesn't exist.

Dedicated mental health legislation does not exist. Legal provisions concerning mental health are also covered in other laws (e.g. welfare, disability, general health legislation etc.)

## FINANCING

Mental health expenditures by the government health department/ministry are 0.26% of the total health budget. Mental hospital expenditures are 0.43% of the total mental health budget.

## MENTAL HEALTH CARE DELIVERY

### Primary Care

Prescription regulations authorize primary health care doctors to prescribe and/or to continue prescription of psychotherapeutic medicines but with restrictions. The department of health authorizes primary health care nurses to prescribe and/or to continue prescription of psychotherapeutic medicines but with restrictions.

The majority of primary health care doctors have not received official in-service training on mental health within the last five years. The majority of primary health care nurses have not received official in-service training on mental health within the last five years. Officially approved manuals on the management and treatment of mental disorders are not available in the majority of primary health care clinics. Official policy does not permit primary health care nurses to independently diagnose and treat mental disorders within the primary care system. Official referral procedures for referring persons from primary care to

secondary/tertiary care do not exist. Referral procedures from tertiary/secondary care to primary care do not exist.

## Mental Health Services

### Availability of mental health facilities

	Total number of facilities/beds	Rate per 100,000 population	Number of facilities/beds reserved for children and adolescents only	Rate per 100,000 population
Mental health outpatient facilities	9	0.05	1	0.01
Day treatment facilities	UN	UN	UN	UN
Psychiatric beds in general hospitals	10	0.05	3	0.02
Community residential facilities	5	0.03	UN	0.0
Beds/places in community residential facilities	160	0.8	UN	UN
Mental hospitals	2	0.01	0	0.0
Beds in mental hospitals	115	0.58	0	0.0

### Access to care

	Rates per 100,000 population)	Females (%)	Under age 18 (%)
Persons treated in mental health outpatient facilities	UN	UN	UN
Persons treated in mental health day treatment facilities	UN	UN	UN
Admissions to psychiatric beds in general hospitals	0.1	55%	10%
Persons staying in community residential facilities at the end of the year	UN	UN	UN
Admissions to mental hospitals	UN	UN	UN

### Long term care in mental hospitals (% of persons staying):

Less than 1 year	UN
More than 1 and less than 5 years	UN
More than 5 years	UN

## HUMAN RESOURCES

Data collected in 2011

UN = information unavailable, NA = item not applicable

**Workforce and training**

	<b>Health professionals working in the mental health sector Rate per 100,000</b>	<b>Training of health professions in educational institutions Rate per 100,000</b>
Psychiatrists	0.03	0.0
Medical doctors, not specialized in psychiatry	UN	0.38
Nurses	0.15	UN
Psychologists	UN	UN
Social workers	UN	UN
Occupational therapists	UN	UN
Other health workers	UN	NA

**Informal human resources (Family and User Associations)**

	<b>User</b>	<b>Family</b>
Present in the country?	Yes	Yes
Number of members	UN	UN
Participation in the formulation/implementation of policy/plan/legislation?	UN	UN

**MEDICINES**

Expenditures for medicines for mental and behavioral disorders at country level

<b>Type of Medicines</b>	<b>Expenditures at country level per year and per 100,000 population (in USD)</b>
All the psychotherapeutic medicines <sup>1</sup>	UN
Medicines used for bipolar disorders <sup>2</sup>	UN
Medicines for psychotic disorders <sup>3</sup>	UN
Medicines used for general anxiety <sup>4</sup>	UN
Medicines used for mood disorders <sup>5</sup>	UN

<sup>1</sup> N03AG01, N05A, N05B, N05C, N06A<sup>2</sup> N03AG01, N05A, N05B, N05C, N06A<sup>3</sup> N05A (excluding N05AN)<sup>4</sup> N05B & N05C<sup>5</sup> N06A

Data collected in 2011

UN = information unavailable, NA = item not applicable

**INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

	<b>Data on number of people/ activities are collected and reported</b>	<b>Data on age and gender are collected and reported</b>	<b>Data on patient's diagnosis are collected and reported</b>
Persons with mental disorders treated in primary health care	No	No	No
Interventions (psychopharmacological and psychosocial) delivered in primary health care for people with mental disorders	No	No	No
Persons treated in mental health outpatient facilities	No	No	No
Contacts in mental health outpatient facilities	UN	UN	UN
Persons treated in mental health day treatment facilities	UN	UN	UN
Admissions in general hospitals with psychiatric beds	UN	UN	UN
Admissions in mental hospitals	UN	UN	UN
Days spent in mental hospitals	UN	UN	UN
Admissions in community residential facilities	UN	UN	UN

Data collected in 2011

UN = information unavailable, NA = item not applicable