

The history of nursing in Cameroon dates back to the early 20th century when the country was under colonial rule. During this time, nursing education and healthcare services were primarily provided by foreign missionaries and colonial administrators.

One of the earliest nursing schools in Cameroon was established in 1923 by the Catholic Church in Douala. The school, known as the School of Nursing and Midwifery, aimed to train local women to provide healthcare services in their communities. This marked the beginning of formal nursing education in the country.

In 1960, Cameroon gained independence from France and the healthcare system underwent significant changes. The government recognized the importance of nursing in providing quality healthcare and started investing in the development of nursing education and training programs.

In 1964, the government established the Higher Institute of Nursing and Medical Techniques (HINMT) in Yaoundé. This institution aimed to provide advanced training for nurses and midwives, as well as promote research in the field of nursing. HINMT has since become one of the leading nursing institutions in the country.

Over the years, nursing education in Cameroon has expanded with the establishment of several nursing schools and training programs across the country. The government has also introduced policies to improve the working conditions and professional development opportunities for nurses.

Today, nursing in Cameroon plays a crucial role in the healthcare system, providing primary care services, conducting health promotion activities, and offering specialized care in various healthcare settings. Nurses in Cameroon are recognized as key healthcare providers and contribute significantly to the well-being of the population.

Source:

- Tazinya, R. N., & Ngassa, P. (2017). Nursing education in Cameroon: An overview. *Journal of Nursing Education and Practice*, 7(5), 90-94.