



**EfCCNa**

**European federation of Critical Care Nursing associations**

WORKING TOGETHER ACHIEVING MORE



**Newsletter 2, Spring 2010**

## 4th EfCCNa Congress and FSAIO Spring Congress

### Special points of interest:

- \* 4th EfCCNa Congress and FSAIO Spring Congress
- \* 10th Anniversary Meeting
- \* News from Council Representatives
- \* Declaration of Vienna—Patient Safety

It is a great honour for the European federation of Critical Care Nursing associations (EfCCNa) and the Danish Society of Anaesthesia and Critical Care Nurses (FSAIO) to announce that Her Royal Highness Crown Princess Mary is the patroness of the 4th EfCCNa Congress and the FSAIO Spring Congress, Copenhagen, Denmark from 24-26 March 2011.

Please visit the website for further details:  
[www.efccna2011.dk](http://www.efccna2011.dk)



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Here in Denmark the members of FSAIO are preparing for the coming congress for Critical Care nurses in Copenhagen March, 2011. FSAIO is expanding the network in order to engage and involve the Danish critical care nurses in the upcoming event. Birte Baktoft co-chair of The International Organising Committee has been mailing to all of the EfCCNa- representatives to find out when they have their National congresses. FSAIO will sponsor representatives from Denmark to visit some of the congresses and promote the EfCCNa – FSAIO congress. Also Jos Latour co - chair of The International Organising Committee will be travelling to some of The National European congresses this year to advertise congress 2011. The chairs of The International Scientific Committee, John Albarran and Ingrid Egerod are ready to welcome abstracts and they are hoping for more abstracts than at the previous congress in Florence 2008. So all together we'll see:

*European Critical Care Nursing: Working together for a better tomorrow*

## 10th Anniversary Meeting of EfCCNa

EfCCNa celebrated its 10th Anniversary at the 24th meeting of the Council of Representatives in Berlin. The celebrations were opened by a visit to the DGF Head Offices, Health Professional Building in Berlin Westend. We were welcomed by Heike Strunk and treated to a finger buffet & sparkling wine. The next morning the newly elected DPR President (German Council of Nurses) and the DGF Board Member Tilmann Müller-Wolff welcomed the EfCCNa Representatives, Board of Officers, Committee Chairs and the EfCCNa Fellows and emphasised international collaboration. After that Heike Strunk presented Rósa Thorsteinsdóttir, EfCCNa President, a polished brass table bell as her personal gift to the EfCCNa that might be passed from one president to the next. It is the same model designed for the German Parliament. Engraved is the EfCCNa Logo/10<sup>th</sup> EfCCNa Anniversary 1999-2009, Working together – Achieving more, Berlin 02.10.2009”. And, after she rang the bell, the EfCCNa Autumn Council Meeting continued. We welcomed a new Association to the Council — the Israeli Society of Cardiac and Critical Care Nurses represented by Julie Benbenishty. This brought the final number of representatives attending up to 20 and included Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, ESPNIC, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the UK.




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Did you know that Heike Strunk, made the arrangements for the 1st and 10th meetings of EfCCNa?.

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## New EfCCNa Website




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The EfCCNa website is in the process of being redeveloped. The new site portrays a more professional & streamlined image of the organisation.

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## Update on Research Projects

### Ongoing funded EfCCNa projects

1. The 'Nurses' Autonomy' study is a questionnaire survey of participating nurses at the 2008 Congress exploring autonomy, moral distress and empowerment. The data collected at the last Congress are currently being analysed.

2. The E-Link Study (European survey of Levels of Intensive-care Nurses' Knowledge) is a web-based questionnaire survey

to determine knowledge of European critical care nurses to help inform the education strategy. The data collection has stopped and the data are currently being analysed.

3. The Delphi study is a web-based study using a Delphi research technique to identify intensive care nursing research priorities within Europe to help inform the research

strategy. Preliminary results indicate that the top priorities are infection prevention, pain, anxiety, patient safety and nurse patient ratios. The paper is currently being written for publication.

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**Get involved in  
research—  
improve  
evidence based  
practice**

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### Associated EfCCNa projects

These projects are not funded by EfCCNa, but they are open to participation across Europe and EfCCNa encourages interested members of national associations to participate in them.

1. Study on decision making in daily activities (For further information contact Anne Kokko at [anne.ko@pp.inet.fi](mailto:anne.ko@pp.inet.fi)).

2. Mechanical ventilation and weaning role responsibilities. The purpose of this project is to develop a profile of role responsibility and nursing scope of

practice for key ventilation and weaning decisions in European ICUs. This study is being conducted in The Netherlands, Norway, Denmark, & the UK. (For further information [b.blackwood@qub.ac.uk](mailto:b.blackwood@qub.ac.uk))

## Israeli Society of Cardiac and Intensive Care Nursing



The Israeli Society of Cardiac and Intensive Care Nursing has been very active over the past months, especially in areas related to research and evidence-based practice. Their National Conference was held in December 2009. Lectures explored a rainbow of topics including: Bezoars intestinal obstruction; enteral feeding; mobility programme for ICU patients; mouth care and VAP. For the past 5-years a group of representatives from interested units has formed a Committee called the Evidence-based Practice Group of ICU Nurses. Goals are to investigate current clinical practice, update and make changes based on the current best evidence. Some of the clinical studies the Committee has been involved with include: mouth care guidelines for the ventilated patient; the relationship between moral distress and structural empowerment among Israeli ICU nurses; the prevalence and sources of conflict in ICU staff; evidence around taking ICU patients out of bed; procedural pain during nursing interventions such as position changes, suction, wound dressing, drain removal; and end-of-life procedures. As you can see, the Israeli Society is a very active and influential group of nurses, setting a high standard of care for all health professionals in Israel.

## ESPNIC NEWS for EfCCNa Newsletter

The **ESPNIC Medical & Nursing Annual Congress 2010** is going to be held in conjunction with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Congress of the European Academy of Paediatric Societies-EAPS.

ESPNIC Nursing cordially invites all European intensive care colleagues who are interested in paediatric and/or neonatal intensive care to join this interesting conference and contribute with their knowledge and experience.

**Abstract submission deadline: April 7, 2010**

The best posters and best oral presentation (neonatal and paediatric) will be awarded.

With this respects ESPNIC Nursing is happy to announce the **ESPNIC Nursing Educational**

Five grants of 400 € each will be awarded to an ESPNIC Nursing member to facilitate the participation in these educational activities.

For application: see [www.espnic.org](http://www.espnic.org)

### ESPNIC Medical & Nursing Position Statement on Visiting Rights in European Hospitals

ESPNIC is currently working on a position statement on visiting rights for family members. Key points are to define

- ◆ What is visiting?
- ◆ Who is family?
- ◆ The rights of the child, the family and the staff
- ◆ The limits of rights
- ◆ The support for staff when doors are open



The 3<sup>rd</sup> Congress of the  
**EUROPEAN ACADEMY OF PAEDIATRIC SOCIETIES**  
**EAPS**

October 23-26, 2010, Copenhagen, Denmark

## News from Sweden.

The Swedish university system is revising its intensive specialist nursing education and wants all specialist nurses to be educated to Masters level. Currently, specialist education consists of one year postgraduate education after a bachelor degree. The Swedish Critical Care Nursing Society is recommending a further six months (on top of the one year course) to achieve the Masters degree.

A critical care event coming up during 2010 is the Scandinavian Congress at Faroe Island in September. The congress is being held collaboratively with all the Nordic countries, and the language will be Scandinavian. All the lectures will come from the Nordic countries and the participants will come from Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Iceland and Finland. The last congress was in Stockholm in 2007 and there were around 800 participants. They are hoping for 400 participants this time. It is good event for the Scandinavian countries to present their latest studies and posters.



## Nursing set to become all graduate entry by 2013 in the UK

The minimum level for pre-registration courses for nurses will be raised from diploma to degree level and all new nurses in the UK will be educated to degree level from 2013 making them better equipped to improve the quality of patient care.



**Chief Nursing Officer Christine Beasley said:**

More young people than ever are studying for a degree and this will make nursing more attractive to them.

The Nursing and Midwifery Council is developing new standards and competences for pre-registration nurse education. They will consult widely early in 2010 and announce the new standard and competencies in Autumn 2010. It is expected that programmes at degree level using the new standards will start from September 2011.

## Declaration of Vienna

On October 11, in Vienna, Austria 2009, the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine (ESICM) brought together healthcare professionals, patient safety organisations and industry groups to make a landmark pledge on patient safety: **the Declaration of Vienna**. EfCCNa and EFN were the only nursing organisation invited to participate and Rósa Thorsteinsdóttir was there to sign the Declaration on behalf of EfCCNa. The purpose of the meeting was to raise the profile of patient safety both on the political and scientific levels. Several important aspects were pointed out, like process of care often being overlooked but can impact significantly on patient's outcome. The way we practice, the culture we work in, the climate that our professional demeanor creates can all dramatically impact on outcome measures. But unfortunately these are topics that are often not easy to explain, are difficult to study and do not attract research funding that stimulates scientific minds to address the problem. By bringing those parties together patient safety in ICU has been put on the European agenda and is a huge issue which needs local solutions to a global problem. As Rui Moreno president of ESICM put it, by signing the Declaration, the parties have taken an invaluable step forward in improving safety for our patients now and in the future.

The results of this initiative and signature of the 'Declaration of Vienna' were then presented to the attendees and to the media during the Opening Ceremony of the 22<sup>nd</sup> ESICM Annual Congress.

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Rosa signs the agreement

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