



TELENURSING NETWORK BULLETIN

International Council of Nurses • Conseil international des infirmières • Consejo internacional de enfermeras

3, place Jean-Mariseau • 1201 Geneva, Switzerland

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ICN TELENURSING NETWORK LAUNCHED 1 JULY 2009 IN DURBAN SOUTH AFRICA

Franz Wagner, 1st Vice President of ICN, welcomed over 60 enthusiastic people to the launch of the Telenursing Network. Claudia Bartz, ICN staff member, talked briefly about ICN services to networks and ICN network obligations. She announced the names of the 12 members of the Telenursing Network Advisory Group and described some of the network aims and activities. Four members of the Advisory Group (Jennifer Chipps, South Africa; Isabel Amelia Costa Mendes, Brazil; Shane Kruger, Australia; and Angela Single, United Kingdom) then described their work and also talked about their ideas for the continued advancement of telenursing in the context of eHealth. A fifth member of the Advisory Group, Thomas Wong, was also at the session. The final speaker, Frank Lievens, International Coordinator of Med-e-Tel and Secretary and Treasurer of the International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth, encouraged the audience to be full partners in the advancement of telenursing and eHealth.

A question and answer session with good discussion about regulatory issues (e.g. licensure, malpractice and data ownership) and care delivery sites (e.g. from islands to cities) ensued. Ideas for the network included a newsletter, a bulletin board for questions and answers, translation of information, sharing of good practices, sharing teaching material, a speakers bureau, and collaborative projects with eHealth organisations.

Loretta Schlachta-Fairchild (USA), Diane Castelli (USA) and Lois Scott (Canada) deserve a great deal of credit for preparing and submitting the application to the ICN Board of Directors for this Network. The Board approved the application in 2008 and then work began on the aims and objectives of the Network and forming the Advisory Group.

Loretta Schlachta-Fairchild is Chair of the Advisory Group for this first biennium of its organisation. The other members of the Advisory Group are: Laila M. Akhu-Zaheya (Jordan), Diane Castelli (USA), Jennifer Chipps (South Africa), Isabel Amelia Costa Mendes (Brazil), Pirkko Kouri, (Finland), Shane Kruger (Australia), Robert Pyke (USA), Eric de Roode (The Netherlands), Lois Scott (Canada), Angela Single (UK), and Thomas Kwok Shing Wong (Hong Kong).

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ICN TELENURSING NETWORK WEBSITE

Please see the website for a brief history of the network and its aims, objectives, members of the Network Advisory Group, and an online application page. You will also find presentations related to Telenursing and the Network. As this first Telenursing Network Bulletin is being prepared, there are over 100 members in the network, representing over 35 countries.

http://www.icn.ch/telenursing_network.htm

FINLAND TELENURSING

Finland has an ongoing, nationwide project (2008-2012), eNNI <http://www.amk.fi/eni/>, that focuses on development of a coherent model and unified terms for electronic health records. eNNI is the R&D Project for Creation of Nursing Informatics Competence in cooperation between education and working life. The project is financed by the Ministry of Education and the partners are 19 Universities of Applied Sciences. While the partners are developing nursing documentation, they also are learning together with the work communities, creating new knowledge and transforming it to competence to implement the changes into work processes. Learning by Developing (Rajj 2007) is the model of cooperation. The goals of eNNI are the following: 1) dissemination of knowledge concerning the joint model and usage of FinCC, 2) development of the competence needed, both individual and communal competence, 3) promotion of the change required in working processes of nursing care, and 4) development of the competencies needed in constant improvement of nursing action.

Another project is MyWellbeing, which brings public health nurses and nurse midwives together to develop a generic concept describing how individuals and families could benefit from ICT-based health and well-being services.

At the IT@Networking Awards 2009, 78 projects competed for awards, with 22 selected for presentations. Conference attendees selected the top five presentations and these competed in workbench sessions for the three awards. First and second awards went to France and The Netherlands. Finland nurses took third place, with "From Free Text to Standardised Language – The National Development Project of Nursing Documentation in Finland." Congratulations to K. Tanttu and her team!

ENGLAND TELENURSING

NHS Direct and NHS South East Essex Community Healthcare, in collaboration with Docobo Ltd and Choose Independence Ltd, have embarked on an exciting partnership project, to pilot telehealth services to patients in the NHS South East Essex area. This project has four main aims: (1) improve patients' understanding of their condition; and how they can manage and cope with symptoms better; (2) improve the way health care staff prioritise their workload through effective use of patient vital signs data; (3) create case management capacity as a result of more informed home visits and interventions; (4) reduce the number of hospital admissions through effective case management.

To achieve this, carefully selected patients with a primary diagnosis of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, will be able to regularly record agreed data in their own homes. This information will be monitored by staff at NHS Direct who will then contact the patient to provide support and advice about using the equipment. After examining the information and using agreed protocols, NHS Direct will then alert the community services teams to make a decision upon the appropriate level of intervention required.

This partnership work has already enabled the rapid procurement and deployment of telehealth equipment with full support structures, which means the

project has gone from the drawing board to monitoring 65 patients in only seven months. Throughout this project the community teams within this partnership have continued to provide full support to their patients. It is hoped that in the future this service will enhance the ability to provide first class care to patients in the community proving that even though patients are at home they are not alone. For more information, contact Angela Single. angela@ci-ltd.org

CONTIC HEALTH 2009 (CONGRESS ON TECHNOLOGY AND HUMANIZATION IN HEALTH COMMUNICATION)

This two-day congress on 15-16 October 2009 was hosted by the WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing Research Development and the University of Sao Paulo (Brazil) at Ribeirao Preto College of Nursing, under the direction of Conference Organizer Isabel Amelia Costa Mendes (member of the ICN Network Advisory Group). Speakers included Yunkap Kwankam, (Executive Director of ISfTeH), Diane Castelli (Director of Clinical Training AMD Global Telemedicine, Inc and a member of the ICN Network Advisory Board) and Claudia Bartz (ICN staff for the Telenursing Network). Eight speakers from various locations in Brazil gave excellent and challenging presentations about their telenursing work in clinical practice, education, remote locations, and emergency medicine.



Isabel Amelia Costa Mendes (Brazil) and Joanne Chung (Hong Kong)

ISfTeH

The mission of ISfTeH (International Society for Telemedicine and eHealth) is to facilitate the international dissemination of knowledge and experience in Telemedicine and eHealth and to provide access to recognised experts in the field worldwide. ISfTeH is offering free membership to nurses who apply before 31 December 2010. <http://www.isft.net>

RECENT TELEHEALTH PUBLICATIONS

ICN is accumulating references to eHealth, Telehealth, Telenursing, and many variations of those terms. We would like to post them on the Telenursing Network website. If you have recommendations for additional publications please submit them to Claudia Bartz at: cbartz@uwm.edu

Dang S, Dimmick S, Geetanjali K. (2009). Evaluating the evidence base for the use of home telehealth remote monitoring in elderly with heart failure. *Telemedicine and e-Health* 15(8), 783-796.

DelliFraine JL, Dansky KH, Rumberger JS. (2009). The use of knowledge management in telemedicine and perceived effects on patient care activities. *Int J Healthcare Technology and Management* 10(3), 196-209.

Ernesater A, Holmstrom I, Engstrom M. (2009). Telenurses's experiences of working with computerized decision support: supporting, inhibiting and quality improving. *Journal of Advanced Nursing* 65(5), 1074-1083.

Polisena J, Tran K, Cimon K, Hutton B, McGill S, Palmer K. (2009). Home telehealth for diabetes management: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism* 11, 913-930.

Radziewicz RM, Rose JH, Bowman KF, Berila RA, O'Toole EE, Given B. (2009). Establishing treatment fidelity in a coping and communication support telephone

intervention for aging patients with advanced cancer and their family caregivers. *Cancer Nursing* 32(3), 193-202.

Shermer M. (2009). Telecare and self-management: opportunity to change the paradigm? *J Med Ethics* 35, 688-691.

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Med-e-Tel Conference** 14-16 April 2010 Luxembourg.
<http://www.medetel.lu/index.php>
The deadline for abstract submissions is 31 December 2009
- **American Telemedicine Association** 16-18 May 2010 San Antonio Texas.
<http://www.americantelemed.org>
- **Canadian Society of Telehealth** 30 May-2 June 2010 Vancouver British Columbia.
<http://www.cst-sct.org/en/>

We welcome any and all suggestions for ICN Telenursing Network Bulletin topics or content. Examples of submissions include conferences; professional presentations and publications; and telenursing and telehealth applications. We reserve the right to edit all content submitted.

For further information about the Network contact:
Claudia Bartz: cbartz@uwm.edu

The **International Council of Nurses (ICN)** is a federation of 133 national nurses associations representing the millions of nurses worldwide. Operated by nurses and leading nursing internationally, ICN works to ensure quality nursing care for all and sound health policies globally.

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3, place Jean-Marteau, 1201 Geneva, Switzerland