Hello from Frances Hughes, New CEO

It has now been just six months since I took up my new role as Chief Executive Officer of ICN and I am delighted to have this opportunity to introduce myself and to emphasize my personal commitment to ICN, nursing and eHealth. ICN has supported eHealth for over 25 years and continues to provide a leading role on behalf of nurses worldwide. While many areas of the world are yet to feel the benefit of recent technological advances, others have seen enormous changes, particularly over the last couple of decades. eHealth is now a key component of policy agendas around quality and safety, and is also helping to fuel citizen engagement and empowerment. As the global voice of nursing, ICN is an active player in the eHealth agenda. Through the ICN eHealth Programme, we are committed to supporting nursing practice, at all levels, for example through our work on the International Classification for Nursing Practice (ICNP) and Connecting Nurses. We are positioned centrally within the global eHealth community, actively working with organisations such as WHO, ISO, IMIA and IHTSDO to ensure that our work complements and integrates with that of other groups. As a result, ICN is recognised as an international authority on eHealth, driving forward the agenda for the benefit of nursing, thereby ensuring that nurses have the information tools they need to do their daily jobs and to demonstrate the value that nursing brings to care. I look forward to advancing the ICN eHealth programme and hope you will join us in promoting and expanding this vital work.

ICN Congress: Barcelona Spain 27 May -1 June 2017

The 2017 ICN Congress in Barcelona, Spain will have a new modern, streamlined programme allowing for more networking, sharing and interaction. This international gathering of thousands of nurses will explore the key role of nurses in transforming care and will provide opportunities for nurses to build relationships and disseminate nursing knowledge and leadership across specialities, cultures and countries.

The call for abstracts has been published and nurses are strongly encouraged to submit abstracts and plan to attend this exciting conference, “Nurses at the forefront transforming care”. The abstract deadline is 10 October 2016. You are invited to submit an abstract for a concurrent session or a poster. www.icncongress.com
The 13th International Congress in Nursing Informatics (NI 2016), organised by the International Medical Informatics Association - Nursing Informatics working group (IMIA-NI), and supported by a number of partners, including ICN, was held in Geneva Switzerland 25-29 June 2016. Over 500 delegates attended over 80 scientific sessions, panels, workshops and plenary keynotes. The CEO of ICN, Frances Hughes, delivered a keynote ‘Power of data for change’, drawing on examples of how data can facilitate the transformation of nursing and health care. Members of the ICN eHealth team delivered a paper ‘Harmonising Nursing Terminologies Using a Conceptual Framework’, and participated in two panels: ‘Harmonising ICNP and SNOMED CT: a model for effective collaboration’ which celebrated the successful ongoing partnership between ICN and IHTSDO and ‘Facilitating eHealth for all through Connecting Nurses and the Women Observatory for eHealth’, which showcased a selection of initiatives submitted to the Care Challenge programme. Outside the scientific programme, ICN also hosted a working meeting which aimed to establish a pan-European programme of work to support the wider adoption of ICNP, and a social event (at the ICN offices) to celebrate over 25 years of eHealth at ICN.

**NEW ICNP CATALOGUE: PRENATAL NURSING CARE**

The purposes of this latest catalogue are to facilitate documentation of nursing practice by nurses providing care for pregnant women; articulation of prenatal care nursing practice; and to describe, retrieve, compare, and to reuse data to evaluate quality of nursing care and to direct policy. This catalogue was developed with cooperation with Lin Liu, a PhD Candidate and Nurse Lecturer at the College of Nursing, Second Military Medical University in Shanghai, China.

As noted by Frances Hughes, CEO of ICN, “Approximately 830 women die every day from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth (WHO, 2014). Prenatal nurses play a key role in saving lives through early detection and management of life threatening conditions such as cardiovascular disease, hypertension and infection. By documenting the ways in which prenatal nurses provide care for pregnant women, we can help reduce risk and promote more positive outcomes for both the pregnant women and the newborn. This catalogue, specifically aimed at prenatal nursing care, contributes to the reduction of maternal mortality around the world by facilitating communication among health professionals and providing data to examine outcomes and promote further research.”

Catalogues are subsets of ICNP that allow nurses to more readily integrate ICNP into their practice as they work in a specialty area or with clients having specific health conditions or needs. Catalogues do not replace the clinical judgement of the nurse. Nurses can use catalogues as reference tools for documenting care and reflecting on their practice. Nurses’ clinical judgement and decision-making are essential for individualised care of patients and their families and cannot be replaced by any tool. This free catalogue is available to download. www.icn.ch/what-we-do/icnp download/
Spotlight on Aspects of eHealth in an ICN National Nurses Association (NNA)

With each eHealth Bulletin, we share the eHealth-related aspects of an ICN NNA with the aim of increasing the interface between the ICN eHealth Programme and the NNAs.

The First eHealth Strategy for Finnish Nurses

Last year the Finnish Nurses Association (FNA) named a group of eHealth experts from various professional fields closely connected to nursing, e.g. nursing practice, higher education, nursing research and administration. The strategical papers from the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health as well as all EU publications guided the strategic work right from the beginning. The collaboration with the FNA was essential during the eHealth strategy building. The main goal of the expert group was to describe nurses’ contribution to the national strategy concerning eHealth development and implementation in national health and social care. The group searched for answers, discussed strategic issues, wrote drafts, and sent texts for open commentary circles. One leading issue was that the technology is increasingly supporting patient/client participation.

The other chosen themes of the eHealth strategy are: eHealth services as part of nurse’s daily work; ethical guidelines and working models in eHealth services; eHealth services and nurse competences and capacity building; eHealth services and nurse leadership; and eHealth, digitalisation, research and nurse developers. The far-reaching vision of the strategy is healthier citizens and a better and more effective care to patients through ethically and technically sound advanced nursing care.

Nurse education in Finland provides nurses with the competence to take part to development work. On the other hand, there is still a variation in how students obtain knowledge and skills to work in eHealth services with clients. FNA hopes that the Strategy can be one tool to enable students and teachers to start professional discussions about eHealth, and to answer questions such as how to work in e-client contacts; how to create new services; and how to build new pathways to patients where the virtual services are one possibility to access good and high quality care.

eHealth, especially mobile health, sees a constant development of new services and so it is important to have continuous development and research work under this subject. Citizens and health professionals need new skills, knowledge and competence to communicate and have useful and trustworthy services. Security and ethics are important key elements to eservices, in order to provide new solutions to healthcare. FNA’s strategy is to take part in the discussion, nationally and internationally, on how we can take full advantage of existing services so that the expertise of its personnel would not be an obstacle, and how we can develop eServices, nationally and internationally. The Finnish nurses aim to be part of that development road in Europe and abroad and lead the way to better health care services to all citizens in Finland and in EU.

FNA will distribute and undertake the update of the strategy. FNA encourages all other nursing associations to their own eHealth strategies. Globally, digitalisation tackles the demand for global health education, increases awareness of nurse interconnectedness and gives possibilities to reach and share information among nurses. www.nurses.fi/
The ICN Dublin City University (DCU) School of Nursing and Human Sciences ICNP User Group is located in North Dublin, Ireland at Dublin City University. The mission of the DCU ICNP User Group is to establish a national user group for nursing terminology in the Republic of Ireland to advance the profession of nursing and influence health and social care policy at a national and international level. The centre will advance uptake and use of ICNP in practice in Ireland and establish a research cluster for mapping of ICNP terms and development of catalogues with existing partner services. The centre will promote use of ICNP equivalence tables with SNOMED-CT in line with the national clinical programme objectives through the Health Service Executive Information Directorate Authority as appropriate.

Through research and development, the DCU ICNP User Group will collaborate with eHealth Ireland and promote uptake and use of health informatics terminology standards such as SNOMED-CT. The centre will also work on established relationships with existing ICNP accreditation centres and seek funding for future initiatives. The centre plans to disseminate information on research activity both nationally through the National Nursing Association, Irish Nurses and Midwives Organisation World of Irish Nursing and Midwifery Journal, conferences and peer-reviewed publications. The Irish Centre will join the current 13 ICN-Accredited ICNP Research & Development Centres.

www.icn.ch/what-we-do/icn-accredited-centres-for-icnpr-research-a-development/

Director Pamela Hussey, Co-Directors Elizabeth Adams and Anne Matthews

eHEALTH PROGRAMME COLLABORATIONS

Med-e-Tel 2016 is an event of the International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth (ISfTeH) held in Luxembourg each April. ICN made a presentation at the conference titled “Terminology Requirements of Telehealth Nursing.”

ICN collaborated with the management of the ISfTeH Telenursing Working Group and held a virtual telehealth nursing education sessions for ISfTeH and ICN. The four PowerPoint presentations have been posted to the ICN website. “Connected Nursing Care in Telemedicine” (Marisela Cigliuti, USA), “Ensuring Safety and Avoiding Catastrophe in Telephone Nursing” (Elizabeth Greenberg, USA), “Nurses Using EHRs in Mental Health Settings” (Gillian Strudwick, Canada) and “The Value of Nurse Blogging” (Rose Vella and Thomas Fish, USA).

www.icn.ch/networks/telenursing-conference-presentations/
**NEW TRANSLATIONS OF ICNP**

ICN appreciates and recognises the work of these and all translators who help to advance ICNP in their countries.

**GERMAN**

The German Speaking User Group has recently translated the ICNP® 2015 release into German. The group consists of the three National Nursing Associations of Austria, Germany and Switzerland and the three national User Groups of these countries. The role of the three countries’ NNA’s within the ICNP Centre is to support the future development and implementation of the ICNP by using the respective networks and media resources. Several results of practical use, of translating ICNP catalogues and of mappings with other classifications like LEP® (a Swiss nursing intervention classification) showed the need for a major revision of the ICNP 2011 release. The translation efforts have been led by Peter Tackenberg, Senior Consultant with the German Nurses Association - DBfK, along with Peter Koenig (director ICNP® Centre), Franziska Perhab (Austrian Nurses Association - OEGKV) and Dieter Baumberger (Swiss Nurses Association - SBK).

**PORTUGUESE**

The 2015 release of ICNP was recently translated into Portuguese of Portugal. The Ordem dos Enfermeiros Board of Directors invited several experts and institutions to be part of the translation team: Associação Portuguesa de Enfermeiros - APE, Direção-geral da Saúde – DGS, Administração Central do Sistema de Saúde – ACSS and the Escola Superior de Enfermagem do Porto. As a result, nurses from various work contexts (health care, nursing associations, research, governmental policy makers and education) were integrated in the regional and national groups working on validation and translation.
The Norwegian Nurses Organisation held an ICNP seminar in Oslo and Tromso in February 2016. Norway has a very elongated shape, with one of the longest and most rugged coastlines in the world, and some 50,000 islands off the extremely indented coastline. As you can see from the map, Oslo and Tromso are not exactly close to one another. The first seminar was held in the capital of Norway, Oslo; and the second in Tromso, above the Arctic Circle. The goal of the seminars was to increase knowledge and focus about quality improvement and structuring of electronic health records and the use of ICNP.

Kari E. Bugge, director of the NNO’s Department of Nursing and Health Politics started the first seminar with a focus on the importance of terminologies for nursing. Other speakers included; Nick Hardiker, director of the ICNP program, who spoke about the content and development of ICNP; Professor Paulino Sousa from the Nursing College in Porto, Portugal, who addressed making nursing visible through ICNP and quality indicators; Professor Ernesto Morais, from the Nursing College in Porto, who talked about the integration of ICNP in their Bachelor program; and Mia Andersen, President of the NNO Student Organisation, who presented the student’s perspective concerning ICNP. Students in Norway require a major change in their education concerning documentation, knowledge about ICNP and electronic health records. They applaud the idea of ICNP and integration in education. Finally, Lene Laukvik presented her Master’s thesis which looked at concepts and terms necessary for documenting care to people with dementia, linking them to ICNP.

In the second seminar held in Tromso, Bente Christensen and Rune Pedersen, from the University Hospital in Northern Norway (UNN), talked about processes concerning the development of national archetypes. The participants were invited guests from the Directorate of Health, nursing colleges/universities, the Norwegian Medical Association, electronic health record vendors, key leaders in community health services and nurses.

Top left: Rune Pedersen, University Hospital Northern Norway Kari Bugge (NNO), Paulino Sousa (ESENF), Ernesto Morais (ESENF)

Bottom left: Nicholas Hardiker (ICN), Kathy Molstad (NNO), Bente Christensen (University Hospital Northern Norway), Phoung Pedersen (DIPS).
eHEALTH PUBLICATIONS

ICN has developed two further benefit statements of ICNP to help a general audience better understand the different ways ICNP can be used and the benefits of using it. The two new benefits are titled: “Harmonising Nursing Terminologies using ICNP” and “ICNP & RNAO: Transforming Nursing Practice Worldwide”. www.icn.ch/what-we-do/icnp-benefits/


DIRECTOR OF ICNP IS RETIRING

Following over 22 years with ICN, Amy Coenen will retire at the end of July as Director of the ICNP Programme, which is part of the ICN eHealth programme. During her tenure, Amy oversaw the development of ICNP from the alpha version to its current release, seeing the terminology grow to over 4000 concepts. Amy was instrumental in establishing lasting relationships with a number of organisations including WHO, IHTSDO, ISO, IMIA and others in a shared quest to harmonise terminologies and achieve interoperability between different eHealth applications. In her work with ICN, Amy has always been an advocate for nursing, in particular international nursing, and eHealth. Amy remarked on her retirement, “I believe that the ICN eHealth Programme has empowered nurses and countries to advance nursing in practice, administration, research and policy. We understand that it is solutions for adoption and use of technology, not technology itself, which are required for advancing nursing practice and patient outcomes. ICNP is one solution for supporting nurses to improve health outcomes. ICNP aims to facilitate nurses to communicate and implement evidence-based practice, while providing data to generate new science. It has been an honor to work for ICN for these many years and to see the advancement of ICNP.” We wish her all the best in her retirement.
eHEALTH TERMINOLOGY HARMONISATION ACTIVITIES
MAPPING ICNP AND SNOMED-CT

The ICN eHealth Programme is committed to ensuring that nurses who chose to use ICNP remain connected to a wider national and international informatics infrastructure. SNOMED-CT is the world’s largest multi-disciplinary terminology. It is used at the national level in several countries. Through a harmonisation agreement between ICN and the International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation (IHTSDO), which oversees the maintenance and distribution of SNOMED-CT, the eHealth team in collaboration with IHTSDO has developed and released two tables of equivalents between the two terminologies for select diagnosis and intervention concepts. These are available for download via the ICN eHealth web pages. The two tables will facilitate comparison between SNOMED-CT and ICNP-encoded data, allowing nurses to make full use of the benefits of both terminologies. www.icn.ch/what-we-do/icnp-download/

CONNECTING NURSES
Connecting Nurses, an initiative supported by Sanofi in partnership with a number of nursing organisations including ICN, seeks to bring together nurses online and in real time: connecting-nurses.com

Under the Connecting Nurses umbrella, Care Challenge is a recognition programme that highlights nursing innovations. In December 2015, three ‘favourite’ vaccination projects were selected for further promotional support. Information Shareapy, another initiative of Connecting Nurses, continues to grow in content and users. Information Shareapy is a prototype of a patient education service for nurses to share health web links, from nurse to nurse, and to patients. Each year Connecting Nurses supports International Nurses’ Day through promotional events and publicity. Be sure to share your project today! care-challenge.com/

The Women Observatory for eHealth, or WeObservatory, is an Action Plan of the Millennia2025 Foundation in partnership with Connecting Nurses, Connecting Midwives and UniversalDoctor that provides technical and financial support to a selection of innovative eHealth projects, initiatives and multilingual web and mobile apps. Please visit the new website. www.m2025-weobservatory.org.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

AMIA 2016
Chicago, Illinois, USA
12-16 November 2016
www.amia.org/

HIMSS 2017
Orlando, Florida, USA
19-23 February 2017
www.himss.org/
The International Council of Nurses (ICN) is a federation of more than 130 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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We welcome any and all suggestions for the ICN eHealth Bulletin topics or content. Examples of submissions include conferences, professional presentations and publications, ICNP translations, and research or clinical applications and professional news and publications. We reserve the right to edit all content submitted. Be sure to provide a contact person’s name and email address with any submission.

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