

**10<sup>th</sup> Meeting  
Paediatric Nursing Associations of Europe**

**Notes 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2007, Headquarters of the Hellenic Nurses Association, Athens, Greece**

Attendees

Evangelos Dousis, Vice President Pediatric Nurses Sector of Hellenic Nurses Association [ED]  
Vasiliki Matziou, President Pediatric Nurses Sector of Hellenic Nurses Association [VM]  
Helen Kyristi, Pediatric Nurses Sector of Hellenic Nurses Association [HK]  
Helen Evangelou, Pediatric Nurses Sector of Hellenic Nurses Association [HE]  
Petsios Konstantinos, Pediatric Nurses Sector of Hellenic Nurses Association [PK]  
Panagiota Vouzi, Children's Hospital 'P&A Kyriakoy'/Pediatric Nurses Sector of Hellenic Nurses Association [PV]  
Anne-Marie Bangels, President Paediatric Nurses Association, Belgium [AMB]  
Corry van den Hoed-Heerschop, President Dutch Association of Paediatric Nurses, Netherlands [CvH]  
Ingrid Hankes Drielsma, Dutch Association of Paediatric Nurses, Netherlands [IHD]  
Mary Godfrey, Irish Association of Children's Nurses, Ireland [MG]  
Dragica Bestak, President Croatia Nurses Association of Paediatric Nursing Society [DB]  
Ivana Harvat, Croatia Nurses Association of Paediatric Nursing [IH]  
Immacolata Dall'Oglio on behalf of Italian Nurses Association [ID]  
Alison Twycross, Royal College of Nursing, United Kingdom [AT]  
Fiona Smith, Royal College of Nursing, United Kingdom [FS]

Apologies

Paul De Raeve, General Secretary EFN  
Britt Marie Ygge, Swedish Pediatric Nurses Association, [BMY]  
Marie Edwinson Mansson, Vice-President, Swedish Pediatric Nurses Association [MEM]  
Beisa Zabkar, President Pediatric Nurses Association of Slovenia [BZ]

1. Welcome/introductions

ED welcomed attendees to the meeting and to Greece

FS to write to Beisa Zabkar to confirm arrangements for meeting in Slovenia in 2008

2. Update of Children's Nursing in Greece

- New committee at Greek Nurses regulatory body just elected. They need time to prepare so as to work together.
- Problem in relation to nursing shortage. Very few new nurses since 2002/3 and therefore problems in running Paediatric Nursing programmes. Difficulties releasing nurses from hospital. Greek laws stipulate that nurse must work in public hospital for 2 years before they can access speciality programmes. Paediatric Nursing programmes in danger of not being continued.
- Ageing nursing workforce. Nurses retire at 65. Estimate that they require 40,000 new nurses to meet the shortages.
- New nurses in Greece changing thinking and raising nursing profile in the community. Nurses now working in schools and the community. In the future Paediatric nurses will be working in the community.
- Research indicates that only 55% of those undertaking nursing have selected as their first choice of a chosen career option. They are allocated based on their results of exams.

- Need to update laws in relation to education of nurses, including paediatric nursing and also laws in relation to public sector workers. Anticipate reforms in relation to insurance schemes and public sector ways of working.
- The quality of services in private hospitals varies from hospital to hospital. On the other hand the care in public hospitals is more homogenous. Children, neonates and critical care patients, in general have better service and quality of care in public sector hospitals. Long waiting times in public hospitals for elective surgery.

ID highlighted the experiences in Italy. ID to send information to those interested. Please email ID at [machimauri@libero.it](mailto:machimauri@libero.it)

### 3. Matters arising from notes of meeting March 2007

#### 3.1 *Communication update*

FS highlighted recent PNAE update circulated to Nursing Associations across Europe. Positive response received from many countries, with Portugal and Spain seeking further information about joining PNAE. Members highlighted that updates re PNAE were included in own country professional nursing newsletters and journals.

#### 3.2 *Written update for websites*

FS requested members to check the PNAE website and to provide written updates for uploading onto the website.

<http://www2.rcn.org.uk/cyp/forums>

[http://www2.rcn.org.uk/cyp/forums/other\\_forums\\_and\\_groups/paediatric\\_nursing\\_associations\\_of\\_europe](http://www2.rcn.org.uk/cyp/forums/other_forums_and_groups/paediatric_nursing_associations_of_europe)

##### **Action:**

- Members of PNAE asked to look at website and to forward any updates/additional information electronically to FS - **All**

#### 3.3 *Paediatric Nurse Education in Europe: A position statement by the Paediatric Nursing Associations of Europe (PNAE)*

Discussed amendment to the position statement and further refinements made.

##### **Action:**

- Send to PNAE members with deadline for comment. If no response received the amendment is to be considered agreed – **FS/All**
- Following agreement send with covering letter to Loredana Sasso and copy to Anne Ryan – **FS**
- Anne Ryan's contact details to be sent to FS - **MG**

#### 3.4 *EFN links & mapping exercise*

MG has made contact and due to meet her country representative in the near future. Other members of PNAE have not yet been contacted. Issue discussed and PNAE members to be proactive and arrange meetings.

##### **Action:**

- PNAE members to make contact with country representative on EFN and arrange to meet as soon as possible – **All**

#### 3.5 *Safe Care Research*

ED discussed at previous meeting. Information sent to FS and circulated to PNAE members. Nurses in Greece not yet ready to take forward.

##### **Action:**

- Email to be sent to PNAE members to advise when ready to progress – **ED/FS**

### 3.6 *Potential change of Autumn meeting date to end of October 2008*

Discussed and members present decided to keep the date previously agreed.

#### **Action:**

- Email BZ to identify if a visit to the Children's Hospital/Unit could be arranged for 8<sup>th</sup> November 2008

### 4. 3<sup>rd</sup> International Congress in Greece, 2007

ED presented issues and concerns about the organisation of the Congress [see attached presentation].

- Proposed in future for separate Congress from the doctors.
- Difficulties related to timing of Congress i.e. August and summer holidays.
- Keynote speaker: Greek Commissioner at EU for Children's Rights cancelled at last minute
- Time at leisure instead of lunch
- Currently there are 168 registrations for the Nursing Congress
- 81 oral presentations and 38 poster presentations [7 oral presentations and 4 poster presentations have been withdrawn]

#### **Action:**

- Formal written evaluation post Congress to be prepared and discussed at next meeting - **ED**

### 5. Minimum Paediatric Nurse staffing levels

Presentation from FS highlighting key findings and similarities [See attached] Outline content of draft position statement discussed.

#### **Action:**

- Circulate pdf of RCN guidance re staffing levels – **FS**
- Draft staffing levels position statement and circulate for comment and feedback within given timeframe – **FS**

### 6. Paediatric quality indicators and satisfaction tools

FS highlighted that EACH were not planning on undertaking a further European wide survey of quality of hospital provision for children. Members present discussed the way forward.

#### **Action:**

- Draft questionnaire to be prepared based on AMB presentation and content of EACH charter – **AMB/FS**
- Proposed questionnaire to be circulated for comment and feedback within given timeframe - **All**

### 7. Care of the critically ill child requiring high dependency care on general paediatric wards

AMB raised concerns and issues in relation to above. Members present discussed the provision of HD care within the different countries, highlighting paediatric early warning systems, the organisation of care, medical and nursing support, location and equipment, medical and nursing cover out of hours and at weekends. In most places medical cover provided by paediatric intensivists and HD units linked to PICU

#### **Action:**

- Members to send any information to AMB – **All**
- Contact details for Colin Way to be sent to AMB - **FS**

8. Any other business

- Discussed progress against initial priority areas identified in 2003 [see attached summary of issues and priority work areas]. PNAE has achieved and progressed many of the areas highlighted.
- Potential collaborative research. Members to discuss with professional paediatric nursing organisations in their own country and to bring ideas to next meeting
- Discussed other organisations PNAE should forge links with across Europe. OECD suggested.
- IHD raised potential work to be undertaken by ESPNIC in relation to Education: knowledge, skills and competency framework for Paediatric and Neonatal intensive care nurses across Europe. Members discussed issues. IHD to link with ESPNIC with a view to producing a jointly agreed framework between ESPNIC and PNAE based on PNAE framework.
- MG highlighted that FePI have recently released the 'Code of Ethics and Conduct of European Nursing' for consultation. The aim of which was to protect the public and ensure patient safety.

**Action:**

- Invite Paul de Raeve to meeting in Belgium on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2008 - **FS**
- Place collaborative research on agenda of next meeting – **FS**
- Place issues and priority work items on agenda of next meeting - **FS**
- Identify link person with OECD. Check with Paul de Raeve who to contact – **FS**
- IHD to link with ESPNIC, to update at a future meeting of PNAE and to circulate draft in due course for joint agreement between PNAE and ESPNIC – **IHD**
- PNAE members to review the FePI consultation and to send comments to FS by **6<sup>th</sup> September 2007 – All**
- PNAE response to FePI consultation to be submitted by 10<sup>th</sup> September 2007 - **FS**

9. Dates/venues of meetings for 2008

- 7<sup>th</sup> March 2008 – Brussels, Belgium [Visit to children's hospital following the meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2008; tour of Brussels on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2008]
- 7<sup>th</sup> November 2008 – Slovenia
- Spring 2009 - Sweden
- Autumn 2009 – Croatia
- Spring 2010 - London

15.30 Meeting closed