South Africa had the privilege of hosting ICN congress on behalf of Africa. Nurses of the World converged to Durban from the 27th June to the 4th July 2009. DENOSA proudly hosted 5 000 nurses who attended the congress. Africa was in majority as about 3300 nurses were from the African Continent. This is an indication that South African Nurses should never look down upon themselves. Even other political programmes in the country were put on halt as the Honourable Deputy President Mr Kgalema Motlanthe Minister of Health, Dr Aaron Motswaledi; Premier of Kwazulu Natal, Dr Zweli Mkhize and MEC for Health in Kwazulu Natal Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo graced the occasion.

Curationis had an opportunity of hosting an International Editorial Board meeting, on the 30th June 2009. The aim of the meeting was to introduce Curationis Editorial Committee to the International Advisory Board. We also invited the Executive members of the National Executive Committee of DENOSA to meet our Advisory Board. We had very constructive discussions which assisted in planning the future of Curationis. We also had an opportunity of marketing Curationis Internationally.

I would like to urge South African nurses not to loose the momentum of conducting research. We had very informative and thought provoking presentations. We all enjoyed the research environment that was prevailing. We are all aware that research is not only for academics but for all even those who are rendering nursing care. We become better informed when we conduct research to answer complex questions related to our care giving role and this improves the quality of care that we render to patients.

Presentations were based on the following sub themes: The nursing workforce and workplace; pandemics/disasters; ethics/human rights; clinical care and patient safety; nursing education and the learning environment; advocacy, lobbying and legislation; care systems; technology, innovation and informatics; leadership and regulation. Lets continue to lead change and build healthier nations through quality research.

This issue

The first article is more about the plight of nurses who are working in psychiatric institutions: The lived experience by psychiatric nurses of aggression and violence from patients in a Gauteng psychiatric institution. It is important to read this article in order to understand the challenges which nurses are experiencing regarding caring for psychiatric patients.

The second article focuses on Adolescent mothers’ non-utilisation of antenatal care services in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. It is important to understand why Adolescents do not use antenatal services. It would be interesting to compare this situation to South African context. Is this the reason why we have more terminations of pregnancies among our teenagers?

Training issues were addressed by the following three articles:

Clinical skills required of ophthalmic nurse practitioners in tertiary level public hospitals in the Western Cape Province. It would be interesting to find out whether ophthalmic nurses have the necessary skills to render quality care to patients or not.

An assessment of teaching strategies used by lecturers at a nursing college in Mpumalanga.

Abortion care training framework for nurses within the context of higher education in the Western Cape.

I would therefore urge all nurse educators to read these articles.

Parents become emotional patients when their children are sick. How do we support them? The article on: Managerial guidelines to support parents during the hospitalisation of their children in a private paediatric unit would be interesting to read.

The last two articles deals with: Experiences of primary health care nurses in implementing integrated management of childhood illnesses strategy at selected clinics of Limpopo Province. This is a new strategy in the country; it would be important to find out if Limpopo has succeeded in its implementation and compare these findings with other provinces. For Primary Health Care Nurses and Nurse Educators this is a must.

Reflecting on ‘meaningful research’: A qualitative secondary analysis. Questions such as what is a meaningful research would be better addressed by this article. I encourage you all to read this edition.

Prof Mashudu Davhana-Maselese
Editor in Chief
DPhil; MCur; Hon (BACur); RN; RM

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