

NEWSLETTER



EUSEN

European Society for emergency Nursing

Dear Colleagues,

The European Society for Emergency Nursing looks back on an interesting year.

We met twice in 2014, first in Pordenone in Mai then in Brussels in November where we also held the General Assembly (GA).

It seems like EuSEN's meetings always take place when some major events are celebrated. Twice it happened that EuSEN got surprised with a fair in the streets. After the meeting in Pordenone we ended up celebrating with the alpinists.



Where as in Brussels the student organizations made a real effort to get wild in the streets to celebrate "Saint-verhaegen"



Then for the first time we got two sponsors to finance the organization and catering of the board meeting and GA. The generous sponsors were:

Philips Belgium and Physio-control Belgium. Thanks to these sponsors we experienced a fantastic organized GA.

PHILIPS



www.eusen.org

EuSEN e-newsletter, edition 7, 2014

At the GA, 22 members attended representing the following countries: Belgium, Croatia, Iceland, Italy, Norway The Netherlands, Turkey, Slovenia, Sweden, and Switzerland. As an individual member attended from Germany: Margot Dietz-Wittstock

Sadly we had to say goodbye to the former Vice-President Liselotte Björk from Sweden. She has left the board due to a change in her career.



Liselotte was a most appreciated board member from the early days since EuSEN's inception. We would like to thank her for her commitment and wish her the best of luck for the future.

Lastly, necessary elections to the board were held, as a result of which I was elected as new Vice President and we were very happy to welcome Gudbjörg Palsdottir from Island as a new board member.



NEW: We freshened up the website and EuSEN is now to be found on Facebook and Twitter.



Petra Valk-Zwickl
Vice-President EuSEN

Impressions GA 2014



Welcome to our new board member:

Guðbjörg Pálsdóttir
from Island



Many thanks that I was given the opportunity to join the EuSEN board to represent the Icelandic Emergency Nurses within Europe.

I was asked by my EuSEN board colleagues to introduce my self:

I graduated with Bsc in Nursing from the University of Iceland in 1990,
MSc in Critical Care/Trauma Nursing from University of Maryland at Baltimore in 1997.

Since 1992 I've been working, more or less, in the Emergency Services field and held various administration positions plus clinical work. I was the Nurse Manager at the Emergency Department for 6 years, Chief Nursing Executive of the Emergency Services and later the Chief Nursing Executive Assistant of the Landspítali University Hospital (LUH). From 2008 I've been licensed Clinical Nurse Specialist in Emergency Nursing and is working as such at the Emergency Department at LUH.

Furthermore I work with the Icelandic Nurse's Association (INA) and have been the chairperson for the Emergency Nurses Chapter, within the INA for several years. In addition I'm the Vice President of the INA.

For the past 15 years I've been teaching at the University of Iceland, in BSc, Diploma and Masters Nursing Programs as well as working with various multidisciplinary affiliates regarding national Emergency Services, such as National Civil Protection and Emergency Management.

So..... I hope this is enough introduction. As you can see Emergency Nursing and related topics have occupied majority of my professional and often my personal life. I sometimes say that Emergency Nursing is a specific lifestyle that I'm proud of. I've limitless interest in everything that has to do with Emergency Nursing plus national disasters and nursing education ☺

Looking forward to working for European Emergency Nurses .

Guðbjörg

www.eusen.org

Crowded?

Naomi van der Linden¹ and Christien van der Linden²



¹ Erasmus University Rotterdam, Institute for Medical Technology Assessment, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

² Medical Center Haaglanden, The Hague, The Netherlands.

October 27, 2014, a Monday evening at the emergency department (ED) in The Netherlands.

The lay press headlined: “Emergency departments in Amsterdam overcrowded” [1].

Emergency departments in Amsterdam could not handle the influx of patients and ambulances had to divert to other hospitals. The reasons for the ED crowding were not clear: “it was an ordinary Monday evening, there were no events in the city”, the spokesman of one hospital in Amsterdam said [1]. The personnel of the crowded EDs had to refer patients with minor injuries and minor illnesses away to the Zaans Medical Center, a hospital located in a city nearby Amsterdam. In the course of the evening, crowding occurred in Zaans Medical Center as well.

The same evening in The Hague, about 50 kilometers from Amsterdam, another emergency department, Medical Center Haaglanden (MCH) Westeinde, struggled with crowding. In fact, MCH Westeinde struggles with crowding almost every Monday. And who knows... maybe many more EDs in the Netherlands struggled with crowding that evening. Emergency nurses en emergency nurse managers know that Monday nights are usually not the best evenings at their EDs...

Often, it is believed that ED crowding happens in the United States of America (USA), in Australia... but not in Europe. However, more and more European studies on ED crowding are being published. In our study conducted in 2012, 68% of the ED managers in the Netherlands indicated to have crowding-issues at their EDs [2]. In this study, crowding was defined as having more patients in the ED than treatment rooms or more patients than staff should ideally care for. Overcrowding was defined as dangerous crowding, with an extreme volume of patients in ED treatment areas, forcing the ED to operate beyond its capacity [3].

Emergency department crowding is associated with impaired care processes and negative patient outcomes, such as delays in treatment and increased risk of adverse outcomes [4]. Emergency department crowding lacks a standardized scale or universally accepted definition: no two ED managers are talking about exactly the same entity when they discuss the subject. Measures of crowding often use emergency providers’ opinions as an outcome variable, as we did in the study mentioned above. This method obviously has some drawbacks, however, expert opinion is a logical starting point for development of quantitative measures of ED crowding.

One of the quantitative instruments that is used in the USA to measure crowding is the NEDOCS, the National Emergency Department Overcrowding Scale [5]. The NEDOCS includes the following items:

1. ED patients (indexed to ED beds), 2. the number of ventilators in use in the emergency department, 3. longest admit time, 4. waiting room time for the last patient called to a bed, and 5. indexed admits in the emergency department (indexed to hospital beds). These items are entered into an algorithm and yield a score between 1 and 200, with a score of less than 100 representing an ED which is 'not overcrowded' and a score of more than or equal to 100 representing an 'overcrowded' ED. Within this spectrum, six categories exist, from 'not busy' to 'dangerously overcrowded'.

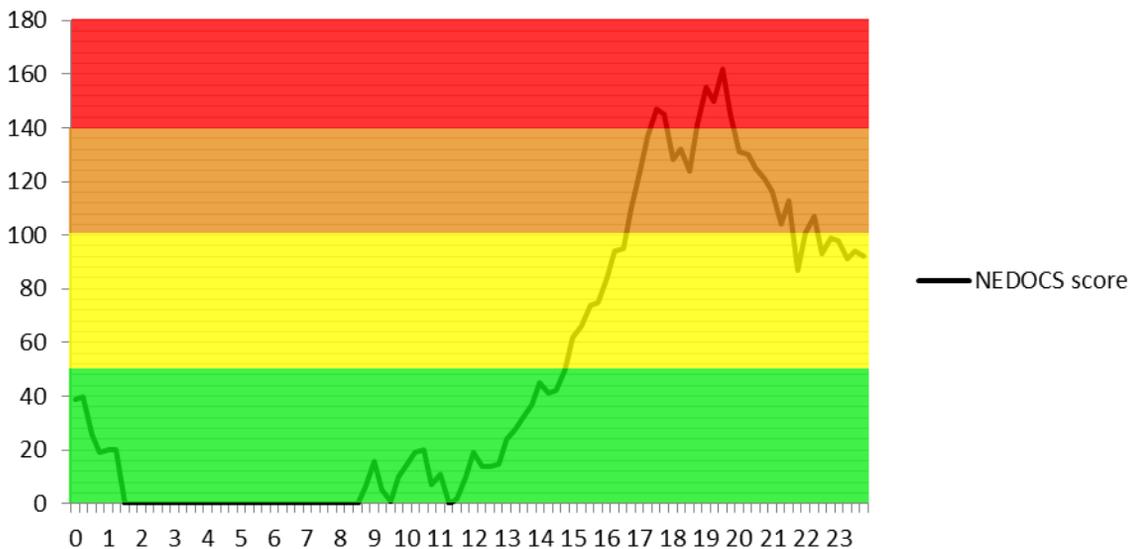


Figure: NEDOCS-scores at the ED of MCH Westeinde, The Hague, October 27 2014

Since a few months, the NEDOCS scores are calculated every 15 minutes at the ED of MCH Westeinde in The Hague, 24/7. The figure of Monday, October 27 2014 shows that: 1. the NEDOCS seems to be applicable in a Dutch emergency department (although research is necessary to conform that), and 2. the nurses were right: it was indeed a busy evening!

References

- 1 Skipr Redactie. Opnamestop op alle eerste hulp in Amsterdam. 28-10-2014.
- 2 van der Linden C, Reijnen R, Derlet RW, Lindeboom R, van der Linden N, Lucas C, et al. Emergency department crowding in The Netherlands: managers' experiences. *Int J Emerg Med* 2013; **6**:41.
- 3 Schneider SM, Gallery ME, Schafermeyer R, Zwemer FL. Emergency department crowding: a point in time. *Ann Emerg Med* 2003; **42**:167-172.
- 4 Pines JM, Pollack CV, Jr., Diercks DB, Chang AM, Shofer FS, Hollander JE. The association between emergency department crowding and adverse cardiovascular outcomes in patients with chest pain. *Acad Emerg Med* 2009; **16**:617-625.
- 5 Weiss SJ, Derlet R, Arndahl J, Ernst AA, Richards J, Fernandez-Frackelton M, et al. Estimating the degree of emergency department overcrowding in academic medical centers: results of the National ED Overcrowding Study (NEDOCS). *Acad Emerg Med* 2004; **11**:38-50.

EuSEN Board wishes you all Merry X-mas and a happy New Year!



Vlaamse
Vereniging
Verpleegkundigen
Spoedgevallenzorg vzw

**A HAPPY FESTIVE SEASON AND BEST
WISHES FOR 2015 FROM V.V.V.S**



*Hope to see you all in 2015
Door Lauwaert
President EuSEN*

Happy New Year



Dutch Association of
Emergency Nurses

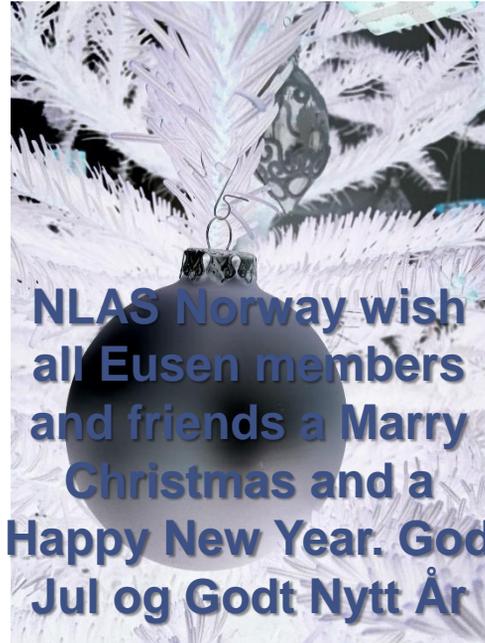
De Beroepsvereniging voor de Acute Zorg



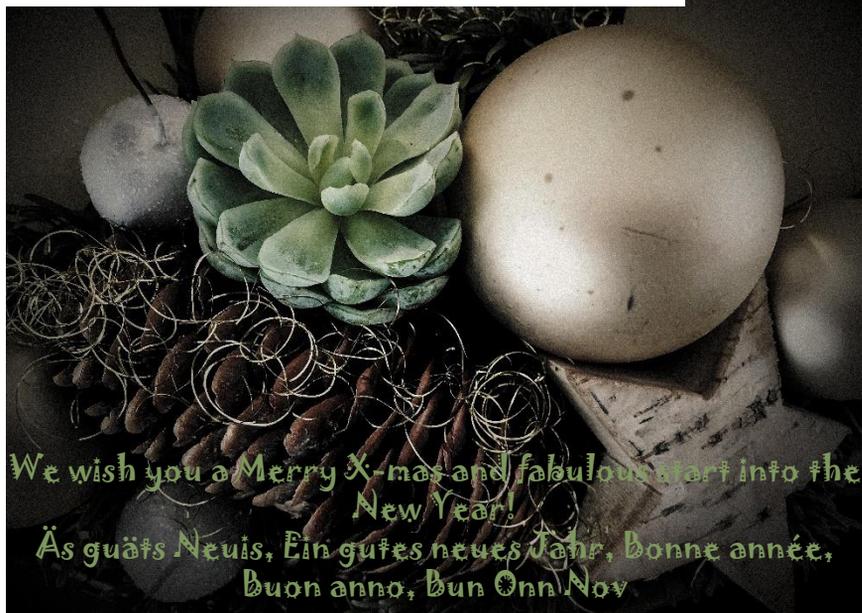
*Radosnych Świąt Bożego Narodzenia
zyczą Członkowie oraz Zarząd PTPR.*



NSFs LANDSGRUPPE
AV AKUTTSYKEPLEIERE



SCHWEIZERISCHE INTERESSENGEMEINSCHAFT NOTFALLPFLEGE
COMMUNAUTÉ D'INTERÊTS SOINS D'URGENCE SUISSE
WWW.NOTFALLPFLEGE.CH





"Cari Colleghi il 2014 è stato un anno molto importante per AISACE che è diventata ITC American Heart Association, arricchendo così il pacchetto di eventi formativi rivolto ai soci ed assumendo maggiore rilevanza scientifica. Per il 2015 ci sono altri importanti progetti in cantiere e continuare ad essere membri dell'EuSEN ci permetterà di confrontarci con Colleghi di altre nazioni e realtà.

Il Presidente e il Consiglio Direttivo vi augurano un 2015 pieno di soddisfazioni professionali e successi.

Il Presidente AISACE
Dr. Luciano Clarizia"



A.F.I.U.



**A brand New Year is about to begin.
Hope you are ready for more
great experiences and adventures!
Happy New years!**

The board of « Association Francophone des Infirmiers
d'Urgences » - BELGIUM – www.afiu.be

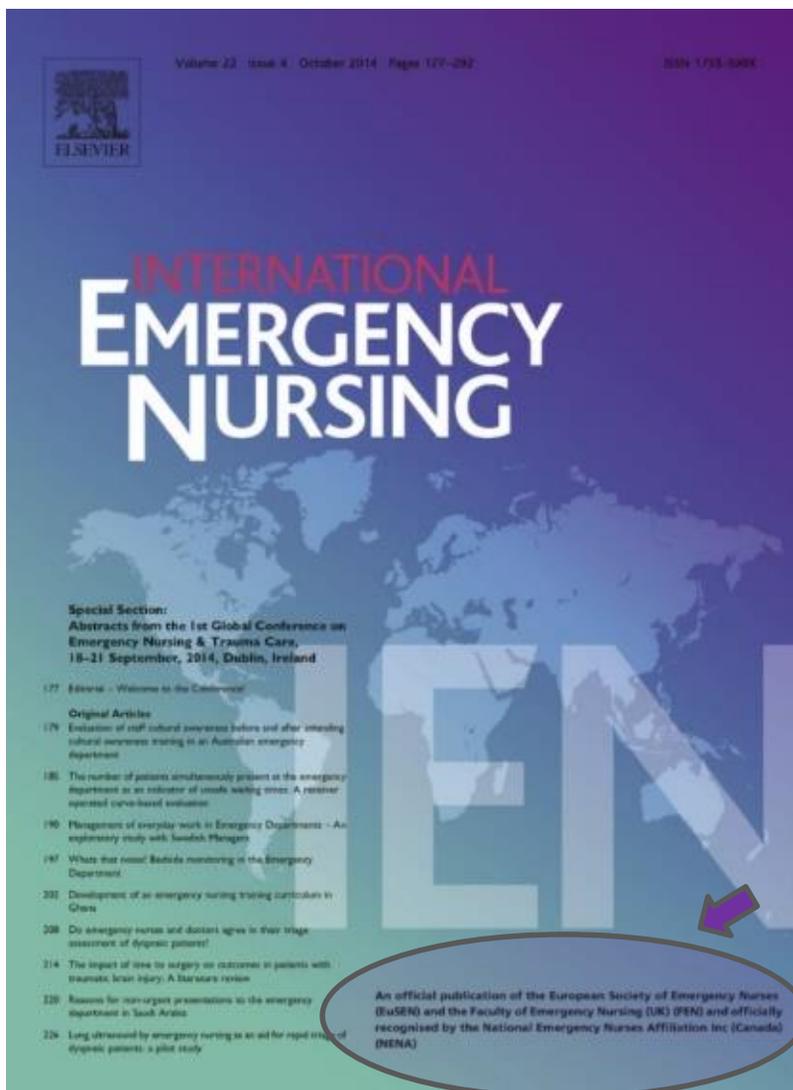


Upcoming Events:

- **ISICEM** Intensive Care and Emergency Medicine: 17 - 20th March 2015, Brussels, Belgium
- **RCN** Emergency Care Association conference and exhibition 19 – 20th March 2015 Manchester Conference Centre, Manchester M1 3BB
- **SWEETs** 16 - 20th March 2015 in Stockholm (nursing)
- **‘Infected’** congress of the Dutch Association of Emergency Nurses (NVSHV) 27th March 2015 www.nvshv.nl
- **Ahemkon** Conference in Turkey: 1 - 4th April 2015 in Antalya, Turkey <http://ahemkon2015.org/>
- **Conference in Croatia**: 23 - 26th April 2015, Sibenik, Croatia
- **DGINA** Conference in Germany: Köln 3 - 5th September 2015
- **ENA** Conference: 28th September - 3rd October 2015 Space Orlando, Florida
- **EUSEM** Conference Italy: 10 -14th October 2015 in Torino

Official Journal of European society for Emergency Nursing **EuSEN**

Subscription available with a
45% discount for EuSEN members





EUSEN

European Society for emergency Nursing

Are you interested in Emergency Nursing?
Then join the European Society for Emergency Nursing NOW!

The society's aim is to promote nursing activities in the field of emergency care

The Society's purpose is:

- *to promote science and art of nursing in emergency care
- *to promote contacts, exchange and cooperation between European emergency nursing associations
- *to represent emergency nurses within and outside of Europe
- *to draft and promote standards for training, implementation of the profession and management in the field of emergency nursing
- *to harmonize the training of emergency nursing across Europe
- *to promote cooperation with all healthcare professionals, institutions and organizations with a professional interest in emergency care
- *to promote basic knowledge about emergencies throughout the population.

EuSEN is a NON-Profit association. To be a member with EuSEN you need to be a member of a local or national emergency nurse association. The association needs to have local standards and official statutes.

Do you want to learn more about the EuSEN Please contact :

The President of EuSEN

Door Lauwaert

Post address: UZ Brussel, Emerg. Dpt, Laarbeeklaan 101, 1090 Brussels, Belgium

Or door.lauwaert@uzbrussel.be

To join us - Fill in the admission form on the next page.



EUSEN

European Society for emergency Nursing

Application form EuSEN

Name of the Association

.....

Country.....

URL Website.....

Number of members.....

Does the association follow official statutes **Yes** **No**

The associations main purpose in emergency care

.....
.....
.....

Name of the President.....

Contact address, E-Mail and phone number

.....
.....

Second contact person of the association (if not the President is the contact person)

.....

Contact address, E-Mail and phone number

.....
.....

Send the application form and relevant documents presenting your organization to:

The President of EuSEN Door Lauwaert

Post address: UZ Brussel, Emerg. Dpt, Laarbeeklaan 101, 1090 Brussels, Belgium

Or door.lauwaert@uzbrussel.be



EUSEN

European Society for emergency Nursing



Board:

President: Door Lauwaert (B)

Vice-President: Petra Valk-Zwickl (CH)

Secretary: Ole-Petter Vinjevoll (N)

Treasurer: Yves Maule (B)

Website: Yves Maule (B)

Newsletter editors:

Petra Valk-Zwickl (CH) - Door Lauwaert (B)

Other executive committee members:

Luciano Clarizia (I)

Frans de Voeght (NL)

Gudbjörg Palsdottir (ISL)

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