Dear Colleagues,

Hopefully you all had great summertime and for those of you who will go on a holiday soon:

Dolce far Niente
How Sweet to Do Nothing.

SAVE THE DATE

On November the 29th the next EuSEN general assembly (GA), accompanied by a specific scientific emergency nursing program, will be held in Brussels (Belgium).

More information will be available in a few weeks.

www.eusen.org
**Summary of the notes**

**Statutes**
The Belgian king has signed the statutes and has recognized EuSEN as an European non-profit organization. The legal board of Belgium (Belgian Official Gazette) will publish this in a couple of weeks.

**Networking**
Since the last meeting, Denmark, Malta and Germany have joined EuSEN.

We’ve been in contact with Janet Youd Chair, RCN Emergency Care Association (ECA) from the Royal College of Nursing (UK) to evaluate their interest of rejoining EuSEN. It would be enriching to have them back on board. A get together meeting in between EuSEN and RCN could be planned in the UK in 2018.

During the meeting in Hamburg we had an interesting exchange of ideas with Margot Dietz-Wittstock (vice-president) from DGINA (Deutsche Gesellschaft Interdisziplinäre Notfall- und Akutmedizin). They act as an interdisciplinary association with both doctors and nurses. Within the association they have a nursing subgroup which focusses on nursing specific topics.

EuSEN has now 18 member-associations, and 29 individual members.

**Website and social media**
Since January the 1st we have had 1,915 connections on the website. Peak in traffic has been seen when a newsletter is published (1199 different persons. 40% are returning visitors).

We have 459 followers on Facebook.

**Competencies**
The position statement, “Minimum standards for nurses working in Emergency Departments”, is finalized. It is published on facebook, in the newsletter and on the webpage. The board is pleased with the result and would like to thank Mark Tyler from Australia, for doing the review.

**Shadowing program**
In the first week of October the shadowing program will start at HMC Westeinde (The Netherlands) and UZ Brussels (Belgium) with two nurses in exchange. The shadowing program will be financed by both local hospitals. During that exchange week the nurses will not do any nursing acts, only observing/ shadowing). They will report about their experience of the visit on the webpage and in the next newsletter. If any of our members is would be interested in a similar observational internship -in another ED in Europe, EuSEN will be happy to assist and facilitate a co-operation.
Danish Emergency Nursing Association – Daena

Daena is a Danish professional organisation for emergency nurses. Daena acts as an independent professional organisation under the Danish Nurses’ Organisation (Dansk Sygeplejeråd, DSR). Its purpose is to encourage the development and raise the profile of emergency nursing, patient safety and quality with regard to acutely ill and/or injured patients in Denmark. One area of focus is the promotion of good patient care pathways for emergency patients, from referral to discharge.

There has long been a desire to have an independent medical speciality in Denmark in the field of emergency medicine. After several years’ debate, it was decided in the spring of 2017 to create an independent medical speciality. This means that there is even more focus on the area of emergency medicine – and therefore also on Emergency Nursing – in Denmark. Daena is working to introduce emergency nursing as a formal/independent discipline within established nursing, in the same way as is the case with the medical speciality.

Daena endorses the International Federation for Emergency Medicine’s definition of emergency medicine as an independent discipline that focuses on nursing as practised in emergency departments and clinics. The organisation therefore works to promote development, teaching, national training and research in the field of emergency nursing.

For a number of years, Daena has been involved in a cross-disciplinary collaboration with the medical organisation Dasem (Danish Society for Emergency Medicine) and RUS’ Pre-hospital Development Department in the staging of Northern Europe’s largest emergency medicine conference, DEMC (the Danish Emergency Medicine Conference). Each time, the conference has been staged with great success, with up to 600 participants from both Denmark and abroad. The DEMC is part of a collaboration with the Mayo Clinic, USA. The motto of the DEMC conference is ‘Emergency Medicine – all the way’, which describes in very succinct terms the professional focus and content of the conference, as all relevant multidiscipline partners involved in the patient care pathway are represented.

As an organisation, Daena has a very cross-disciplinary approach and would like to help strengthen the field of emergency medicine in Denmark. Currently, emergency medicine is still a new specialised area in Denmark, and Daena is therefore contributing to the development of a professional identity for emergency nurses. Daena is helping to put emergency nursing on the political agenda, acting as a consultation partner, while at the same time contributing political and lobbying input into discussions and developments in educational policy. All nurses who are involved with emergency patient care pathways in their work can be registered as members of Daena. Danish authorisation and membership of the Danish Nurses’ Organisation (DSR) are mandatory.

Through membership of the European Society for Emergency Nursing (EuSEN), Daena hopes to play an active role in enhancing international cooperation and strengthening development, teaching, training and research in emergency medicine, both nationally and internationally.

On behalf of the Board
Annette Jakobsen
President of Daena, Denmark
New research shows emergency department nurses are a cut above the rest

WANT to make sure your next party is a roaring success? Invite an emergency department nurse.

New research shows emergency department nurses are more extroverted, agreeable and open than the rest of us.

Australian researcher Belinda Kennedy says emergency nurses are “a special breed” who have personality traits which enable them to work effectively in a demanding, fast-paced and often stressful environment.

“Emergency departments are a highly stressful environment — busy, noisy, and with high patient turnover,” she said.

“It is the entry point for approximately 40 per cent of all hospital admissions, and the frequency and type of presentations is unpredictable. Emergency nurses must have the capacity to care for the full spectrum of physical, psychological and social health problems within their community.

“They must also able to develop a rapport with individuals from all age groups and socio-economic and cultural backgrounds, in time-critical situations and often at a time when these individuals are at their most vulnerable.”

The special skills and likable personalities of emergency department nurses makes working in such a diverse and high-pressure environment possible.
Dear Colleagues,

Emergency nursing is a specialty within the nursing profession. Emergency nurses must possess a broad body of knowledge and skills to care for various complex health care issues from non-urgent to life threatening; to a variety of age groups, involving various disease processes, body systems and specific populations. In order to practice and function safely, the practice of emergency nursing requires specific competences.

The EuSEN board has produced a common European standard that defines and promotes a minimum level of competences for nurses working in any European Emergency Department. With special thanks to Mark Tyler (Australia | NSW HEALTH) for reviewing this document.

Door Lauwaert
President EuSEN
Minimum standards for nurses working in Emergency Departments

Purpose
To create a common European standard that defines and promotes a minimum level of competences for nurses working in any European Emergency Department (ED).

Introduction
When members of the public presents to an Emergency Department they expect to receive the best evidence based care available, delivered by highly skilled professionals. In Emergency Departments, patients of all ages present with conditions of differing levels of acuity and requiring multiple speciality input. This means that at all times suitably skilled staff, with a wide range of equipment, need to be available to perform assessments, stabilise as required and administer treatments.

Standardised competencies for Emergency Nurses will ensure that all patients receive a safe level of care and will lead to improved patient outcomes.

There are variable standards of emergency nursing practice throughout Europe.

Position
Emergency Nursing is a separate speciality within the nursing profession.

Emergency nurses should possess the following characteristics:

- Professional accountability
- Strong clinical observation skills
- A wide range of clinical knowledge
- The ability to logically prioritise
- A strong commitment to teamwork
- An agile mind to deal with the unpredictability around the patient’s condition and the reaction of the accompanying person.
- The ability to re-prioritise and refocus based on patients changing clinical conditions.
- The ability to provide supportive holistic care to patients and their relatives / carer
- A commitment to continuous education in the field of Emergency Nursing
Glossary

**Emergency Nurse:**
A Registered Nurse that has an academic qualification (Diploma or preferably a Bachelor Degree) with substantial experience in the Emergency Department setting and who is able to demonstrate clinical performance to a set of standards.

**Patient:**
An individual who is under medical care or treatment.

**Patient population:**
Anyone who presents to a health care facility seeking assistance or treatment.

In Emergency Departments the patient population can consist of all ages, genders, cultural and linguistic groups. This particular patient population has a wide range of clinical presentations including all levels of acuity and complexity, as well as potentially requiring multiple speciality input.

**Statements**

**Competence**

Competence is an ability with a theoretical basis that can be practically assessed. An individual who achieves competence must have a defined level of theoretical knowledge and the ability to demonstrate a practical application of those skills in a wide range of clinical scenarios.

**Emergency Department Nurse Competencies**

1. Clinical skills
2. Communication skills
3. Teamwork/collaboration
4. Knowledge and scope of practice
5. Professional development
6. Organisational awareness
7. Research
8. Quality improvement
1. Clinical skills

- Early detection of critical presenting symptoms.
- Assessment of patients based on the Airway, Breathing, Circulation, Disability and Exposure (ABCDE) methodology.
- Initiation of timely nursing interventions in accordance with evidence based clinical pathways and guidelines.
- Continuous assessment and early escalation of care based on clinical knowledge to minimise the risk of deterioration.
- Application of critical thinking skills to recognise and actively participate in the treatment of a wide range of clinical presentations.
- Utilisation of Triage as a dynamic process to ensure continuous prioritisation of patients based on clinical needs.
- Application of the triage process to ensure that the patient is seen within the right time, in the right place by the right caregiver for the right reason.

2. Communication

- Communicates effectively and professionally with patients, relatives and the multi-disciplinary clinical team.
- Utilisation of available technologies to maximise communication and support patients’ independence and autonomy.
- Communicates with all members of the multi-disciplinary team prioritising a patient centred approach.
- Communicates in a professional manner.
- Delivers clear, concise, accurate and timely communication.

3. Teamwork/collaboration

- Co-ordination and participation within the multi-disciplinary team to respond to the patients’ needs based on clinical urgency.
- Recognition and response to all emergency and disaster situations.
- Appropriate initiation of referrals to multi-disciplinary team members or service providers outside the Emergency Department to support individualised patient care.

4. Knowledge and scope of practice

- Application of emergency nursing care within individual professional scope of practice and seeks support or guidance as appropriate.
- Actively seeks feedback from colleagues whilst critically reflecting on personal professional nursing practice.
5. Professional development

- Has achieved or is working towards a postgraduate qualification in Emergency Nursing.
- Maintains a professional portfolio that includes documented learning and performance goals.
- Participates and contributes to activities or events that enhance the profile of emergency nursing.

6. Organisational awareness

- Functions as a professional representative of the Emergency Department.
- Manages space within the Emergency Department to achieve maximum efficiency and optimise patient flow.
- Proactively manages patient flow to minimise the impact of access block and to optimise patient safety.
- Actively maintains and supports professional networks both inside and outside their healthcare organisation.
- Demonstrates a thorough working knowledge of departmental and organisational policies and procedures.

7. Research

- Participates in and supports research that promotes emergency nursing.
- Promotes a culture of research and evidence based practice within the emergency nursing care profession.

8. Quality improvement

- Takes personal responsibility for professional development.
- Actively contributes to the development of professional standards in Emergency Nursing.
- Promotes and participates in a culture of continuous quality improvement within the emergency nursing profession.
*Nursing interventions*

A/B: Assessment of airways and breathing. Administration of oxygen, nasal, oral or inhalational medications (nursing standing orders).
C: Assessment of circulation, intravenous (IV) cannula insertion, administration of IV medications and completion of an Electrocardiograph (ECG).
D: Collection of the patient’s vital signs, blood sugar level (BSL) and Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS).
E: Completion of a full body check (head to toe), clinical assessment and application of casts or wound dressings.

Others:
Collection of blood or urine samples, insertion of urinary catheter, ordering of limb X-rays as appropriate.

References:

- Learning outcomes for a bachelor in Emergency care; presentation Maria Deneire 2014 (Belgium)
- NENA standards and practice Emergency core competencies 2014 (Canada)
- CENA practice standards for the Emergency Nursing Specialist 2013 (Australia)
- Areas of expertise and attainment targets for Emergency nursing care (The Netherlands)
- ICN Nursing care continuum framework and competencies
- [www.dictionary.com](http://www.dictionary.com)
Programma Nursing Track op 26/09/2017

Nursing session 1
Moderators: Marielle DEKKER, Door LAUWAERT (BELGIUM)
09:10 - 10:40 BLS/AED training of deaf and hard-hearing citizens under the ERC guidelines. Tzannis POLYKANDRIOTIS (GREECE)
09:10 - 10:40 Why we should implement a trauma protocol in ED. George PAPAGEORGIOU (CYPRUS)
09:10 - 10:40 Nonfulfilled needs of the geriatric emergency patient - The role of GEM Nurse in the interprofessional team. Thomas DREHER-HUMMEL (SWITZERLAND)

Nursing session 2
Detection of Family Maltreatment at the Emergency Department
Moderators: Thomas DREHER-HUMMEL (SWITZERLAND), Door LAUWAERT (BELGIUM)
11:10 - 12:40 Implementation with the help of mandated training and e-learning. Marielle DEKKER
11:10 - 12:40 Detection of Elderly maltreatment. Sivera BERBEN (Nijmegen, THE NETHERLANDS)

Nursing session 3
Moderators: Stamatina IORDANOPOULOU (GREECE), Door LAUWAERT (BELGIUM)
14:10 - 15:40 A patient with malaria at the emergency department: a practice story. Christien VAN DER LINDEN (THE NETHERLANDS)
14:10 - 15:40 Echoing away sepsis 2, welcoming sepsis 3. George PAPAGEORGIOU (CYPRUS)

Nursing session 4
Moderators: Sivera BERBEN (Nijmegen, THE NETHERLANDS), Door LAUWAERT (BELGIUM)
16:10 - 17:40 The impact of medical specialist staffing on emergency department patient flow and satisfaction. Christien VAN DER LINDEN (THE NETHERLANDS)
16:10 - 17:40 Managing delirium in the ED. Thomas DREHER-HUMMEL (SWITZERLAND)
16:10 - 17:40 EARLY WARNING SCORE - The need for inclusion in Greek hospitals. Stamatina IORDANOPOULOU (GREECE)

Info and registration: http://www.eusemcongress.org/en/
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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.

www.eusen.org
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
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Name of the President..................................................................................................................

Contact address, E-Mail and phone number
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Second contact person of the association (if not the President is the contact person)
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Contact address, E-Mail and phone number
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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

www.eusen.org
Dear future member,

If you want to support us developing EuSEN, you can become an individual EuSEN Member.

Membership fee for individual member had been fixed to 20€/year by the EuSEN Board. This money help us to promote the association throughout Europe.

As an Individual Member, you'll be informed of any evenemential action of EuSEN and every publication, you'll also have member price for Congress supported by EuSEN and any promotional action held by EuSEN.

Individual Membership don't give the right to vote at the General Meeting Assembly (Only for the Association) and membership of EuSEN don't mean that you are member of all the European nurses associations.

WE NEED YOU, if you want to help us by becoming a individual member, fill the form (see website EuSEN) and the treasurer will contact you as soon as possible to give you information about the procedure to pay the annual fee.

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