Call for Abstracts 2017

Nurses at the forefront transforming care

27 May - 1 June 2017
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ICN Congress and CNR
27 May - 1 June, 2017
Barcelona, Spain

Nurses at the forefront transforming care

The International Council of Nurses is delighted to invite you to submit an abstract for the 26th ICN Congress in Barcelona, Spain from 27 May-1 June 2017. This international gathering of thousands of nurses will explore the key role of nurses in transforming care through practice, science, knowledge and equity to serve people. The Congress will provide opportunities for nurses to build relationships and to disseminate nursing knowledge and leadership across specialities, cultures and countries. The three ICN pillars – Professional Practice, Regulation and Socio-Economic Welfare – will frame the scientific programme and the dynamic exchange of experiences and expertise.

Featured plenary speakers will bring inspiration and the latest information on nursing’s contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals, and the global strategies on human resources for health and universal health coverage, as well as the important issue of safe staffing. Main sessions will highlight other issues critical to nursing including patient-centred health care; evolving scopes of practice; climate change; mental health; human rights; patient safety; nurses’ role in policy; leadership; education; eHealth; and nursing history. The Congress will also be the venue for ICN Network meetings and workshops.

The Council of National Nursing Association Representatives, ICN’s global governing body, will convene from 26-28 May 2017. Congress participants who are members of ICN member associations will be able to observe global nursing leaders identify the profession’s priorities and future directions.

The main objectives of the Congress are:

1. To demonstrate and advance the nursing contribution to informed and sustainable health policies.
2. To support nursing’s contribution to evidence-based healthcare and to encourage problem-solving approaches to health priority needs.
3. To provide opportunities for an in-depth exchange of experience and expertise within and beyond the international nursing community.

Further information and regular updates on the Congress programme will be posted on the Congress website at www.icncongress.com

Share your ideas and expertise! ICN’s Congresses and Conferences are renowned as the largest international forums for nurses. The 2015 ICN Conference in Seoul, Korea brought together more than 5,000 nurse leaders from across the globe to explore the importance of cross-cultural understanding and global cooperation in nursing. The 2017 Congress aims at a similar number.

You are invited to submit an abstract for a concurrent session, a symposium or a poster. The abstract presentation guidelines are available on the Congress website www.icncongress.com. The on-line submission system will be open from 16 May 2016 until 10 October 2016.

Abstract themes

1. Healthcare systems, economics and coverage
What will be the impact of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) on the provision of healthcare? How will nurses contribute to the achievement of the SDGs’ focus on good health and well-being? What policies are required in order to achieve the SDG goals and targets? What are the roles and impacts of nurses in the delivery of people-centred integrated healthcare services? How do we achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC) at a time of major societal change? What have been some of the challenges and opportunities for the nursing profession in integrating practice, science, knowledge, policy and equity and its impact on the economic sustainability of countries? What is the economic and clinical return on investment of a university prepared nursing workforce?

2. Direct care, patient safety
What innovations in clinical practice support better patient outcomes? What are the impacts of changing practice environments on patient safety? What are quality healthcare indicators and how are they measured? What is the link between patient engagement and better patient outcomes? What is the relationship between nursing leadership, evidence-based practice and quality patient outcomes? What is the science and evidence of the impact of nurses who are certified as specialists on patient safety and care outcomes?

3. Equity/ethics/human rights
What ethical dilemmas exist in ensuring access, acceptability and quality of health services and how should they be addressed? How is equity introduced/maintained in health systems and communities? What policies and measures need to be taken to promote and protect the health rights of individuals and populations? What is the impact of our rapidly advancing technology on nursing ethics? What evidence is available on ethical nursing human resource management including codes of conduct and cultural relevance?
4. Health promotion and disease prevention
Across the continuum of care, what are the trends in health and well-being? How can nurses integrate science, knowledge and equity into nursing practice to promote and maintain health and well-being of individuals and populations? What is the impact of interventions at various stages of life? How can we support healthy ageing and provide equity and access to healthcare including end of life care? Are promotive and preventive nursing interventions cost effective? What is the current impact of non-communicable diseases from a nursing perspective and how are nursing education, regulation and practice responding? How can nurses lead transformation of healthcare systems to primary healthcare approach with greater focus on health promotion and disease prevention? What regional, national and global policies and incentives are needed to advance healthy living and healthy lifestyles?

5. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) supporting nurses at the forefront and improving quality of care
How does technology and informatics support access to health services and quality care? What innovations have advanced healthcare delivery, enhanced safety and improved patient outcomes? How is technology supporting connectivity in the nursing community? How do nurses use ICT for patient empowerment? What is the impact of informatics, technology and social media on nursing practice? What are the implications of knowledge management and how does it impact nursing? How can ICT remove barriers to advance UHC and the SDGs and adjust the maldistribution of nurses?

6. Leadership - management
What competencies do nurse managers and nursing leaders need? Are there innovative models of education and development available to meet future needs? How can we prepare future generations for leadership in a globalised world? How do we prepare nurses for policy, politics and decision-making roles outside nursing at local, national and global levels? What is the impact of nursing involvement in policy formation on the health of population/individuals? What impact will Advanced Practice nursing have on leadership and performance in integrating practice, science, knowledge and equity to serve people?

7. Nursing education and learning
In light of the global shortage of employed nurses and workforce maldistribution, how will a sufficient student pool be attracted to the profession? What are the reasons behind the high student attrition rates and how must they be addressed? How will we prepare the faculty necessary to educate future generations of nurses? How do we better address the gap from education to practice? What innovations do we see in the learning environment? What are the trends in international delivery of entry level and continuing education? How do we address the gaps in standards of education globally? How will inter-professional education influence the delivery of care? What models are there for providing educational opportunities and increased access for nurses to improve their professional, social and economic status?

8. The nursing workforce, workplace and image
What impact has the global strategy on human resources for health had with regards to the nursing workforce? What are the priority workforce and workplace issues that affect access to care? What skill mix is required to achieve UHC and ensure quality care? What is the impact of positive practice environments and how do we achieve them? How does global nurse mobility affect access to quality healthcare? Are the current workforce planning models utilized by other industries relevant to nursing? How can we improve the focus of and staffing for primary health care and community based care while maintaining a strong acute care workforce?

9. Disasters/conflicts/pandemics
What is the impact of climate change on public health? What is the role of nurses in conflict situations, disaster preparedness and relief efforts? How do we screen and deploy disaster nurses safely and effectively? What protective measures do relief workers require? What are the risks and how do we manage the safety of nurses in times of conflict, disasters and pandemics? What is the role of nurses in ensuring sustainable development to minimise the impact of climate change on public health?

10. Regulation
What is the role of professional regulation in ensuring patient safety and quality? How can accreditation systems benefit the patient? What will be the impact of national/regional/international dialogue on regulation? What has been the impact of globalisation and trade agreements on regulation? What are some examples of best practices in regulation with respect to fulfilling regulatory authorities’ core functions including self-regulation? What are the implications of evolving regulatory models around the world for the nurse and for nursing regulators?

11. History
How does knowledge of the past help us prepare for the future? What lessons have we learned? What national and international trends do we see in nursing? What do we know about the history of nurses being at the forefront of care delivery, documenting history and preserving heritage?

Instructions for the submission of abstracts

The deadline for the receipt of abstracts is midnight CET 10 October 2016.

1. The abstract text must be no more than 2500 characters (about 250 words including title and authors’ information) and should highlight the main points the presenter/s wish to communicate. Until the abstract fits these requirements, it will not be considered as final and will be saved as a draft.
2. Abstracts are to be submitted via the Internet at www.icncongress.com
3. Those whose abstracts are accepted must register for the Congress by midnight CET, 27 January 2017. Accepted abstracts will be eliminated from the programme on this date if registration and fee payment have not been received.
4. The abstract can be submitted in ONLY ONE of the following categories:
   • Concurrent session: A 15 minute presentation grouped by theme.
   • Symposium: An 80 minute session with a minimum of three speakers presenting on a single theme from different perspectives. Speakers presenting a symposium must submit a single joint abstract.
   • Poster: A visual presentation of research with an academic or professional focus by an individual or representatives of research teams for display on a poster board.

5. Abstracts can be submitted in English, French or Spanish.
6. Only fully completed presenter profiles and abstract submissions (marked as final) will be reviewed.
7. Abstracts that have previously been published or presented will not be accepted.
8. A person who is not a member of an ICN member organisation may only submit an abstract as a joint author/presenter with a person who is member of an ICN member organisation.
9. A maximum of six co-authors may submit a joint abstract.
10. Applicants will be notified by 13 December 2016 if their abstract has been accepted.

Factors that will be considered during selection are:
• Interest to an international audience.
• Relevance to both the Congress theme and one abstract sub-theme.
• Scientific and/or professional merit.
• Contribution to knowledge, practice, policies or programmes of nursing and/or health.
• Clarity of abstract.

Key dates
16 May 2016  Online submission of abstracts opens
10 October 2016  Online submission of abstracts closes (midnight CET)
10 October 2016  Registration opens
13 December 2016  Applicants notified of abstract acceptance
27 January 2017  Deadline for registration of abstract presenters

Congress website: www.icncongress.com


Refund/Cancellation
Registered participants who are unable to attend the Congress will have their paid fees refunded, less a processing fee, provided written notice of cancellation is received by ICN before 12 April 2017. After this date, no fee refund can be expected. All refunds will be processed after the Congress. Full details concerning changes and cancellations will be published on the ICN Congress website when registration opens on 10 October 2016.

The International Council of Nurses (ICN) is a federation of over 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.