Hospital details	EX CHANGE PROGRAMME
Name hospital:	Larnaca General Hospital Cyprus
Adress:	
Postal code / City	6301 Larnaca
Country:	Cyprus
Website hospital:	
Language spoken on the unit	Greek, English
Summary	

Larnaca Intensive Care Unit is a Govermental, eleven bedded, high dependency and technology, generally emergency, coronary and critical care unit. It has almost 100% bed occupancy with an average length of stay depending on patient's condition and ranges from 3-7 days or extended sometimes, for critically ill patients or those needing ventilator support, from 10- 30 days.

The unit usually takes emergency admissions from accident and emergency department and accepts transfers of critically evolved patients, first admitted in other units, private clinics or hospitals. It is thus a mixed intensive care unit accepting cardiac patients and also critically ill patients of any specialty like medical, surgical renal, gynecological, orthopedic, neurological, pediatric.

Larnaca ICU is staffed by general registered nurses and three senior Nursing Officers. Most of our registered nurses have 1 to 15 years of experience in ICU nursing.

As regard to their qualifications SNOs have an ICU specialty (of one year duration) and have attended successfully the Advanced Life Support Provider course (ALS).

Another three registered nurses have ICU specialty. Two registered nurses have a BSc(Hons) in nursing. Eight nurses have Advanced Life Support course and have taken the responsibility for the continuing education of the staff regarding resuscitation. Thus, clinical training in Larnaca Intensive Care Unit for coronary and any critical care nursing is obtained for the most part, at a nurse to nurse level with a qualified and experienced I.C.U nurses as preceptors.

The unit is also a trained area, for students at their second and third year of basic nursing education and a variety of assessments take place on the ward. It implements nursing process model and each nurse is allocated for a group of two to three patients, for bed side nursing care. Team nursing is used for emergency crisis. With the development of local Quality Assurance Committee, there are plans to start in recent future setting nursing standards, specifically related to the admission process and patient information system, since from the first of March the act for patients rights will start to be valid.

Unfortunately, research activities and opportunities are not yet widely spread because of luck of ethical committee and limited academic education of staff. However, there is a Health Science library in the Hospital and in-service education is promoted.