

Hospital details	
Name hospital:	Limassol General Hospital Cyprus
Adress:	Nikeas street Kato Polemidia
Postal code / City	PO BOX 56060, P.C. 3304 Limassol
Country:	Cyprus
Website hospital:	
Language spoken on the unit	Greek, English
Summary	

Opportunities for learning and development within Lemesos Intensive Care Unit (I.C.U)
Lemesos Intensive Care Unit (I.C.U) is an eleven bedded high dependency and technology general, emergency and critical care unit. It has almost 100% bed occupancy with an average length of stay depending on patient's condition and ranging from 5-7 days or extended sometimes for critically ill patients or those needing ventilator support on mechanical ventilator from 15-20 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 case intensive care unit accepting, cardiac patients and also critically ill patients of any speciality like medical, surgical, renal, gynaecological, orthopaedic, haematology and neurological cases except neurosurgical ones that are referred to Nicosia General Hospital. There are plans that C.C.U and I.C.U are separated. For the moment a surgical intensive care unit has been created and is going to function within few months in Lemesos General Hospital once building constructions are completed and the unit is fully staffed and equipped.

As regard neonatal cases a separate neonatal intensive care unit is run consisted of ten incubators where secondary and tertiary health care is offered. The unit doesn't accept cases who need ventilator support and these as well as paediatric cases are referred to Nicosia Makarios Hospital Intensive Care Unit.

The Lemesos I.C.U is staffed by 22 General Registered Nurses and four Senior Nursing Officers (S.N.O). As regard their qualifications the Supervisor attended a course in management, one S.N.O has a I.C.U speciality and a Bachelor's Honour's degree in Nursing, two S.N.Os and three Registered Nurses have the I.C.U course and one S.N.O has a course in management. Another two registered nurses have been certified as instructors of Advanced Life Support (A.L.S) course. These have taken the responsibility for an up-to-date continuing education of I.C.U staff and new staff assigned to the unit, so that every nurse be able to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation, closed chest compression and ventilation, in a wholly effective manner and achieve greater skill and competence, by learning new concepts and techniques.

Thus clinical training, in Lemesos 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. Most of our registered nurses have from 6 to 16 years of experience in I.C.U. 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 lack of ethical committee and limited academic education of staff.