The EfCCNa Exchange Programme



Name of Hospital: Nicosia General Hospital Address: Paleos Dromos Lefkosias –Lemesou No.215 2029 Nicosia, Cyprus

Web link: <u>http://www.moh.gov.cy/moh/ngh/ngh.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument</u>

Type of Hospital

It offers high-level secondary and tertiary medical care, in a wide range of clinical specialties, diagnostic and laboratory examinations.

Patients are referred by general practitioners of Health Centres or by special doctors of other public hospitals for examination by the special doctors. Arranging an appointment is required.

Web link to ICU: https://www.intensivecare.com.cy/index.php/en/

Type of IC Unit

The Intensive Care Unit is a department of Nicosia General Hospital, which is on duty on a daily basis (24 hours a day, 365 days per year). It is a special, independent, specially equipped and staffed department, where critically ill patients at immediate risk are being hospitalized and need continuous assessment monitoring and support of their vital functions with medication or high technology equipment.

The multidisciplinary Intensive Care Unit of the New Nicosia General Hospital has been operational since October 2006 and the opening of the Hospital. It is the transformation of four small Departmental ICU Monitoring of the Old Nicosia General Hospital (Neurosurgery, Cardiology/Pathology, Cardiovascular Surgery and Surgery) and employs doctors from all specialties.

This is a reference unit for the entire country, which receives critically ill patients from public and private Hospitals from all over Cyprus, admitted from all pathological and surgical specialties of the Hospital (except paediatric patients under 12 years old). The standard operation is the "closed ICU", where patients are hospitalized under the responsibility and supervision of intensivists, who cooperate with doctors from other medical specialties and fellow intensivists 24 hours a day (active duty on-call in ICU). The ICU operates also as a Post-Anaesthesia Care Unit of cardiac surgery patients for the first 48 hours of their hospitalization after the surgery. Please, note that the cardiac cases -as customary worldwide- are hospitalized in a separate Cardiology Unit in close area.

Number of Beds: 17 beds

Research and Education

The Research Unit of the Department of Intensive Care of Nicosia General Hospital focuses on the creation of new knowledge and innovative solutions, considering that research and innovation are valuable tools. The systematic, objective and verified search of information reinforces the development of new and innovative solutions for the main objectives of the Unit.

The main objectives of the Research Unit are the creation and improvement of the valuable tools of Healthcare Professionals of the Department of Intensive Care. It's worth mentioning that the Research Unit has a leading role in various and interdisciplinary research subjects. Most recent subject modules include:

- Glycemic variability in conjunction with the outcome of critically ill patients in ICU
- Acute traumatic brain injury.
- Implementation of innovative methods related to lifelong learning and information of Healthcare Professionals, patients and relatives.
- Tele-supervised exercise and rehabilitation for patients who live at their home.

• Tele-psychological support for patients who are hospitalized in ICU and for their children and relatives.

The research team is based in the modern technological infrastructure, which has been developed through two projects, entitled "Teleprometheus" and "Telerehabilitation" (the projects have been funded by the Cross-Border Cooperation Program "Greece & Cyprus 2007-2013" and National Funds of Greece & Cyprus).

Training of Healthcare Professionals

Healthcare Professionals have a leading role in patient support. Lifelong education and valid information are able to help them improve and gain knowledge, skills and attitudes, in order to offer high quality services to the patients of the Department of Intensive Care.

The methodology of education is based on three main points:

- Clinical evaluation, which elaborates valid and updated data.
- Educational needs, as determined by trainers or trainees.
- Individualized evaluation.

Future research activities are focused on:

- Automated and individualized education.
- Scheduled projection of educational program.
- Interconnection and interaction of evaluation system with the Clinical Information System.

Patients & Relatives Training/Information

Continuous information for patients and their families about the function of the Department of Intensive Care, medical devices and most important medical terms.

Patients are able to:

• Have proper education in order to realize what exactly they had experienced in the Department of Intensive Care and start living better on their daily routine.

Relatives are able to:

- Be trained on issues related to the care of chronically ill patients.
- Learn about the function of Department of Intensive Care (f.e., procedures, rules, etc).
- Learn about the medical devices that support the ICU patients.
- Read common medical terms in a comprehensible language.

Telemedicine

Telemedicine is a useful and efficient tool for people living in distant areas or have limited mobility. It also, provides access to a wide range of health and medical care services and the main objective is distance clinical assistance to patients, through modern technologies, computer science and telecommunications.

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