

Highlights of the 8th EfCCNa Congress Ljubljana



Ljubljana, the beautiful capital of Slovenia was the host city of the 8th Congress, held in February 2019. More than 400 Critical Care Nurses came together to listen and engage under the theme 'Working together – Achieving more'.

The program of the Congress covered most areas of Critical Care. Keynote speaker and EfCCNa Fellow Dr. John Albarran from UK opened the Congress with an interesting insight on 'Family involvements in ICU - where are we now?'

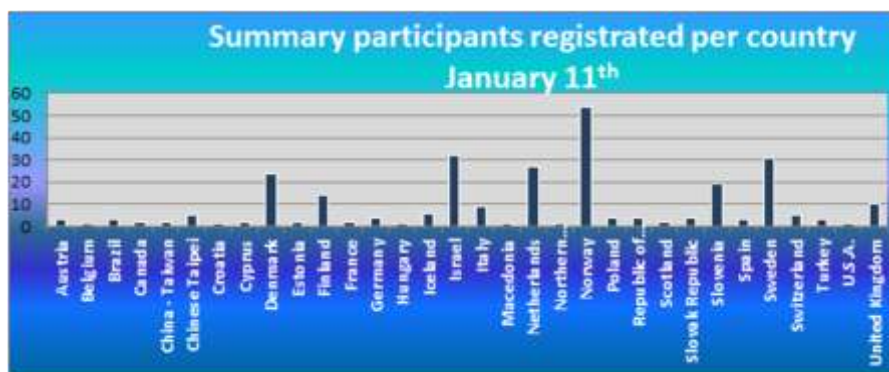
On Friday, Kathleen Vollman, USA, gave us good evidence for why we should go 'Back to the Basic of Critical Care Nursing'.

And the third keynote, given by Peter Nydahl, Germany, gave an overview over the 'Evidence and Practice of Early Mobilization'. All three lectures were well received and widely discussed!

One of EfCCNa's missions is 'to promote patient and relatives perspectives of the ICU experience'. It has been a challenge to find patients or family members who could give us their perspective of the experience on a conference. Therefore we were very much excited to have Cilian Grey from UK there to present his patient story for the first time at an EfCCNa conference.

The Scientific Committee was delighted to see a large number of high quality abstracts submitted for the Congress. This resulted in a great variety on Critical Care related topics for oral presentations, posters and also workshops.

The Congress also included interesting elements for networking, such as the President's Lunch, a forum for the leading people of EfCCNa's member associations. 20 representatives took the opportunity to exchange ideas and establish contacts within this round. Further, the CC DEN, Critical Care Doctoral European Nurse Group, took the chance to meet and work during the Congress. These are both meetings that are important to EfCCNa, and are ways of working together to achieve more.



As one can see from the table participants came from 34 Countries, mainly European, but North America, South America and China were represented, too.

The Congress also marked EfCCNa's 20 years anniversary! This was celebrated throughout the whole Congress! Former Presidents and current President Dr. Bronagh Blackwood started it all off at the opening, discussing what have been key areas for the organisational work within EfCCNa over the years, and in a fun and interesting way told the history and continuous development of the federation. Then, on all congress days we had some fun activities like a treasure hunt through the exhibition hall, balloons, a huge birthday cake with fire work at the Congress Party and other playful activities to celebrate the Jubilee.

