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Introduction

This is the annual report and accounts of the federation for the 2018 / 2019 calendar years. Within these two years, we had six major highlights that demonstrate the strength of EfCCNa as the leading critical care nursing federation in Europe.

In 2018 we successfully completed the EU funded MICU-ICU project focusing on multicultural care of ICU patients. This major 2-year project engaged many of the national critical care associations within the federation and the project concluded with a successful 1-day congress in Amsterdam. Furthermore, we expanded our federation membership by welcoming two new associations: the Hungarian and Slovakian association bringing our federation membership to 30 European associations.

In 2019, we celebrated 20 years of EfCCNa! A fantastic achievement and testament to the strength and collegiality of the federation. We celebrated this event and shared our success at our highly successful 8th EfCCNa congress held in the beautiful city of Ljubljana, Slovenia. Additionally, the federation expanded further as we welcome the Estonian critical care nursing association to EfCCNa, bringing our membership to 31 national associations demonstrating growth and collaboration.

Throughout 2018 / 2019 the work of our project groups has continued. We look towards the future in improving the lives of patients and their families, and increasing the visibility and strength of EfCCNa. I feel confident that over the next 20-years our achievements will provide a stronger and more visible federation that ‘achieves much more’ for the future of critical care nursing in Europe.

Professor Bronagh Blackwood
President
Activities

Administrative details

Board of Officers
Bronagh Blackwood (President)
Anne Kokko (Vice President)
Colette Ram (Secretary)
Drago Satosek (Treasurer)
Elin Steffenak (Board member with responsibility for Congress)
Karin Klas (new Board member with responsibility for European Affairs)

Council of Representatives
Country, association members and representatives can be found at http://www.efccna.org/about/member-associations

Meetings Update

- 2018: Two Council of Representative meetings were held in May in Cyprus, and September in Amsterdam.
- 2019: Two Council of Representative meetings were held in February in Ljubljana and October in Zagreb.
- 2018/19: the Board of Officers conducted 14 Zoom Meetings and two face-to-face meetings in Amsterdam.

Representation/members

- By the end of 2018, EfCCNa had 30 member associations from 27 different European countries representing individual nurse members. We welcomed:
  - the Hungarian Society of Anesthesiology and Intensive Therapy - N&AHP section (Magyar Aneszteziológiai és Intenzív Terápiás Társaság (MAITT) – szakdolgozói szekció) – EfCCNa representative: Borbola Kozma;
  - the section of nurses working in anaesthesiology and intensive care of Slovak chamber of nurses and midwifes – EfCCNa representative: František Naño.
- By the end of 2019, EfCCNa had 31 member associations from 28 different European countries representing individual nurse members. We welcomed the Estonian Association of Nurse Anesthetists and Intensive Care Nurses (EAAIN) – EfCCNa representative: Helen Valk.
New national representatives:
In 2018 and 2019, we sadly said goodbye to some of our excellent representatives and welcomed new representatives.

2018:
- United Kingdom - Ian Naldrett replaced David Waters
- Belgium - Arnaud Bruyneel replaced Lerma Hernandez
- Iceland - Ranveig J. Jonasdottir replaced Audur S. Gulfadottir
- Norway - Mathilde Elsa Christensen replaced Elin Steffenak (Elin remains as a board member)
- Turkey - Ebru Kiraner replaced Besey Ören

2019:
- Greece - Giakis Nikolaos replaced Dionysia Tsoukala
- Ireland - Christine Sheehan replaced Eimear Fitzgerald

Activity dissemination
During 2018 and 2019 EfCCNa published four newsletters for member distribution highlighting its activities. These are available on the EfCCNa website http://www.efccna.org/about/efccna-newsletters.
Additionally, the EfCCNa provided regular information dissemination via its Face Book page https://www.facebook.com/EfCCNa?ref=bookmarks, Twitter and Instagram accounts.

Projects

Congress: Organizing Committee 2018 and 2019 Chair: Elin Steffenak; Scientific Committee Chair: Frederique Paulus and Co-chair Bronagh Blackwood; Executive Committee: Dejan Dobersek, Drago Satosek, Rosa Thorsteinsdottir, Colette Ram, Irene Harth, Babette Schmidt and Ronald Ligterink.
In 2019 the contract with the EfCCNa PCO ended after the Ljubljana congress. A new company, but with experience in running EfCCNa congresses was agreed. The next congress will be in the Netherlands in 2021.

Research Grants: The successful award for 2018 was Marta Raurell Torredà from Spain for the work on the project ‘EARLY MOBILIZATION IN THE ICU IN SPAIN: THE MOVIPRE PROJECT’. For 2019 there was an application from Italy and Spain. These are currently being peer reviewed and results will be available in Jan 2020.


Patient and relative perspectives: Maria Foka/Ian Naldrett as chairs, Paul van der Heiden, Zaneta Bogoevska Miteva, Fanny Crozes, Derek Cribbin, Eimear Fitzgerald, Kaisa Jakobsson.
Promotion: A closed Presidents’ Facebook group is under construction to facilitate interaction between the Presidents of EfCCNa member organizations. EfCCNa established itself on Instagram and the federation’s flyer was updated and disseminated. Three new associations were recruited to EfCCNa. The Facebook page is achieving impact on widening our visibility with more than 2000 followers and more than 500 posts reached per week.

Exchange program (2018-2019): Four nurses visited other ICUs with EfCCNa support. In 2018, we successfully secured a new partner for the Exchange Programme – from Finland to Switzerland and from Finland to Croatia. In 2019, there were 2 participants, one from Norway and one from Italy. The Brompton Hospital in London agreed to take part in the program.

Our achievements

The following are the EfCCNa’s key achievements in 2018, measured against the objectives we set.

Position Statement on nurses’ responsibilities on providing enteral nutrition to the critically ill patient was published in ‘Connect’ and on the EfCCNa website. 
https://connect.springerpub.com/content/sgrwfccn/12/3/86

The MICE-ICU Erasmus+ project
The Symposium on Multicultural Intensive Nursing Care, held in Amsterdam and organized by EfCCNa brought together more than 120 delegates. The interactive programme provided interesting insights in the health care needs of a multicultural society and the importance to act sensitively as a professional working on ICU. The e-learning course on this topic is available on the MICE-ICU website (https://lms.mice-icu.eu/)

EU toolkit
David Waters (chair), Karin Klas, Iben Tousgaard, Frederique Paulus formed the project group that completed an important European toolbox resource for nurses to assist them in lobbying with EU political agencies. The EfCCNa European Political Engagement Toolkit is available on the EfCCNa website. https://www.efccna.org/education/publications

8th EfCCNa Congress Ljubljana 2019
The congress attracted almost 400 critical care Nurses and 12 industry partners. The keynote speakers were: J. Albrahan RN, FAAN, FCCM, Kathleen M. Vollman MSN, RN, CCNS, FCCM, FAAN, Peter Nydahl, RN, MScN. The congress was supported by Ljubljana City Council and the SLOVENIAN ASSOCIATION OF EMERGENCY AND CRITICAL CARE NURSES and Nurses and Midwives Association.
Research
EfCCNa has contributed to the following projects.


2. An international study to develop core outcomes for post-ICU physical rehabilitation (PRACTICE). This study is ongoing. The protocol can be accessed here: Connolly et al. Trials (2018) 19:294

3. COSMIC-Net Horizon 2020 Framework Programme, H2020-MSCA-ITN-2020. EfCCNa is a partner in this important project that will train 14 PhD students in projects exploring communication in ICU.

4. The Cyprian Association was successful in achieving an Erasmus+ project: Improving working Environments for nurses in ICU. EfCCNa is an associated partner in this project.

5. Facilitators of Weaning – FLOW. EfCCNa members also participated in the online survey of factors that facilitated use of weaning protocols in clinical practice.

6. The EfCCNa’s continued funding of research awards demonstrates the value that we place on driving forward research that will lead to improvements in practice for the benefit of patients. These awards continue to be available annually.

Future Plans

The 2018 and 2019 activities and successes provide an excellent platform to strengthen the EfCCNa’s strategic plans. Moving forward we are looking towards another successful Congress in 2021; strengthening collaborations with other societies such as ESNO, WFCCN, SCCM and ESICM; and lobbying for a critical care nurse specialist role across Europe. In 2020 we will have the inauguration of a new President who will establish an evolving strategic plan to continue strengthening the federation.

Finances

In 2019 EfCCNa had 142.186,78 € incomes and 142.267 € expenses.

Income:
Total expenses amounted to € 142,267 and these are shown in the pie chart below.