

**91st EFN GENERAL ASSEMBLY
 EFN MEMBERS TOUR DE TABLE**

Country	ORGANISATION	PROFESSION	PUBLIC POLICY
Austria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The ANNA is working on registering its nurses to ensure the quality of nursing in Austria and we emphasise nurses to work on the electronic health document as it is of high importance in the future regarding the demographic changes and the increasing workload for nurses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Discussion of nurses accessing electronic health documents. › There is a lot of work toward coordinating the vast amount of information and services on eHealth. › The Department of Health coordinates the eHealth & quality care movement. › Electronic patient cards are in use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Ministry of Health has a coordination platform for Telemedicine, a draft for an e-health strategy which builds on structures already in place like the e-card or the hospital information system; since 2003 the ministry is piloting the development of the electronic health document, problems are gateways, format and content. › Data protection is an issue that requires continues monitoring.
Bulgaria		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › eHealth applications are very difficult to implement in Bulgaria mainly due to financial constraints. › In the MoH, discussions on eHealth are underway but it is still very early for actions due to expected changes in health legislation. › Bulgaria faces serious staff shortage, due to low salaries - nurses leaving for overseas work - 130+ nurses in 2009. › DIR36 implemented but not recognised, resulting in Bulgarian nurses treated as assistants. › Nurse Faculties have recruited more students in their programmes than ever before. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › A Chief Nurse is not in place in Bulgaria. This means that in response to the European Commission questions, no accurate information can be provided by the MoH. › There is a new Minister of Health with a reform planned, but this will take time & we do not know the impact on nurses. › A Bulgarian health portal was put in place by the government – but it is only for their experts use.
Croatia		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › There are currently limited resources for eHealth. › However, most Croatian Hospitals are IT equipped and have an intranet service. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Websites sponsored by pharmaceutical companies are in place offering advice on healthy lifestyles. › Telemedicine is a major development allowing continuity of care for patients in the islands.

<p>Cyprus</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Meetings with "Q Training" Organisation led to a proposal for which CYNMA is about to decide whether and how to proceed with seminars for members on Ehealth and IT. Seminars are based on Systemic Approach to Training- SAT method. The programs will probably get financed from the Authority for Human Resources Development (AHRD). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › CYNMA has decided upon financing a national research among nurses concerning ehealth issues (e.g. Knowledge on Information Technology, Practices, and Attitudes). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › CYNMA is looking forward to provide input on the new IT and Software to be adopted by the Health Insurance Organisation (HIO). Nursing information and data shall be recorded for each patient (EPR) in a profound manner for evidence based care.
<p>Denmark</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › National infrastructure for patient data and development of e-health - DNO in two strategic groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Electronic health records are already in place but face interoperability issues › A national organisation has been put in place since 2005 to setup common software development on patient data. › However, barriers are faced by Danish legislation, although the law is currently revised. › National website for health. GP's can communicate via email with patients. › Denmark has established a Masters programme in health informatics. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › eHealth is making progress particularly in primary healthcare with websites developed to provide health information. › Telemedicine is particularly developed, especially in conditions such as diabetes and COPD. Moreover, it is extensively used in community care such as in enabling electronic imagery communication for wound care.
<p>Estonia</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Some projects on ehealth. › Electronic health records are currently being introduced – most nursing documents are still on paper. › Ethical issues are discussed on the usage of patient data and the extent to which these are available to patients themselves. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Hospitals have information systems in place.
<p>Finland</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The Nursing Minimum Data Set (NMDS) is a part of the core data elements. The national nursing documentation model and the Finnish Care Classification (FinCC) were developed in the national nursing documentation project 2005-2008. The national NMDS and FinCC were integrated during 2005-2007 into eight health recording 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The proportion of physicians to nurses is 1 to 4 in Finland. In clinical settings this means that nurses, being the largest group of health care professionals, constitute for the most active users of patient data in hospitals during 24 hours per day and seven days of the week. This reflects that tools and models adopted for daily practice must support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The Council of State made a decision in principle in 2002 that Finland should have a nationally interoperable electronic health record (EHR) by the end of the year 2007. Furthermore the decree launched in 2007 requires public health care organizations to join the national patient record archive by the end of the year 2011. The Ministry of

	<p>systems in 33 health care organizations (piloting in 106 units/wards / three university hospitals, 11 district hospitals, 19 health care centres, one privat hospital). An education model and an eEducation environment were also developed to support the implementation.</p>	<p>nursing from philosophical, ethical and practical perspectives. <u>The national challenge in Finland has been to unify and standardize electronic nursing documentation</u>, to integrate the nursing documentation into the multiprofessional EHR and the national code server and national archive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › A national website is developed including meeting places and health library, while a separate professionals' website is also in place. › Electronic health records are being setup along with e-prescriptions, as well as mobile x-ray services, laboratory tests, etc. › Moreover, a Masters program is developed on eNursing services. 	<p>Social Affairs and Health is in charge of the implementation of this decision and the specification of the EHR solution.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Finland plans to have a national interoperable health record in place by 2011 › Telemedicine is also used widely such as with mobile x-ray services and technology to cover rural areas to overcome the issue of long distances.
<p>Germany</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › We have finished the report on an online survey in which 3,000 nurses reported about their working conditions. Major findings are that one third considers leaving the profession daily or several times a week and that 46% would not want a relevant to be taken care of in their own institution. The report can be downloaded (in German) from our website www.dbfk.de. In preparation of federal and regional elections we have launched a website with information on the programmes of the parties and with fact sheets on the working conditions of nurses to prepare nurses to discuss nursing issues with candidates. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › In Germany there are debates on the utility and use of health records. Although 9 million e-patient cards have been issued, there is reluctant support particularly by GPs › Serious concerns are also evident on data safety and data protection, resulting in only 1/3 of physicians allowed to use electronic records › There is also the question of 'Who can have access to electronic records?' Physicians and pharmacists currently have access but now 40 other professions are waiting to see if they would also be allowed access. To this end, an institute has been setup to process and identify who is eligible › Government is 'suddenly' very much aware that there might be a shortage of nurses in the near future. It is difficult to judge whether this is an effect of election campaigning or a serious concern. The only thing they can think of are image campaigns. In the light of an increasing demand in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Federal elections are due 27 September 2009. Until recently it seemed to be clear that there will be a conservative liberal government. More recently a continuation of the current coalition seems to be a more likely option - though none of the two parties wants to do so. We have managed to introduce a new code into the DRG system for hospital financing which reflects the care for very dependent patients. This will help to improve income for hospitals. The Public Health Insurance has accepted that nurses can receive payment for interventions in primary prevention. › eHealth is particularly relevant for rural areas with isolated population. In such regions GPs are growing old with no one available to replace them. Thus, Nurses have been identified as an alternative and community nurses in particular. › The use of telemetric devices by community nurses has been found to be of particular success especially in long-term

		<p>elderly care because of the ageing population government changed access to nursing education to 'ten years general education'. In reality this is a minor change as there will be very few applicants who did not have a chance to be accepted before. However, opening up education sends a wrong message to the public about the required competencies and level of education. I have submitted a petition to our Federal Parliament to withdraw this new legislation and 48,000 supporters signed it within three weeks. The petition probably will be discussed in parliament next year.</p>	<p>conditions, however, this is now challenged by physicians.</p>
<p>Greece</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › In Greece the NNA is not particularly engaged in this field, but an informatics group has been put in place in the NNA. › Furthermore, the NNA is considering to make cooperation with nurse specialists on nurse informatics in order to create a sector for this area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The eHealth movement in nursing is mostly developing around individual efforts. › Websites like 'Iatronet' are in place offering advice on personal care, hygiene, and health promotion. › An interesting educational portal is provided by University of Athens, Nursing Department titled "eNurse". › Since the last 3-4 years most hospitals have their own website and many of these provide health information useful for patient/professionals. › Almost all the hospitals (public or private) have implemented an integrated hospital information system (in many of them is under construction) and as a result of this many nurses participate in many different functions of this system (i.e. nursing electronic record). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Health informatics and intranets are particularly developed in public Hospitals › Although there is a lack of government public web portals, there are quite a few information resources available. An example is Iatronet, which intends to help the public/patients as well as professionals to acquire responsible information concerning health, preventive medicine, nursing, nutrition, sport, and personal diet and care. Hellenic Nurses Association's (HNA's) Journal titled "Nosileftiki" is covered by Iatronet. <p>Other information websites are oriented more to professionals, specializing on topics of interest to people working in the health care sector (i.e. HNA's website: www.esne.gr).</p> <p>The last two years some new nursing Journals/Newsletters provided by other professional nursing associations are available from their websites.</p> <p>There is a slow increase in the number of portals, but these still cover only a small range of online health services. The Hellenic Center for Infectious Disease Control at the</p>

			<p>Ministry of Health (KEEL) is an example of service that besides health information (medical and nursing) provides counselling, psychological support, social services and psychiatric evaluation and monitoring.</p> <p>The nature and the extent of information are related to the number of websites that actually provide e-health services. Generally speaking, there is a lack of governmental portals that could help the public and/or patients to find more specific sources of online information. This role is played by special purpose information sites (many of them belong to scientific associations of health professionals) that mostly offer links to foreign websites as there are almost no available health information sites in Greece.</p>
Iceland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › A working group has been setup in the NNA to specifically look at issues of eHealth, such as ICNP. › Meetings with director of health have been scheduled to discuss implementation of eHealth systems. 		
Ireland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The NNA supports nurses engaging with ehealth information in various formats including their own website. › Moreover, Nurse prescribing has had huge success. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › In Ireland during 2002-2006 there was governmental support on eHealth, but various problems encountered with electronic systems have caused nervousness. › Legislation is likely to be updated introducing unique patient identifiers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Current organisational, professional and public policy issues: Full report available – Health Service Cuts – Reduction in the working week for nurses and midwives – nurse and midwife prescribing Medication and Ionising Radiation – Diploma in Nursing Sexual Assault Forensic Examination – Cancer Strategy – Staffing levels and nurse patient ratio's – Workplace Reform to support Primary Health Care – Occupational Hazard – Fatigue / Stress – RN4CAST.
Italy		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › There have been general developments in the applications of telemedicine, while there has been an uptake of ICNP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Major changes at national level with a shift from a Health to a Welfare Ministry.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Some hospitals are very well IT equipped. › A national health website is also in place › Moreover, nurses are increasingly being educated to use informatics and therefore a system for CPD for nurses is set up. 	
Lithuania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Preparation of a programme on ehealth 2009-2015. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › There is an uptake of e-Prescriptions with of course NNA input. › eHealth is viewed as enabling <u>accessibility, quality, and overall optimal services.</u> › Databases on patient data, test results, and consultations are also in development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The MoH is commissioning a project on eHealth for 2009-2015. › National website is in place mainly advising on health disease prevention.
Malta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The Maltese NNA has upgraded their website for nurses, enabling downloading of useful software, and communication forums. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › A number of specialist nurses on ICT is in place while for instance areas such as endoscopy are already well covered. › Patients have been issued electronic health id-card which stores patient information accessible by healthcare professionals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Hospitals have moved to using X-rays results and patient data electronically and now this is moving into community settings as well – Government discussing the use of ID Card for health.
Netherlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The agenda is mainly dominated by the pandemic flu, with discussion on staff vaccinations made not obligatory. › eHealth is in primary stage for nurses. › Moreover, the NNA is running a hotline for problem reporting from the shopfloor. › Most concerns are received from elderly care settings due to shortage of staff, which results in employment of poorly educated extra staff 		
Norway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The NNO has a previous ICT strategy from 2005, "Nurses' contribution to Te@mwork through e-cooperation – NNO's Strategy for ICT in Nursing and the Health Care Services 2005 – 2007". That strategy focused on increasing the ICT competency of nurses, as the national strategies have lacked this 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Ethical issues discussed especially in regards to use and access to electronic patient records. › Moreover, under discussion are also issues of quality staffing, patient and professional education, telemedicine, and patient 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › In the National Health Care Plan in Norway (Ministry of Health and Care Services, 2006), ICT is described as an important means to achieve increased interaction, quality, and efficiency in the health care service. Since 1996, the authorities have had three national strategies to develop and apply ICT in the

	<p>aspect. Competency is still a relevant subject and will be continued in our new strategy; "eHealth - everyone`s responsibility and in everyone`s interest. Major goal: eHealth supports continuity in patient care and is integrated in nursing practice, leadership, and competency and knowledge building. Priority areas: Ethics, Terminologies, Electronic Patient Record (EPR), Electronic interaction, Quality and staffing, Education, professional development and research, Telemedicine solutions and patient participation and Information security</p>	<p>participation.</p>	<p>health care sector; "More Health for Each bIT", 1996; "Say@!", 2002; and "Te@work 2007". The major goals of these strategies has been to increase the quality of the health care service, better use of resources, and most important, that patients experience the services as complete, accessible, and of high quality. These goals are continued in the new national strategy Te@work 2.0, which is valid until 2013</p>
<p>Poland</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The PNO is supporting health promotion via its dedicated website while implementation of ICNP has shown positive outcomes. › As no strategy on ehealth, developing one. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Lots of efforts are being done to use web for information sharing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › With increased cooperation with the MoH an eHealth project has been set up for 2010.
<p>Portugal</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Difficulties in making a clear distinction between eHealth and ICT. › A national Technological Health Plan has been developed, including the setting up of a Health portal providing health information, an e-agenda with which citizens can book appointments with physicians, receive alerts, and e-prescriptions – fully operational from March 2010. › National electronic clinical records are set up. Nurses have been appointed to improve health records buy 2015. › Software certification process is seen as essential with main aim of devising software able to translate nursing. › ICNP is discussed in Portugal, but mainly for future work. › Also, assisted living programmes have been developed, nurses are provided with portable phones to facilitate communication especially 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › 'On Time Appointments' project is underway, and › A system to notify violence on health professionals.

		<p>in community nursing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › TeleNursing is also widely developed for use both within Portugal and with outside countries, e.g. Africa. 	
Romania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Has signed a statement with ICN to translate ICNP into Romanian. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › A project on health records has been planned, in addition to project on education and mentorship. 	
Slovakia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The NNA is being involved in a project to provide sustainable education on nurses → supported by the European Social Funds. This has enabled the creation of education centres while access to education material is also made possible via a dedicated web portal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › eHealth is fully implemented in the Slovenian legislation. › National ICNP being implemented and should be used shortly. › MoH is planning to implement national register of patients › National Health portals have been setup. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Plans have been in place to setup electronic ID cards, both for patients and healthcare professionals, and should be implemented by 2013.
Slovenia		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Slovenia started a long time ago with IT equipment (1992) and ehealth is included everywhere. eHealth has seen a particular uptake in hospital settings but also in community care by Social workers and community nurses. › A project on patient ID card is underway with nurses' asking for the right to access relevant information on this card, especially prescriptions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Electronic health systems are widely used to support data on e.g. X-ray, wound care, infections. › Moreover, a National website for patient information is being set up as well as a system for the Healthcare Professionals information only. › ICNP is very much alive in Slovenia.
Spain		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Huge developments on eHealth/IT communication. The Ministry of Health and social policy developed a webpage where the citizens can find a lot of information and where a number of services are provided including offering of health related information, ability to book appointments with clinicians and review waiting lists. › e-prescribing and e-records have long been implemented. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Within Nursing, platforms for e-learning and CPD are in place for undergraduate and postgraduate education. › Spain reminded that interpersonal relations in healthcare and especially in nursing are very important. <u>Excessive use of such technology should be avoided.</u> 	
Sweden		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Nurses should use eHealth applications to improve the care they provide. <u>eHealth is not meant to replace nurses.</u> › National IT strategy is in place in Sweden especially in supporting multiprofessional aspects. › Patient have access to their own records › Standardising terms is becoming an issue of interoperability › Moreover, Telecommunications are very developed with web-camera communication between district nurses already in practice. › e-prescribing has been in place for long. 	
Switzerland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › eHealth strategy is not currently discussed with problems such as lack of data and financial support. › The NNA continues reflecting on its future. Decisions should be taken in November on its constitution changes, such as including the auxiliary personnel. › Preparing NNA 100th anniversary to take place in 2010. › NNA leading French translation of ICNP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › ASI is finalising a preliminary draft project on « nursing care & DRGs » showing the impact that can have the introduction of nursing data in a DRG system. 	
UK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The RCN is participating in the NMC (UK-wide) review of pre-registration nursing which is setting standards for basic nurse education. It is clear from the emerging 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The pace of implementation for certain eHealth applications in England has been frustrating to many nurses. However the RCN, as a leader in eHealth, is working with 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The migration of services into community settings and the continued emphasis on collaborative working demand a robust eHealth infrastructure, and a workforce

	<p>educational standards that <u>skills and knowledge around eHealth are now viewed as essential components of professional nursing practice</u> - of what it means to be a nurse in the 21st century across the UK.</p> <p>› The RCN has launched the RCN online International Humanitarian Community. The purpose of the community is to bring together healthcare practitioners who have worked in, are currently working in, or are interested in working in the field of International Humanitarian Healthcare work. The three aims of the online Community are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enable registered practitioners working in the field of International Humanitarian Healthcare work in developing countries to share experiences, support each other with practical advice and learn from each other; 2. Enable the RCN to have access to individuals who are either interested, or have undertaken work, in this particular field; 3. Raise the profile of International Humanitarian Healthcare work being undertaken in developing countries. 	<p>NHS Connecting for Health on overcoming some of the roadblocks, such as the lack of information standards (see below), and remains committed to driving the agenda and helping to develop and deliver the applications that nurses need to do their jobs and that patients deserve. We are working closely with Ros Moore, Director of Nursing for NHS Connecting for Health (England) and other nursing leads within the programme on processes for developing standards for the content of electronic patient records, building on work already undertaken within RCN. This might involve for example getting broad consensus on what assessment instrument to use in a particular situation and how to best represent that in an electronic patient record system. This is primarily a professional issue, requiring the engagement of nurses at all levels, rather than a technical challenge.</p>	<p>capable of using it. To further support innovative models of care, nurses are increasingly taking the lead on telehealth and telecare initiatives</p> <p>› There is huge variability in the use of telemedicine and tele-assessment and therefore joint standards throughout the UK are supported.</p>
--	--	---	---