ACENDIO position

- ACENDIO believes that the use of eHealth applications and online services changes the way care is organized and the roles for both nurses and patients.
- ACENDIO believes that eHealth should be employed in a way that strengthens patients’ involvement and control over their own care and health.
- ACENDIO believes that eHealth services should promote equality and person-centered care, increase participation and prevent social exclusion.
- ACENDIO advocates that patient access to data and information, and active participation in planning, performing and evaluating nursing care, need to increase.
- ACENDIO advocates that registered nurses should use eHealth applications for communication and collaboration based on a critical stance with regard to benefit, user friendliness and ethics.

Background

The roles of the nurse and the patient are affected by the use of eHealth, which needs reflection and consideration. The nurse’s role becomes more of a partner, a guide to finding relevant and valid information regarding health, illness and disease. The informative and educative part of being a nurse is stressed. The perspective of regarding the patient as one in the team alongside with nurses, physicians and others needs to be acknowledged. The patient has a unique position with expertise on a personal level of what it means having this health condition. The communication and collaboration between nurses and patients in planning, performing and evaluating nursing care should be characterized by a person-centered care approach, seeking to involve patients, and relatives, in their own care at a level of the patient’s own choosing and preference.

eHealth applications could support the nurse-patient encounter as well as supporting each of the actors, e.g. by providing information and increasing knowledge. Patients’ access to information increases the possibility to take on a more active role in decision making and own care. However, a dialog with the individual patient regarding preferences for participation is needed.

Approved by the ACENDIO Board
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ACENDIO - The Association for Common European Nursing Diagnoses, Interventions and Outcomes - is a membership organisation established in 1995 to promote the development of nursing’s professional language and eHealth and to provide a network across Europe.