Enhancing nurse and patient education

ACENDIO position

• ACENDIO believes that registered nurses require eHealth competence to be able to offer patients and significant others a safe and high-quality care.
• ACENDIO believes that registered nurses need to have informatics and media literacy to be able to deliver safe nursing care that is evidence-based and person-centered.
• ACENDIO advocates that eHealth and standardized nursing language should form part of all levels of nursing education and in continued professional learning.
• ACENDIO advocates that eHealth should have an educational and enabling role for patients and relatives, encapsulating a life perspective focusing on health, wellness and illness.

Background

It is a prerequisite for nurses to be able to record, update and retrieve data and information regarding assessment, nursing diagnoses and interventions in order to deliver a safe high quality nursing care. Further, nurses need to be characterized by an evidence based and person-centred approach. eHealth competence needs to be addressed in nursing education on all levels and informatics and media literacy need to be a part of the nursing curriculum in European nursing schools. The use of standardized language to represent the knowledge domain and specific perspective of nursing is paramount and is seen as part of professional practice and also the profession. The use of standardized terms opens the possibility for retrieval and secondary use of data representing that domain, which in turn supports the development of clinical expertise and clinical practise within the field. eHealth can be used for education of both patients and relatives as well, providing information on primary and secondary health perspectives, including information on society, education and rights. eHealth may be seen to encapsulate not just a health perspective but rather a life perspective. A focus on wellness as well as illness, supporting concepts like eLiving and eLife. Further, eHealth applications should in some respect support patients possibilities to be as independent and autonomous as possible. An example where the patient remains in power is taking on treatments like cognitive behaviour therapy online. The person doing that never becomes a formal patient, which is a person who receives or is registered to receive health care, but still receives treatment.

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.