

KNA NEWSLETTER



Safety Environment & Healthy Life WITH NURSES

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2007 ICN Conference in Japan

2007 ICN Conference was held in Yokohama, Japan under the theme 'Nurses at the Forefront: Dealing with the Unexpected'. From 96 countries around the world, approximately 3,000 nurses participated to experience recent trends in nursing. Participants discussed the current issues that they are facing, and come up with a new vision while sharing warm-hearted friendship beyond national

boundaries. For the Korean Nurses Association(KNA), president Kim Cho-Ja and secretary-general Yoon Yeung-Ok attended as delegates along with 120 people including professors, nurses, and nursing students.

The opening ceremony took place at the convention hall of Pacifico Yokohama. The ceremony began with a parade where each delegation of nursing associations from various countries showed up in their own traditional costumes. Korean delegates Kim Cho-Ja and Yoon Yeung-Ok entered in Korean dresses holding Taegeuk (a symbol of yin and yang) fans with the crowd clapping and cheering.



Korean Delegates at ICN Conference

The conference involved a variety of programs, such as symposiums, workshops, exhibitions, and field trips to Japan's healthcare institutions where nurses share their knowledge and experience. As well, 519 papers and 487 posters were presented.

The closing ceremony was held at the convention hall of Pacifico Yokohama on the first of June. The ICN president Hiroko Minami gave the Japanese Nursing Association presents out of gratitude for the successful conference. With the promise to reunite at Durban in South Africa for the 24th ICN Congress in June of 2009, the conference officially drew down the curtains.

Long-term Care Insurance System for the Elderly with Home-visiting Nursing Services

Home-visiting nursing services, one of the retirement payments in the long-term care insurance system for the elderly, will begin to be provided in July 2008. The home-visiting nursing services imply that nurses as long-term care agents visit the homes of beneficiaries according to the order of physicians, herbal doctors, or dentists to provide assistance in nursing and medical treatment, consulting service regarding medical care, or dental hygiene services.

To become long-term care agents and provide home-visiting nursing services, nurses are required to have

more than 2 years of experience in nursing for the last 10 years; nurses' aides to have more than 3 years of experience in nursing assistance within recent 10 years who also have completed training designated by the Ministry of Health and Welfare(MOHW).

Only full-time nurses with more than 2 years of experience within recent 10 years are qualified to be in charge of administration of the long-term care institutions offering home-visiting nursing. In this case, full-time nurses refer to those who work 8 hours a day, more than 20 days a month.

Nurses' aides who provide home-visiting nursing services need to complete 700 hours of training (theory: 360 hours, practice: 340 hours) at the designated institutions.

WHO Regional Committee in Jeju

The 58th WHO Western Pacific Regional Committee took place at the Jeju International Convention Center in September. Participants were all the world's leaders in health including the WTO secretary-general Margaret Chan, and the regional director for the Western Pacific Dr. Shigeru Omi, ministers of health from 27 member states, delegates from the member states, representatives from international agencies and NGOs.

At this meeting, there was a mid-term report on 'Millennium Development Goals: MDGs' which the UN announced in an effort to eliminate the world's diseases and starvation. Also, the agenda mainly focused on patient-centered healthcare and maternal health in depth.

In particular, the Korea International Foundation for Health and Development made an announcement that they were preparing a commemoration project in succession to Dr. Lee Jong-Wook's study, who passed away while working as secretary general for the WHO, and that they were planning to present 'Lee Jong-Wook Commemorative Award' valued at USD 100,000 to people or organizations that have made a major contribution to the promotion of people's health around the world at each meeting starting in 2009.

Kim Cho-Ja president of KNA attended the committee as a representative of the ICN to declare that the ICN was very willing to support the health projects of the WHO and would actively join and cooperate their activities, and those two organizations were in close partnership working together to promote the mankind's health. Moreover, Dr. Kim said that she believed nurses would be able to function as leaders in reinforcing healthcare systems and achieving MDGs. She also did not forget to request that the WTO give ongoing support so that nurses can participate in decision-making and exert their leadership within the communication system for healthcare.

In addition, the exhibition hall was operated to introduce the experience and knowledge in Korea's healthcare, where 12 institutions participated including the KNA, Association of Korean Oriental Medicine, and Headquarters for Diseases Care, Korean National Tuberculosis Association, and Korean Institution for Health and Social Affairs. KNA displayed a chronological table of changes in nursing policies and international activities along with the related photographs under the theme 'History of Korean Nursing'. Further, KNA prepared an exhibition to provide a glimpse at the history of nursing uniforms in each era, which drew a lot of attention. Additionally, there was a booth to introduce the past activities of Yonsei College of Nursing and Catholic College of Nursing as WTO Collaborating Centers for Nursing and Midwifery.



The 58th WHO Western Pacific Regional Committee in Jeju

590 New APNs in 10 Areas

The 4th Advanced Practice Nurses Qualifying Examination produced 590 new APNs in 10 areas. The final ratio of successful applicants of this exam turned out to be 85.7%. Including 590 of this year's successful candidates, 2085 APNs in total have been produced through the qualifying exams.

The exam was taken at the Korean Accreditation Board of Nursing in commission of the MOHW. Participants in the qualifying exam are nurses who have completed professional nursing programs in the related area at the institutions designated by the MOHW, and who have passed the credential examination for special cases.

Meanwhile, the MOHW announced on October 19 that they have designated 9 new graduate schools as educational institutions of APN courses. In 2008, 39 national graduate schools including newly designated educational institutions will select new students and conduct training through 105 courses.

APN system was launched as the name of specialised nurses in 4 areas of the Medical Law (public health, anesthesia, psychitric mental health, home health care), and it was changed to 'APN' in January, 2000. Subsequently, there appeared 13 new specialized areas of professional nurses, such as infection care, occupational health, emergency care, critical care, hospice, oncological nursing, adult health, child health, and gerontological nursing.

APN courses are currently operated by educational institutions designated by the MOHW (specialized graduate schools or professional graduate schools which have nursing departments with graduate school programs). To enter these courses, applicants are required to have more than 3 years of experience in practical nursing at the designated institutions within recent 10 years.



Nurses taking APN examination

Opened KNA Nursing Home

KNA Nursing Home a specialized nursing care facility for seniors has opened its doors to assure the happy and healthy life of senior citizens. The institution began to serve the aged on August 20, and 100 more senior citizens with serious senile diseases, such as paralytic dementia are expected to come in.

The nursing home is a new healthcare facility established by the Korean Nurses Welfare Foundation, a social welfare corporation, founded by the KNA. The construction began last June and was complete after a year; nurses from all over the country chipped in for building costs.

With 25 nursing rooms and the daycare center on one basement and three floors, the institution is open for the aged above 65 years old with serious senile diseases, such as paralytic dementia, and is planning to provide customized comprehensive health and welfare services in consideration of the individual condition of senior citizens

The nursing home features a very eco-friendly structure with a combination of gorgeous natural scenery and architectural beauty. Every unit has social activity rooms where the residents can gather around and participate in a variety of programs. In order to heighten healing effects, the indoor space has been decorated in bright and colorful hues, and each unit is in different colors to differentiate it from the others.

To provide the best comprehensive health/welfare services, nurses, social workers, physical therapists, nutritionists, and office workers all work together in teams. Not only offering professional nursing services, they also plan several programs to help the rehabilitation and leisure life of senior residents. The institution has signed a partnership agreement with Yong-In Severance Hospital.



Opening of KNA Nursing Home

Graded Payment System of Medical Charges by Nursing Manpower

The new system of graded payments for medical charges according to the level of the nursing manpower will come into effect in healthcare clinics next year. On September 20, the Health Insurance Policy Deliberation Committee of the MOHW made the finale decision on 'Health Insurance of Medical Charges for Healthcare Clinics' which centers upon the execution of the nursing manpower gradation system at healthcare clinics.

Publication of 'Korean Nurses' Ethics

A new booklet has come out, containing the declaration of Korean nurses' ethics, the moral code, and the ethics guide. KNA decided to publish this booklet to help nurses actively cope with the changing healthcare environment and do the best in fulfilling ethical duties that are required for the expanded nursing field and roles. KNA hopes that the pamphlet will be positively used as the practical principle and standard for nursing ethics of the actual nursing practice as well as learning materials for nursing students in universities.

Awarded at the Florence Nightingale Medal

At the 41st Florence Nightingale Medal, the best honor for all the nurses in the world, Kim Susie principal of Seoul Cyber University, Do Bok-Neum honored professor of the Gyeongbuk Nursing College, and general Yun Jong-Pil principal of the Armed Forces Nursing Academy were voted medal winners. The Florence Nightingale Medal was founded in 1912 in commemoration of Florence Nightingale's great achievements. The International Committee of the Red Cross selects less than 50 medal winners around the world every two years, and up until now 48 Korean nurses including this year's winners have received the medals.



Commemorative Photo with the Florence Nightingale Medal Winners

Refreshing Program for No-work Nurses Begins

A new program was launched in order to solve nursing shortage in small/medium-sized hospitals and help re-employ no-work nurses. This program consists of the essential contents for nurses to work in actual hospitals. The training was carried out with a reinforced practice session. It will help

nurses who have been away from clinic for a long time get used to the changed healthcare environment and gain confidence in actual nursing practice.

Korean Nursing Leaders Meet Chinese Nursing Leaders

According to the exchange visiting program for Korean and Chinese nursing leaders, Chinese leaders came to visit Seoul on September 30. Five leaders came over and promised to promote friendly relationship and continue to cooperate for the mutual development of nursing in the future.

Representatives from the two countries discussed how to operate the 8th Korea-China Nursing Forum which will be held in Korea in 2008. The Chinese delegates not only participated in the World Conference on Surgical Patient Care in Seoul, but also visited the KNA training center, KNA Nursing Home, Jaseng Oriental Medicine Hospital, Severance Hospital, Yonsei College of Nursing, and Seoul Junggu Community Health Center, and so forth.



KNA Executives with Chinese Nursing Leaders

1004 Day Volunteer Nursing Service

Centering upon the Hospital Nurses Association, all the hospitals nationwide came together to hold '1004 day (Angels' Day) Nurses' Volunteer Services' on October 4, in order to promote the image of nurses and enhance the public relations of the nursing industry. Having started in 2005, '1004 day Nurses' Volunteer Services' is of great significance because it offers nurses working in hospitals nationwide opportunities to practice their sharing and love through volunteer services to patients before and after October 4.

The World Conference on Surgical Patient Care in Seoul

2007 World Conference on Surgical Patient Care was held in Seoul on October 1 with 2,000 surgical nurses from 30 nations participating. The main topic of the conference was 'the World of Perioperative Nursing: Evidence Practice Future'. The World Conference on Surgical Patient Care takes place every two years, hosted by the Association of Perioperative Registered Nurses which has its base in Denver, United States. Held in Asia for the first time by the Korean Hospital Surgical Nurses Association in collaboration with AORN (Association of periOperative Registered Nurses), this year's conference is recognized as the most successful ever.