



Paul Fulbrook - Editor



GUEST EDITORIAL

Ruth Kleinpell, President, World Federation of Critical Care Nurses

Global Connections and Sharing: Durban Congress, 2013

The ninth Congress of the World Federation of Critical Care Nurses and eleventh Congress of the World Federation of Societies of Intensive and Critical Care Medicine were held in Durban South Africa, between August 28 to September 01, 2013. The Critical Care World Congress proved to be a successful event with over two thousand delegates from more than seventy countries. The number of nurse participants totaled more than five hundred.

The four day congress incorporated 91 scientific sessions, 347 lectures, twelve debates, and 212 posters. Over 123 invited speakers from Europe, North and South America, Africa, Oceania, Asia, and South Africa participated in the program. WFCCN sponsored three plenary sessions, nine scientific sessions, fifty-two poster presentations, and eight interdisciplinary sessions. This issue of CONNECT highlights the top rated nursing poster abstracts which include an impressive range of topics related to critical care nursing.

The winning poster in the nursing category was awarded to Eleni Kletsiou and colleagues from the University of Cyprus, Athens University in Greece and Attikon University Hospital in Athens Greece for their research on pain intensity and apoptosis markers in intubated critical care patients, exploring tissue injury. Other top rated posters included a study examining initiation of enteral feeding devices in the paediatric intensive care setting by Lee Siew Kum and colleagues from KK Women's and Children's Hospital in Singapore; a study exploring patterns of behaviour and interaction in the critical care unit by Suegnet Scholtz

Contents

CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS: WFSICCM/WFCCN World Congress 28 August - 01 September 2013, Durban, South Africa

Abstracts.....	40
Index.....	57

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and colleagues from the University of Johannesburg, Gauteng, South Africa; and a study assessing serum stress neuropeptide levels associate with lymphocyte expression of apoptotic markers in critical illness by Elizabeth Papathanassoglou and colleagues from Cyprus University, University of Athens and Gennimatas General Hospital in Athens Greece.

We congratulate all of the poster recognition awardees as well as the country member nursing representatives who served to present an oral presentation, moderate or chair a session, participate in the poster presentations and others who volunteered during the Congress to make this year's event a success.

A special recognition is extended to the South African Society of Critical Care nursing members for their significant contributions in the planning and hosting of the Congress.

As a noted physician speaker highlighted at the Congress "Without critical care nurses, there would be no critical care." We are pleased that this issue of CONNECT highlights the findings of several research studies which demonstrate the global impact of critical care nursing worldwide.

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