

## Letter from the Editor

### *The Immeasurable Impact of a Community of Practice*

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Dear colleagues

This edition is devoted to sharing many of the nursing abstracts submitted by speakers at the 20<sup>th</sup> Emirates Critical Care Conference in collaboration with the 19<sup>th</sup> World Federation of Critical Care Nurses (WFCCN) conference, 10-12 May 2024 in Dubai, UAE.

On May 9<sup>th</sup>, prior to the conference and in the same venue, WFCCN conducted its first face-to-face Council meeting since 2019, such has been the challenge of a world with COVID-19. Over 35 representatives from more than 25 countries in the room and a further 10 representatives online during the meeting (Figure 1). We were also joined by World Health Organisation (WHO) Chief Nursing Officer, Amelia Tuipulotu and Emergency, Critical and Operative Services Lead Dr Lee Wallis (Figure 2). A strong theme that emerged was establishing solid global relationships and action plans within the WFCCN and with our regional colleagues, as well as exploring how the WHO and the WFCCN can work more closely on common goals and interests.



**Figure 1.**

Members of the WFCCN Council and observers sending a Happy International Nurses Day message to our global community.



**Figure 2.**

(From left to right) Ruth Kleinpell, WFCCN President (2011-2015), Amelia Tuipulotu WHO CNO, Adriano Friganović WFCCN President (2019-2023), Dr Lee Wallis WHO ECO Lead, Susan Yeager Neuro-critical Care Society President, Ged Williams WFCCN President (2001-2005), Kathleen Vollman WFCCN President (since 2023), Mary Kay Bader WFCCN Secretary (since 2023).

Additionally, the World Federation of Intensive and Critical Care (WFICC, Medicine) held their Board meeting at the same venue and joined the WFCCN Board for a joint collaborative meeting which has not occurred in over 10 years (Figure 3), with a goal of collaborating on projects that can benefit critically ill patients globally.

The joint conference had a total of 1928 participants, with representation from 75 countries and endorsement from 40 societies and federations. In addition, there were 305 faculty members, of which 144 were international speakers, 70 regional speakers and 91 local speakers. Over 230 participants were nurses, and two concurrent nursing sessions were led by nursing in all three days.

The WFCCN continues to use this forum to bring together nursing leaders and expert clinicians from around the world to participate in a truly multidisciplinary, multicultural and multitalented community of critical care practitioners. The opportunity to learn from each other, form new friendships, new ideas, and new skills and confidences and to create and extend an amazing community of practice is truly heartening! While it is impossible to measure the impact such events have on clinical practice and patient outcomes globally, it is palpable.



**Figure 3.**

WFCCN and WFCCN Board members with Dr Hussain Al Rahma (Conference Chairman) and Amelia Tuipulotu (CNO, WHO).

The WFCCN particularly wish to thank Dr Hussain Al Rahma, Convenor and Chair of the Emirates Critical Care Conference, for the last twenty years. His vision, generosity and commitment to multidisciplinary critical care practice is truly inspiring. We would also like to thank the many nurses who attended and participated, we hope your learning journey has been inspired and you will continue your journey well beyond this conference.

In 2025, the WFCCN will host its 20th conference at this same venue. We look forward to an equally stimulating conference, greater participation, and learning from many more critical care nurses from around the world.

Professor Ged Williams, AO  
Editor, IJCC  
Founding President, WFCCN

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President, WFCCN