

WEDNESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 1997

Teaching Lecture

1418

Nursing and AIDS – Challenges for nurses

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The approval of the Maastricht Treaty (Art 129) has introduced into the context of the European Union a new scope of Public Health. Because of that, Member States will become in a more dynamic environment, in which institutions will be forced to be learning organizations. The future professionals of HIV/AIDS public health will have to be responsible for social values, proficient leaders and be able to work with other European colleagues in order to thrive themselves. They all need to proceed by transferring, discussing and implementing further tools which will serve as a common pattern in the whole European Union (EU). In relation to that, this paper tries to bring together EU information on Programme structures, an initial element that, on one hand, will allow us to envisage the present reality within each of the countries, and on the other, will introduce us into discussion on the creation of a model, which will serve as the base for future professionals working in the HIV/AIDS field. The European Public Health Programme, offers the possibility for health professionals to interchange experiences between Member States concerning Programmes such as, *Europe Against AIDS and Health Promotion, Information, Education, Training*. It should be an objective to fulfill from Institutions focused on Research, Training and Care.

Therefore, one of the aims to take into account by responsible for Nursing Educational Programmes in EU countries should include training on Research Management, both undergraduate and postgraduate training. Teaching about the current Programmes and the way to prepare an EU Project proposal, undoubtedly, should be the first step for the achievement of the "know how", so that we could get into the European Union challenge. This aspect should be understood as an important point to be developed by European nurses working on the HIV/AIDS field.

Plenary Lecture

1419

Nursing diagnoses – Benefit or burden for cancer nurses

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The nursing diagnosis movement, which originated in the United States, recently has reached a number of European countries and has become a means by which nurses seek to advance their professional status and a way of highlighting the specific contribution of nursing to health care. A Nursing diagnosis is defined as "a clinical judgement about individual, family or community responses to actual and potential health problems/life processes. Nursing diagnoses provide the basis for selection of nursing interventions to achieve outcomes for which the nurse is accountable" (NANDA, 1989). This paper will critically explore the concept of nursing diagnosis and attempt to identify how culturally relevant they are for European cancer nurses. The assumptions underpinning the process of nursing diagnosis will be examined. This will be followed by a discussion on the contribution of nursing diagnosis to cancer nursing practice. This paper will conclude with a recommendation as to whether European cancer nurses should accept or reject the use of nursing diagnoses in their everyday clinical practice.