



**Special Points of Interest**

- \* Efccna Congress 2019
- \* 20 years of Efccna
- \* 30 Efccna member organisations

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**Efccna 2018: a federation of 30 member organisations, representing 27 countries in Europe**



## The EfCCNa Council Meeting in Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Due to the invitation of Frederique Paulus and the Dutch Critical Care Nurses organisation the EfCCNa Autumn Council meeting took place in the Academic Medical Centre Amsterdam, the Netherlands on September 15- 16, 2018. For practical reasons it was held in combination with the MICE-ICU Symposium. Here is a short resume of the meeting.

EfCCNa President Prof Bronagh Blackwood gave an overview of the activities since the last meeting in Cyprus.

- \* The DecubICUs study, one of the biggest nursing studies currently in Europe, is going very well; there are over 11.000 patients included the survey
- \* The EfCCNa Annual report 2017 is ready to be published and to be send out to member organizations
- \* Next board elections are due in 2020 – open positions: president, treasurer and board member
- \* New application for membership from Hungary

The **8<sup>th</sup> EfCCNa Congress** will be held in Ljubljana in February 2019 together with a celebration for the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the federation (1999 – 2019) Theme: we are family. There will be again a President's lunch together with the presidential representatives from all member associations. Update on Key note Speakers: John Albarran is replacing Ruth Kleinpell and is going to talk about family participation in ICU.

**Collaboration within other societies** - Ruth Kleinpell's paper on sepsis prevention from a nursing point of view is submitted to ICM. The WfCCN, SCCM and EfCCNa are going to endorse this paper.

**Research award** - for 2018 there are three applications, one from Spain and two from Turkey

**Patient support group** – this group is in the process to obtain and publish information about existing support groups in Europe; a survey monkey questionnaire was establish to be send out to members of national organizations by the end of September.

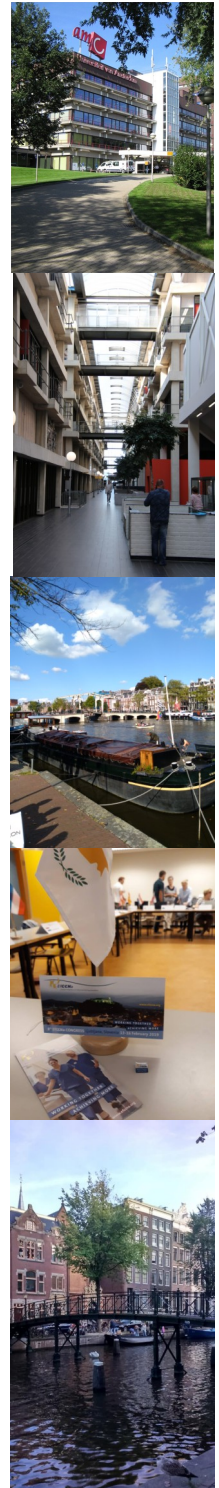
**Position Statement** on nurses' responsibilities on providing enteral nutrition to the critically ill patient is ready for publication, first in 'Connect' then on EfCCNa website

The **Mice-ICU project** ended September 2018. The Symposium in Amsterdam, organized by EfCCNa brought together more than 120 delegates; the interactive programme was able to give interesting insights in the health care needs of a multicultural society and the importance to act sensitive as a professional working on ICU. The e-learning course on this topic will be available from October 2018. There might be the need for a MICE follow up project in order to include other patient groups, like e.g. neonatal and paediatrics. ESPNIC will be asked if they are interested to join.

**Postgraduate Education** (ESNO project) - aim to get a better recognition of education and professional standards in nursing specialization, e.g. oncology nursing. Literature is available from ESICM, DIVI and NL; connection from EfCCNa to the ESNO education committee.

### Next meetings

Spring 2019 – Ljubljana, Slovenia, Autumn 2019 - Croatia





The 8<sup>th</sup> EfCCNa Congress in February 2019 will mark the federation's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This will be shown in many ways throughout the Congress and by the celebration of the jubilee.

You will have some extra fun celebrating with us!

Registration deadline is rapidly coming closer now and we expect many more critical care colleagues registering before the early bird fee ends November 15<sup>th</sup>!



We are very pleased by the number of abstracts submitted, and letters of acceptance has been sent out. The scientific committee is working on slotting the abstracts into the programme. By the end of October a full program will be on the congress website ([www/efccna.org/congress](http://www/efccna.org/congress))

Keynote speakers have been promoted on the website already. But there is a change to announce: Dr John Albarran will replace Ruth Kleinpell and he is going to talk about family participation in the ICU. John is an EfCCNa Fellow. More information will shortly be published on the website. The final program will include oral speakers, workshops, posters and hospital visits.

The congress will also have an exhibition space where medical companies related to IC will introduce their interesting new products to us Intensive Care Nurses.

On Wednesday evening, 13 February the congress will open its doors to EfCCNa delegates who will enjoy a relaxed Welcome Reception giving the opportunity to meet new colleagues and catch up with old friends. This takes place in the Congress venue and is free of charge for registered delegates and their accompanying persons.

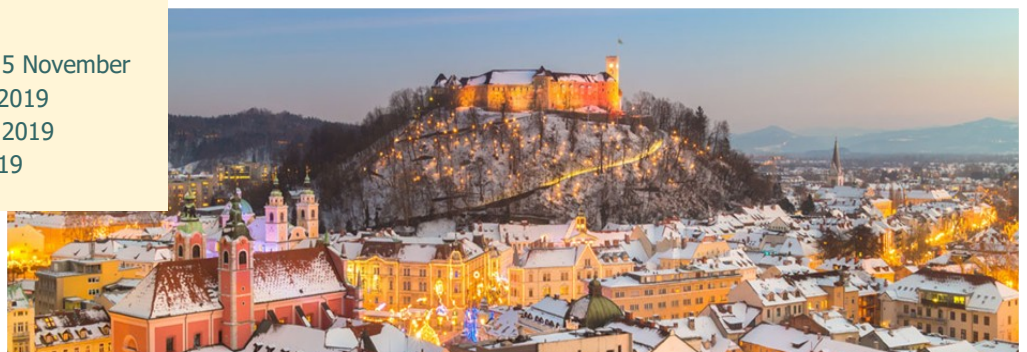
The Congress Dinner Party will take place on the 15 February at the Ljubljana Castle. Bring your dancing shoes and dance the night away after dinner! This evening will be sure to be a memorable event not to be missed!

Finally: Do not forget to buy your travel ticket when you register for the Congress! More information about traveling is posted on the congress website. Have a look, there are alternatives to flying into Ljubljana airport, if you need more options. I am looking forward to seeing you in Ljubljana!

*Elin Steffenak, chair EfCCNa Congress Committee*

#### Key facts:

Congress dates: 13-16 February  
 Early bird registration deadline: 15 November  
 Regular registration: 31 January 2019  
 Welcome reception: 13 February 2019  
 Congress dinner: 15 February 2019



**EfCCNa news**

The annual report is available on the EfCCNa website. [Click here](#)

**Next Meetings Critical Care Doctoral European Nurses Group**

ESICM LIVES, Paris 20-24 Oct 2018  
8<sup>th</sup> EfCCNa Congress, Ljubljana, 13-16 Feb 2019



**1999 - 2019: EfCCNa's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at the Ljubljana Congress**



Almost 20 years are laying between the picture of the founding members of EfCCNa at their first constitutional meeting 1999 in Berlin and today.

Some of them we will meet again in Ljubljana where the celebration of the jubilee will be part of the 8<sup>th</sup> EfCCNa Congress.

Thus, Critical Care Nurses from Europe feel invited to join the Congress and have some extra fun at the jubilee party.

**New Council member from Hungary – Borbàla Kozma**



Borbàla has been working in Semmelweis University Medical Faculty in Budapest for 15 years. She started her career as an ICU nurse and later she became chief-nurse of the peri-operative outpatient clinic. In the following she advanced to become the clinical education manager in her Department. She started teaching 10 years ago and managed undergraduate and post-graduate courses for medical and nursing students, as well. Her specialities in teaching are simulation, e-learning and gamification. She is not only working as a teacher but also as a consultant in these fields of education. Additionally she is committed to quality improvement in teamwork and interprofessional teaching, and development on an international level.

*Welcome to the team!*



## EfCCNa welcomes member Society: Hungary

Hungary	
<i>Name of the organization</i>	Hungarian Society of Anesthesiology and Intensive Therapy - N&AHP section (Magyar Aneszteziológiai és Intenzív Terápiás Társaság (MAITT) – szakdolgozói szekció) Representative: Borbála Kozma
<i>Total number of members</i>	200
<i>Other professionals besides nurses accepted as members?</i>	intensive care nurses anesthetic care nurses others: RNs, BSc and MSc nurses without ICU or anesthesiology specialisation
<i>Congress (frequency; is there a usual month &amp; if so, which month?)</i>	MAITT National Congress and Postgradual Training, annual meeting every May
<i>Journal (if yes, name)</i>	IMAS (4 editions/year)
<i>Membership fee</i>	physician under 30: 15€, 30-65 yrs: 19€, retired: 0€ non-physician and other advocate member: 2€ Ft, retired: 0€
<i>Approximate salary (€) for junior CCN in your country</i>	700-800 €
<i>Average working hours per week</i>	40+overtime
<i>In your country are there critical care courses that are available after registering as a nurse? If so, please describe their level/s (e.g. diploma, bachelor, master)</i>	diploma bachelor master
<i>Approximate Number of hospitals with adult Intensive Care Units (accepting mechanically ventilated patients)</i>	90-100
<i>Average Nurse: Patient Ratio during day shift for mechanically ventilated patients</i>	2-3 patient/nurse
<i>Most important activity/achievement of the association in the last year</i>	new professional platform on a national level based on data collection, networking, trainings
<i>Hot topics in Critical Care in your Country</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- career model and HR management (curriculum, salary, working hours, burnout)</li> <li>- aging society vs limited resources in health care</li> <li>- MDR pathogens</li> <li>- same trends as internationally (mechanical ventilation (non-invasive), extracorporeal blood purification techniques, sepsis etc.)</li> </ul>

## News from the member societies



The **Finnish Society of Intensive Care** published their ethical codes for intensive care professionals in Finland first in 1997. In 2017 a multi-professional working group was set up to update the ethical codes. In near future the codes will be published.



### European Society of Paediatric & Neonatal Intensive Care (ESPNIC)

1. The nursing sections are both up for re-election now and by October we will have 4 new people in post.
2. ESPNIC recently did an educational survey of PICU nurses across Europe, with the view for the need of a ESPNIC diploma for nurses. The surveys showed quite a mixed educational level at basic training, and many countries not having a dedicated PICU nursing course, some, in particular Scandinavian countries, undertaking a generic (adult) critical care course. The results of the survey will be presented at the Nursing section meeting of EAPS in Paris 2018. What PICU nurses across Europe did want was for ESPNIC to provide some guidance and recommendations for the 'Minimum education and training' for PICU nurses in Europe and we anticipate that the new nursing chair/vice chairs will take this project on. The next ESPNIC conference is in June 2019, in Salzburg, Austria.



The **Deutsche Fachpflegekongress & Deutsche OP-Tag** 2018 was held from 27 - 29 September 2018 in Münster, Germany. At the largest Congress for Critical Care Nurses in Germany with more than 600 delegates EfCCNa and its Congress 2019 in Ljubljana has been

promoted intensively. With the help of EfCCNa Fellow Heike Strunk the current council member of EfCCNa, Sabrina Pelz provided Congress flyers and posters at the DGF booth. Additionally, during the breaks between the oral presentations the Ljubljana Congress promotional video was shown.

Interesting to mention is that during the Münster Congress many speakers of the DGF use the EfCCNa competencies tool for European Critical Care Nurses (2013) as a basis to define nursing requirements in Germany.



### The Emergency and Intensive Care Nursing Sector of the Hellenic National Nurses Association

has participated in the 45<sup>th</sup> National Greek Nursing conference (May 2018, Kos). The ICN Sector took part in the Congress with various poster presentations as the following topics which have got increased interest in nursing practices in Greece: modern technology in IC, triage and information technology in the ER, neurological algorithm in the ER, updated monitoring in the ICU and weaning the in ICU.

The 46<sup>th</sup> National Greek Nursing Conference will take place in May 2019 on the island of Milos, Greece and there will be again a participation. The Emergency and Intensive Care Nursing Sector of the Hellenic National Nurses Association is organizing the 9<sup>th</sup> Nursing Symposium from 9-11 November 2018 in Ioannina Greece.

## News from the member societies



The **British Association of Critical Care Nurses** is proud to share with EfCCNa the success of our recent national conference across the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of September in the Bournemouth International Centre in sunny Bournemouth on the south coast of England. It was well attended with over 250 delegates attending the two day conference. There were Keynote presentations focused on the psychological and holistic wellbeing and resilience of staff and patients in the ICU. Which fitted in with the theme of the conference 'sustainability in excellence: the future critical care'.



There was a particularly moving closing keynote from American ICU nurse Alex Wubbles, who last year had a video shared of her being arrested in her own hospital for following the hospital policy on blood drawing from those who are unconscious.

The scientific committee were particularly pleased with the high quality of the presentations with prizes being awarded for the best poster, workshop and concurrent abstract. This included a very exciting sim stream with a real life sim-ambulance or 'simbalance'.

As is a regular feature of BACCN conference, there was a beautifully put together gala dinner with a 1920's theme, excellent costumes and a great opportunity to unwind and let our hair down!



Which from our keynote presentations we learned that this is a key requirement for being a healthy critical care nurse.



Our 5K fun-run was braved by BACCN members, exhibitors and board members alike


A key exhibitor and local charity at conference was Caring Canines, an organisation that trains and provides animal assistance dogs, they brought their beautiful dogs to conference, who received a roaring reception by members who donated a significant amount of money to them supporting them going forward.

One of our most successful aspects of this conference was the engagement of social media. Overall through different social media platforms we had over 4 million (yes million!) engagements. Parts of this year's conference were streamed live on the net meaning those who couldn't attend conference could enjoy and participate. This is a theme we intend to continue and build on for conferences to come.


Our next conference will be held in September 2019 in the beautiful and historic city of Edinburgh, Scotland. Abstract and super early-bird registration will open soon, we would love to welcome the EfCCNa family to join us!




## News from the member societies

 In September 2018 the **Belgian Critical Care Nursing Organisation SIZ Nursing** has defined its values and assignments. Values are listed as: exchange, transparency, reference, visionary and openness. Future assignments are defined by: produce and promote scientific activities, organise and coordinate specific trainings, represent nurses via our parent associations FNIB & UGIB & EfCCNa (for francophon nurses working in adult IC and paediatrics). The SIZ has renewed their logo and the update of the website is planned to be ready in December 2018. The Nursing Activity Score Study (NAS) is in progress.

Exchange  
Transparence  
Référence  
Visionnaire  
Ouverture

 The **Irish Association of Critical Care Nurses (IACCN)** collaborated with the Intensive Care Society of Ireland (ICSI) to participate in the ICU Decubitus study - a total of 15 ICUs from Ireland registered to this study.

First All-Ireland Critical Care Nursing conference was held in April 2018, involving joint collaboration between IACCN and Northern Ireland (NI) region of BACCN. Very successful meeting and well attended. Strong links have developed between IACCN and BACCN over the past year. A joint conference between BACCN and IACCN has been proposed for 2020. All-Ireland Critical Care Nurse Trial Group has been established to promote and support nursing research. A first meeting was held in September 2018. The group will be lead by Dr Jennifer McGaughey from Queens University, Belfast. There is a continued collaboration between IACCN and Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI); Faculty of Nursing & Midwifery. IACCN participated in annual international Nursing & Midwifery research and education conference by hosting a Critical Care session.


 The **Icelandic Society of Nurse Anaesthetists** and the **Icelandic Association of Critical Care Nurses** have the honour to inviting you to the 15<sup>th</sup> NOKIAS Congress which will be held in Reykjavik on May 30—June 1, 2019. Congress Venue is the Hilton Reykjavik Nordica, located in central Reykjavik overlooking the Mount Esja, the city's main landmark that dominates the skyline and provides a stunning backdrop to the capital area. Congress theme is 'Caring for yourself while caring for others'. Stress and burnout have been getting more and more attention in our work environment and the importance of taking care of yourself is vital for your survival as a nurse and an individual. We encourage participants to use this opportunity to take the time to enjoy the unique nature of Iceland and attend some of the many cultural events Reykjavik has to offer. We look forward to welcoming you in Reykjavik in 2019!



 **The 15th Nordic Congress for Critical Care Nurses and Nurse Anaesthetists NOKIAS2019** *Caring for yourself while caring for others*

Reykjavik, Iceland 30 May - 1 June 2019

[www.nokias2019.is](http://www.nokias2019.is)

 **Section of Nurses working in Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care of Slovak Chamber of Nurses and Midwives** had their national Congress on 14 and 15 of June in Kosice, Slovakia. They wanted to inform their national members about the new membership in EfCCNa and its procedures by inviting EfCCNa vice president Anne Kokko to the congress. Besides giving information about EfCCNa as an association, Anne Kokko had got an excellent overview about Slovak enthusiastic attitude towards nursing and its development on a national level, and their warmhearted hospitality.







## Exchange Programme - from Finland to Croatia

I heard about possibility to participate the Efccna Exchange Programme from my friend and colleague Kaisa Jakobsson. I am working at Helsinki, Meilahti hospitalintensivecareunit M1. I got interested about the exchange programme right away and Kaisa recommend Croatia for me. I have never been in Croatia before so I got excited about it. I also wanted to see and get to know about a different kind of culture. We started to plan my trip to Croatia in autumn 2017. Jelena Slijepcevic kindly offered to host me. I spend an unforgettable week with Jelena in the University Hospital Centre Zagreb, Department of Anesthesiology, Reanimatology and Intensive Care from 22.-29.9.2018.

The neurosurgery ICU has ten beds. Nurses do two shifts, day shift lasts from 7am to 7pm and night shift from 7pm to 7am. There are usually six nurses working in one shift. The biggest difference compared to Finland is that the nurse - to - patient ratio in my unit is 1:1 and in Croatia it's 1:2. In Croatia they don't have chairs to sit at the patient site for nurses and they write patient data on paper. They also have great views from window to mountains, at the moment in my unit we don't have windows because the construction of the new hospital is in progress. I noticed that co-operation between nurses and doctors was very uncomplicated and everyone appreciated eachother's knowledge. People there in Croatia are extremely friendly. In Croatia patients were treated really well and professional (as we do in Finland, too). One big difference was that patients didn't have any decubitus in Croatia. Nurses did everything by themselves and they didn't have any assistants to help them.

I also had a chance to visit in cardiac surgery ICU, general surgical ICU and operation room. It was really interesting to see different nursing culture. The most important thing I learned in my exchange week was that even we nurses have busy work shifts and resources are limited, it's important to be positive and enjoy. Thank you to Kaisa and Adriano who made this possible and special thanks to lovely Jelena who organized unforgettable and super week for me in Zagreb. I also had chance to visit the beautiful Plitvice lakes area. I can recommend the Efccna Exchange Programme to every ICU nurse - sometimes it's very healthy come out of the own comfort zone.

*Aino Andersen RN, Finland*



### Are you also interested in visiting another hospital in Europe ?

Then please contact your Efccna council member and/or have a look on the Efccna website for respective information about the European wide Exchange programme!

[www.efccna.org](http://www.efccna.org)

## The MICE-ICU Erasmus+ Project 2016 - 2018

In September 2018 EfCCNa, together with the other partners, has accomplished the last phase of the MICE-ICU project by organising a multiplier event in Amsterdam, a Symposium on Multicultural Care in ICU. The whole project encompassed 5 stages. EfCCNa has been involved in all of them, one of the main responsibilities were promotion and dissemination of the results.

Together with the other stakeholders we started with a literature review in order to find out what was written and published about culture awareness and competencies in Poland, Czech Republic and Slovenia. The topic was almost nonexistent in curriculums in health care education and very few articles were published in these countries.

The next step was to find out the ICU nurses' level of knowledge, in Europe and in the partner countries, as well. 520 ICU nurses participated in a questionnaire and gave their view on their experiences in multicultural intensive care. The conclusion was that many of them had little information and education in these issues and wanted to learn more. The results from the questionnaire led to a frame work for an e-learning tool directed to critical care nursing.

During an 8 months period the project members then developed an online-course. The three course modules offer sound information about cultural awareness and sensitivity, culturally diverse patients in health care environments and deals with specifics when caring for culturally diverse patients on ICU. The course is available in English language for all nurses in Europe but all EfCCNa member countries are allowed to translate the course or parts of it into their national language as long as the Mice-ICU Erasmus+ project is mentioned as the original source.

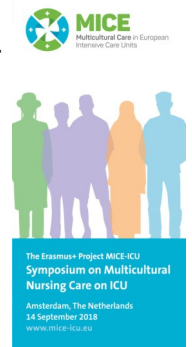
From October 2018 the course is provided on the MICE-ICU website <http://lms.mice-icu.eu>. As your country is part of the federation we, the project group, would appreciate if you promote the course on your national association's website, as well.



The last step of the project was to stage a Multi Cultural event in Amsterdam. On September 14<sup>th</sup> 130 ICU nurses representing 23 countries in Europe followed our invitation and participated in the symposium about cultural awareness and competences.

During the symposium we introduced the project and the achievements of the last two years.

Invited speakers spoke about their own experiences of coming from another cultural background and living in a foreign country. We engaged our human resource partners and they shook us up and made us think about our own beliefs and prejudices concerning people with another background. All in all, we, who arranged the event and the participants were very pleased with this day.



*Eva Barkestad  
Coordinator of the EfCCNa group*



## EfCCNa recommends E-learning Course on Multicultural Care in ICU

The Erasmus+ project 'Multicultural Care in European Intensive Care Units' - MICE-ICU (2016 – 2018) was initiated with the aim to develop a specialist multicultural course for ICU Nurses.

The project involved more than 500 nursing colleagues who analysed the intercultural training needs and competencies of European ICU nurses. On this basis they developed an e-learning course on multicultural care dedicated to nurses working in intensive care environments.





**Multicultural Care in European Intensive Care Units**  
An e-learning opportunity for critical care nurses [www.mice-icu.eu](http://www.mice-icu.eu)

The e-learning course is available on the MICE-ICU website <https://lms.mice-icu.eu/>

The European federation of Critical Care Nurses associations (EfCCNa), one of the strategic partners in this project, strongly recommends the syllabus and the course to all critical care colleagues in Europe as a great opportunity for real interactive e-learning.

The three course modules offer sound information about cultural awareness and sensitivity, culturally diverse patients in health care environments and deals with specifics when caring for culturally diverse patients on ICU.

One will learn about the philosophical, ethical, legal and professional basis justifying non-discrimination principle regarding culturally diverse Patients, the concepts of culture and ethnic minority, the different approaches to health and sickness by cultures, patterns of interpersonal communication, spiritual and religious expectations/practices intercultural care in boundary situations in ICU.

From October 2018 the course is available on the MICE-ICU website <http://lms.mice-icu.eu>

## 2000 Followers for EfCCNa on Face book?

By the end of the year 2018 EfCCNa would like to crack the **2000** likes mark on Face book. Can you help? Please like and share with your friends on FB.




**EfCCNa**  
European Federation of Critical Care Nursing Associations  
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**WORKING TOGETHER**  
**ACHIEVING MORE**

**8<sup>th</sup> EfCCNa CONGRESS**  
Ljubljana, Slovenia 13 - 16 February 2019

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**Congress Calendar** - *click on the logos to get linked*



**The 15th Nordic Congress for  
Critical Care Nurses and Nurse Anesthetists  
NOKIAS2019** *Caring for yourself while caring for others*

Reykjavik, Iceland 30 May - 1 June 2019

[www.nokias2019.is](http://www.nokias2019.is)

**EfCCNa**  
European Federation of Critical Care Nursing associations

**WORKING TOGETHER  
ACHIEVING MORE**

**8th EfCCNa CONGRESS**  
Ljubljana, Slovenia 13 - 16 February 2019

[www.efccna.org](http://www.efccna.org)



**13th WFCcN Congress | 10th UINARS Congress**  
Sava Centar, Belgrade, Serbia, October 25-28th 2018



**30<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of  
THE EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF  
PAEDIATRIC AND NEONATAL  
INTENSIVE CARE**

June 18-21, 2019, Salzburg, Austria



**ESNO CONGRESS 2019**  
*"Integration of Primary and Secondary care:  
the role of the European Specialist Nurse and impact in  
European higher quality of care"*

"There is not one-way to Recognition and Acceptance  
of the Specialist Nurse, ESNO provides a platform:  
join the debates and process" #ESNO2019

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