

**Presentation of Eleni Kletsiou,  
Chairperson of the CCNAP Education Committee**

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

My name is Eleni Kletsiou. Since August 2014 I have been appointed as the Chair of Education Committee, and via this Newsletter I am really honored to present myself to the CCNAP community.



I am a registered nurse, graduated from the Faculty of Nursing of National and Kapodistrian University of Athens in 2002. In 2005 I graduated the postgraduate educational program in Clinical Nursing with specialty in Intensive and Emergency Nursing (MSc Degree) at the Nursing Department of the University of Athens. My thesis was entitled “Exploration of plasma Substance P levels in critical care individuals with coronary pain”. Following that, in 2012, I finished my PhD in Nursing at the University of Athens with my dissertation entitled “Comparative evaluation of plasma Substance P levels in critical care individuals with acute pain” which is my main research interest.

My research projects focus on the investigation of neuropeptides and apoptosis markers' levels with pain intensity and pain assessment. Preliminary results of these research projects have been awarded in international conferences (WFSICCM Nursing Poster Award Recipient- 2013, EfCCNa Young Scientist Award 2011, FCVB 2010) and the study is still ongoing. Furthermore, I share research interest in the field of education investigating nurses' level of knowledge, assessing the deficits and the impact of educational activities and initiatives.

My clinical experience as a nurse started in 2002 working in Cardio-Surgical Intensive Care Unit. Since 2003 I was a clinical nurse in Intensive Coronary Care Unit of Second Department of Cardiology of University of Athens in University General Hospital “Attikon” and from 2011 till today I am in charge of the Continuous Professional Education of Nursing Administration at the University General Hospital “Attikon”, Athens, Greece.

At the moment, my professional expertise is in continuing nursing education and lifelong education and every day I deal with the challenges in the field of education and the professional development, both in organizational and practical level. Also, I am actively involved in organizing and teaching in a postgraduate educational program on clinical and laboratory cardiovascular nursing (Masters Level) held by the Medical School of the University of Athens and the Nursing Faculty of the Technological Educational Institute of Athens. Moreover, I have completed more than 1680 credit hours in teaching in pre- and post- graduate in practical (clinical) training (2002-2015) in Faculty of Nursing of the University of Athens.

My involvement with CCNAP activities started with the post-doctoral mentoring grant in 2009 and for four years (2010-2014) I have been a member of the Education Committee. This experience was very valuable in the field of international collaboration, teamwork, educational projects and interaction with different aspects of cardiovascular education. Our first aim was to develop a core curriculum to inform the education of nurses following initial qualification for work in cardiovascular settings. The development of the core curriculum in cardiovascular nursing has been a very challenging and important project due to the fact that the committee had to deal with the heterogeneity of education among European countries, the level needed to address and different regulations in post-graduate education. At the present, we are happy to present an article on eight key themes characterizing the core curriculum which are presented along with their development process. The full text of this will be available in June and a free copy of our Core Curriculum for Cardiovascular Nursing and the associated paper that will be published in the free Congress issue of the European Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing (EJCN).

The next steps will focus on the use of the core curriculum in the specialty level and national educational programs, as well as on the continuous professional development modules. I share our aspiration to work towards raising awareness about the importance of nurse education and we hope that in the future all nurses in Europe will have access to graduate level education and ongoing CPD. Given the inspiring team and its great spirit and enthusiasm it is a honor for me to work with the committee towards our next goals.

Finally, I would be really happy to meet you all in EuroHeartCare 2015 in Dubrovnik and I am looking forward to sharing my experiences with the Education Committee with you, and to hear your feedback on our Core Curriculum and our roadmap to the future!

Kind Regards from Greece and Καλημέρα to everyone!

Dr Eleni Kletsiou

Chairperson of Education Committee