

## **EDITORIAL**

### **II International Nursing Forum Paulista School of Nursing: 70 Years of History**

In 2009 we have celebrated the 70th anniversary of the Paulista School of Nursing of the Federal University of Sao Paulo, Brazil. To commemorate this important event with the highest splendor, the II International Nursing Forum was organized with the theme “Paulista School of Nursing: 70 Years of History.” The scientific program had the presence of national and international participants who had well established research programs. Up to date topics were presented and discussed, such as, the use of standardized nursing terminology, patient safety, evidence-based practice, advanced nursing care and leadership, education of new practitioners, and current trends in research and graduate education in the country.

During this event, besides round tables and conferences, more than a hundred scientific papers were presented. Several papers received an award, underscoring the importance of this event and date. After being peer-reviewed and selected a special award committee to receive the award, the papers are being published in this special issue of the Acta Paulista de Enfermagem. When the papers were submitted for publication in the journal, they were again peer-reviewed by qualified reviewers to preserve the scientific quality of the journal. Most papers emphasize the essence of professional nursing practice.

During these many years of excellence in the education of practitioners and researchers, the Paulista School of Nursing, has always striven to incorporate scientific advancements in improving the quality of life of modern society. We understand that no matter how advanced a society is, human care never will be obsolete; and, nothing can substitute the human being’s ability for thinking, feeling, smiling, having affection, touching, and showing emotion. On the other hand, we also are certain that no professional activities can be performed without using knowledge and information, which is the essence of the nursing profession. That is, all nursing activities are associated with the search and the use of information – better information translates to a higher quality decision-making process.

Making decisions is a continuing aspect in nursing practice. It requires to search for and to use of information that promotes quality care and patient safety. Quality and accurate information at the point of care is extremely important to facilitate the application of research findings in providing patient care. Therefore, the use of information technology and communication are essential and mandatory for quality nursing care. For example, to receive accreditation in the United States, an undergraduate nursing program must include nursing informatics in its curriculum.

In accordance with worldwide trends, the Paulista School of Nursing continues to be for its students, faculty, and researchers, a depository of knowledge and information that guarantees excellence in the education and training of practitioners that provide quality health care to the Brazilian population. Since there are no

barriers to communication and geographic boundaries, globalization facilitate the translation of research findings to direct patient care. Thus, we need to continue to emphasize teaching on how to search for and recognize the correct information, and how to make use of the information in the interaction with clients and patients.

Though all these years of existence, the Paulista School of Nursing has emphasized its inherent vision and mission upon faculty and students to provide quality care to each patient by respecting his or her worldview and adoption of ways to deal with problems. Thus we must continue to strive to be present, to listen, to show understanding, and to know how to use the latest available science and technology, and to be special nurses who provide excellent care to maintain and preserve life – the most valued construct.

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