

EDITORIAL

The Brazilian Association of Nephrology Nursing: striving for specialized quality professional nursing care

The Brazilian Association of Nephrology Nursing (Sociedade Brasileira de Enfermagem em Nefrologia [SOBEN]), created in 1984, is a scientific, cultural, and political organization. The main mission of the SOBEN is to contribute to the development and advancement of nephrology nursing in Brazil.

The SOBEN has been promoting the development of healthcare human resources by facilitating highly qualification and specialization of professional nurses to provide quality care for clients with complex health status and needs in a complex technological healthcare system. Organizing specialized national and international congress and conferences is a strong strategy to accomplish this mission. The last XIV Brazilian Congress in Nephrology Nursing and the II International Symposium in Nephrology Nursing in Curitiba, PR from Nursing Practice in View of Patient Safety.” Both events were worthy of note; participants had the opportunity to share with invited international experts the best evidence-based nephrology nursing practice. The events clearly revealed the scientific and technological efforts of researchers to overcome the limitations of public policies regarding the prevention of renal disease in countries in development when compared to developed countries.

Brazil is the third country of the world in number of individuals with chronic renal disease on dialysis. This number increases approximately 9.4% yearly. The incidence and prevalence of chronic renal disease were 141 and 468 individuals per million of the population, respectively. The main causes of chronic renal disease in Brazil are high blood pressure (35.8%) and diabetes mellitus (25.7%). A large number of Brazilians with chronic renal disease die before the initiation of dialysis treatment. Health care providers and government agencies are making numerous efforts for early diagnosis and treatment of chronic renal disease. Management of the main causes of chronic renal disease and early diagnose and treatment can decrease comorbidities and health care costs, and prevent death.

These data support the relevance of the roles of universities and associations of specialists in disseminating new knowlde and technologies and their involvement in the education of qualified health care providers for the prevention and management of chronic renal disease.

Establishment of international collaboration organizations worldwide such as the Latin-American, Portuguese, Canadian, European, and American associations of nephrology nursing have facilitated the exchange of professionals who share their experiences with the different phases of the management of chronic renal disease.

Another important strategy of the SOBEN to improve the qualification of professionals was the establishment of an agreement with the “Acta Paulista de Enfermagem” to disseminate the scientific production in nephrology nursing and keynote talks from the SOBEN events.

We believe and support the continuous advancement of the SOBEN. Efforts and goals

from former, actual, and future leadership of the SOBEN have been and will be on the improvement of the quality of the Brazilian nephrology nursing care. These efforts and goals have been guided by national and international development of new knowledge and technologies. In addition, efforts and goals will include continuing education of professionals who strive for competency, observe ethics, and provide loving care.

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