

Nurses and nursing - endurance and initiative

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Globally, the Year of the Nurse with its theme of *Nurses caring for the World* was initiated by the World Health Organisation¹. As with other global crises and world wars, there has been an unprecedented demand for nurses and nursing services. The dedication and service to nursing is once again being demonstrated as the world continues to grapple with COVID-19 over an extended period. As with world wars, nurses have lost their lives in the course of their duties in caring for patients with COVID-19; a sacrifice we should all acknowledge and continue to remember.

It is timely to reflect on the endurance and strength of the nursing profession and individual nurses, especially when under duress. Within this edition of the journal, Ocho et al describe five leadership themes of interprofessional practice, emotional intelligence, ethical practice, advocacy and self-care as requisites and ways in which nurses can be supported to provide the best care they can in ever changing circumstances.

The concepts described by Ocho et al are exemplified by Smart et al in describing strategies for the assessment and prevention of facial pressure injury in healthcare workers required to wear personal protective equipment (PPE) when managing patients with COVID-19. This frontline real time research demonstrates the capability of nurses to conduct meaningful clinical research that will save many from developing facial pressure injuries when wearing PPE.

Jiang et al's case report of the treatment of an ileal conduit fistula with negative pressure using a dual tube approach is further evidence of the initiative shown by nurses. The authors found this to be a safe and effective method to contain and heal a fistula within a uretero-ileostomy anastomosis of an ileal conduit.

Measures to prevent pressure injuries in high-risk prolonged surgical patients and the development of incontinence associated dermatitis with a prevention bundle by Abdi et al and Wei et al respectively are great examples of nurse collaboration, interprofessional practice, emotional intelligence, ethical practice and patient advocacy.

On a personal note, I am exceedingly grateful to be geographically isolated in Western Australia where COVID-19 has not impacted us as adversely as other Australian states or other countries worldwide. Our frontline nurses here in Western Australia along with all frontline nurses have my enduring respect.

Please stay safe.

With kind regards

Jenny
Editor

REFERENCE

1. World Health Organization (WHO). State of the world's nursing 2020: investing in education, jobs and leadership. 2020 [cited 2020 May 18]. Available from: <https://www.who.int/publications-detail/nursingreport-2020>.

APOLOGY

The editor wishes to unreservedly and sincerely apologise to Brenda Christiansen, Clinical Nurse Consultant and WCET® ID, the Australian Association Of Stomal Therapy Nurses (AASTN) and its members for inferring that the article entitled 'WCET® COVID-19 Special Report Commissioned By The Australian Association of Stomal Therapy Nurses And Reprinted With Kind Permission' that appeared with permission in the 'Around the WCET world' section of the WCET® Journal Volume 40 No 2 June 2020; pages 11-17, was commissioned by the AASTN or WCET®.

The Editor acknowledges that this report was singularly Brenda's initiative as the WCET® Australian ID to reach out to fellow stomal therapy nurses to see how they and their patients with stomas were faring with COVID-19, for which she is to be congratulated.

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