EBMT NG National Groups Update

View here the EBMT NG National Group presentations from Gothenburg: http://www.ebmt.org/6NursesGroup/NGDocs/overal_national_groups09.pdf

Austrian National Group Update

The Austrian Group is busy preparing the next conference in Vienna 2010. They will inform us in the next Newsletter about the arrangements they are making. If you wish to contact the Austrian Group please contact: birgit.keinrath@wgkk.sozvers.at

German National Group Update

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“More than 10 Years” The National Nurses Group Germany

“We all have the same problems, the same challenges and the same target! Now is the time, to build the German nurses group, don’t you think so?”

Many times when German nurses met at National BMT Congresses or even on the EBMT.Congress this question was a major topic. Finally, on 31.10.1997 the time had come and the “Deutsche Arbeitsgruppe KMT/SZT der Pflegenden” (German working group BMT/SCT of caregivers) was founded.

The “Deutsche José Carreras Leukämie-Stiftung e.V.” (German Carreras Foundation) has supported us financially since the beginning, to keep the membership free of charge.

Currently 109 nurses from 58 BMT-Centers are members of the group. We meet twice a year in different BMT Centers in Germany. On average 40 caregivers participate at every meeting. We also support the annual national BMT-Congress with educational presentations and workshops. All German BMT Centers are invited to attend on this congress and of course every BMT-Center in Germany is invited to join the Nurses Group.
To compare work systems and to advance the exchange of experience, every meeting takes place in different BMT-Center. Since we all benefit from the exchange of experience, we decided to create a database to keep an on-going record of them. The topics on our database are filled with the conclusions stemming from our surveys about standards of care e.g. mucositis, CVC, hygiene, GvHD, infections, nutrition, isolation. The database is integrated on our homepage (www.kmt-ag.de).

Over the last year one of our subjects was "sexuality". We composed a booklet with the title "Sexualität nach Knochenmark- und Stammzelltransplantation" (Sexuality after BMT/SCT Transplantation). This booklet was published by the "Deutsche Leukämie& Lymphom-Hilfe e.V." (German federal association of self-help organization) and has a very positive feedback by the patients.

Another important topic was "nutrition during and after BMT transplantation". The recommendation therefore is also published on our homepage.

A current project is improving public relations for our working group. We want to create a poster and a leaflet to promote our nurses group in the German BMT-Centers.

Another cutting-edge subject is "BMT and sport". Together with Dr Freerk Baumann we would like to publish a comprehensive booklet with sporting recommendations for patients during and after BMT transplantation.

Though we are facing economically difficult times, we try to stay committed, because our target is still the same: We want the best for the people, who trust us-our patients!

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Middle-European / East Forum Group Update

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On the occasion of the 25th EBMT-NG Congress in Göteborg, Sweden, nurses from Czech Republic (Pilsen, Prague VFN), Romania (Bucharest), Slovenia (Ljubljana) and Poland (Katowicz, Lublin), who cooperate
within the Middle-European National EBMT-Nurses Group, had their 5th session. To better reflect the international character of the Middle-European Group, the decision was taken to rename it as “The East Forum”. Consequently, new registration forms will be sent to all members of the Middle-European Nurses Group to verify their willingness for further cooperation within the East Forum. A new cooperation will be started with the BMT center in Debrecen, Hungary.

During the Congress in Göteborg, the results of the “Nurse-staffing standards within East, Middle and West European transplant centers” questionnaire survey were presented as an abstract and a poster. The Results of the “Current Protective Isolation Policy within East, Middle and West European Transplant Centers” survey were presented as an abstract and an oral presentation. All the cooperating centers were cited as active co-authors. At present, the observational study on Oral Mucositis Risk Factors is still ongoing and can be joined by any center – the study protocol is available at: www.ebmt.org/6NursesGroup/nurses6.html

The East Forum is ready and willing to look for a kind of an “international consensus” on some of the nursing protocols and SOP. The East Forum is willing to define evidence-based nursing procedures and JACIE accreditation process within East-European Countries. The BMT center in Plzen has become “JACIE” accredited and accredited by the Czech Ministry of Health for providing certified courses on Haemat-Oncol nursing. The examples of all the basic and necessary nursing SOPs are listed and are available (in English) on the internet: www.ebmt.org/6NursesGroup/nurses6.html

Arno Mank, The EBMT-NG President-Elect, mentioned the EBMT-NG Exchange visits program, that is open to any BMT nurses. Details are available at: www.ebmt.org/6NursesGroup/nurses6.html

A new educational, scholar and working meeting of the East Forum is offered to be held in Plzen (Pilsen, CZ) in 9.-11.October 2009 under the promotion of the EBMT Outreach Committee Co-Chairman Dr.Vladimir Koza. The schedule of the meeting will comprise lectures and workshops on specific nursing problems (i.e. infections, protective isolation and oral mucositis), Quality management, JACIE accreditation and selected SOPs in nursing (i.e. protective isolation and oral mucositis), research and cooperation among East Forum centers and EBMT-NG.

Spanish National Group Update

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The EBMT Spanish Nurses Group started in 2004 and we now have one hundred and ninety-seven members from fifty-two transplant centers! Membership is free, but EMBT-NG membership is encouraged. The board members meet 6 or 7 times a year and a National Meeting is organized once a year. Promotion and diffusion of the group is done when attending Oncology meetings, e-mailing the nurse representative of the transplant centers and advertising the mission of the group in nursing magazines.

The aim of the group is to promote professional development and to improve the care of patients undergoing haemopoietic progenitor cell transplantation.

The group will:

1. Provide educational support to the nurses working in the area of hematopoietic progenitor cell transplantation
2. Encourage research and participation in investigation protocols
3. Establish communication among people and organizations working in the transplant field
4. Gather information and make it readily available at the clinical level to encourage and develop knowledge and practical skills
5. Networking with national transplant groups and other EBMT NG National Groups
6. Facilitate nursing care protocols to JACIE Standards in line with the JACIE accreditation process
In order to achieve these objectives the group organizes a nursing study day once a year, it is also involved in providing learning sessions as a continuous education to meet JACIE requirements and tailoring training to new nurses in the transplant area.

The group has already organized two study days: the first in Valencia 2007 and the second in Seville 2008, the next will be held in Santander, May 21st -22nd.

The first training day to orient new nurses in the transplant area took place on the 5th of May.

**The topics:**

* The 1st Training Day for Junior Nurses covered general topics: Basic concepts of SCT, conditioning regimes, sources of hemopoyetic progenitor cells, prophylaxis and treatment of infections, catheter care, GVHD and other complications.
* The 3rd study day will provide update on Acute Leukemia, GVHD acute and chronic, and Acute Leukemia in pediatric patients. The working groups will bring up to date their topic of interest.

Once reviewed the results and the feedback retrieved from the attendants of both training programs, we will set new strategies and prepare for further teaching activities.

Efforts of the group are orientated to serve and support the working groups created and encourage the new ones coming

**Two are currently working:**

* Nurse coordinator role
* Catheter issues

The diffusion of the TBI protocol to accurately care for patients undergoing this procedure is already finished.
Swiss National Group Update

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Our last meeting took place 27th April in Aarau.

The agenda comprised audits, education and Jacie-Topics.

First Dr. Mario Bargetzi, Head of Hematology and Oncology Division, Hospital of Aarau, held a presentation about the Jacie QM System in his clinic. He also is an Inspector and informed us of his experience.

After discussion in our group, we decided to stop our Jacie audits for this year and we have improved our exchange of knowledge via e-mail.

Our members from Zurich distributed a questionnaire about education topics and we will discuss this at our next meeting in October 2009 and decide upon an educational program.

In Switzerland we will have a new financial system for health care: diagnosis related groups (DRG). The implementation will take place in 2010. All centres are preparing the necessary facilities, such as an electronic patient documentation system. This is a stressful activity.

This is all the news from the Swiss National Group.

EBMT (UK) NAP Group Update

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The group prepares for several changes during 2009, which will bring excitement, new challenges and a little apprehension.

Changes in the number of study days held

Participant numbers attending the 3 educational meetings, although good, have very slowly been in decline over the past two years. As obtaining sponsorship has also become more difficult the group has decided for a trial period to hold only 2 meetings during 2009. The educational meetings are open to all nurses and allied professionals working in the field of haemopoietic stem cell transplantation, including nurses working in hospitals referring patients to the transplant centres. Also, any colleagues from other European countries would be very welcome to join us. The meetings for 2009 will be held:

* Reading Town, Reading - Hall 24th June 2009.
* Derby Conference Centre, Derby – 4th November 2009
Good bye to the UK National Quality Managers Group

During 2007/2008 the UK National Quality Managers Group combined their meetings alongside ours. This allowed clinical and quality aspects of care to be addressed on the same agenda. As the Quality Managers Group membership has grown the group is now holding their meetings on different days. This will allow those Quality Managers that are nurses to attend both meetings.

Patient and Carers Day

EBMT (UK) NAP group is very excited to announce the very first UK “Patient and Carers day” for Stem Cell Transplant patients and their families in line with the Main EBMT meeting. The first meeting is scheduled for November 2009.

Educational Fellowship

The Elimination of Leukaemia Fund (ELF) is supporting the group in two ways. Since November 2008 ELF is sponsoring one speaker at our meetings and secondly they have agreed to sponsor an “Educational Grant” worth £1000. Application forms can be found for UK nurses and allied professionals’ website www.ebmt.co.uk

Changes in Committee members

Three of our long standing committee members will be standing down at our next meeting. All the committee would like to say thank you for your commitment over the past 12 years. Thank you to Helen Jessop, Joan Newman and Carole Charley.

The following new members will be officially welcomed onto the committee at the annual general meeting, June 2009. John Murray – Manchester, Aileen Nield - Sheffield, Ruth Thornton-Bournemouth, Jo Ewings, - Cambridge

EBMT 2009: Best oral presentation

It is always exciting to hear the announcements for the best abstract, best poster and best oral presentation in EBMT meetings. This year the committee is very proud not only because for the first time a British presenter won the award for the best presentation, but also because it was one of our committee members. Well done Michelle Kenyon for her excellent presentation: 'Quality of life assessment after haematopoietic stem cell transplant'!