

EFN Perspectives in Primary Health Care

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EFN NURSES VOICE

European Forum for Primary Care

European Federation of Nurses Associations

Primary Care high on the Global Health agenda



International Council of Nurses has put Primary Care high on the Global Health agenda

Is advocating for greater nursing involvement to achieve better health for the people of the World

European Federation of Nurses Associations (EFN)



- We are 495 million citizens in Europe
- EFN has since 1971 been the voice of more than 1 million nurses throughout Europe

EFN



- Alma Ata declaration is 30 years old
- EFN is working for a more community based health strategy
- The shift from hospital based services to community based services is too slow

Challenges in Health Sector in Europe



- Needs are changing
- Changing demographics
- Increase of chronically ill patients
- Increasing expectations and demands
- Inequity in health is raising
- Patients rights to treatment in EU

Hospital change influences Primary Care

- Early discharge of patients
- Improved medical technology
- Consequence: More professional treatment and nursing is needed in Primary Care

The political agenda

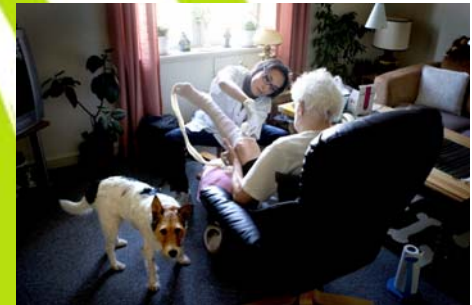


- Increasing influence on healthcare from EU
- Liberalization in Health and many other sectors
- Increasing shortage of Health professionals
- Can we count on political willingness to expand nurses' tasks?

Nurses are essential in Primary Care

- Nurses are the health care system link between hospital sector and primary care sector
- Between families and communities in health care questions
- Nurses make a positive difference in Primary Health Care
- Nurses are ready to take up new challenges

Tasks are multiple

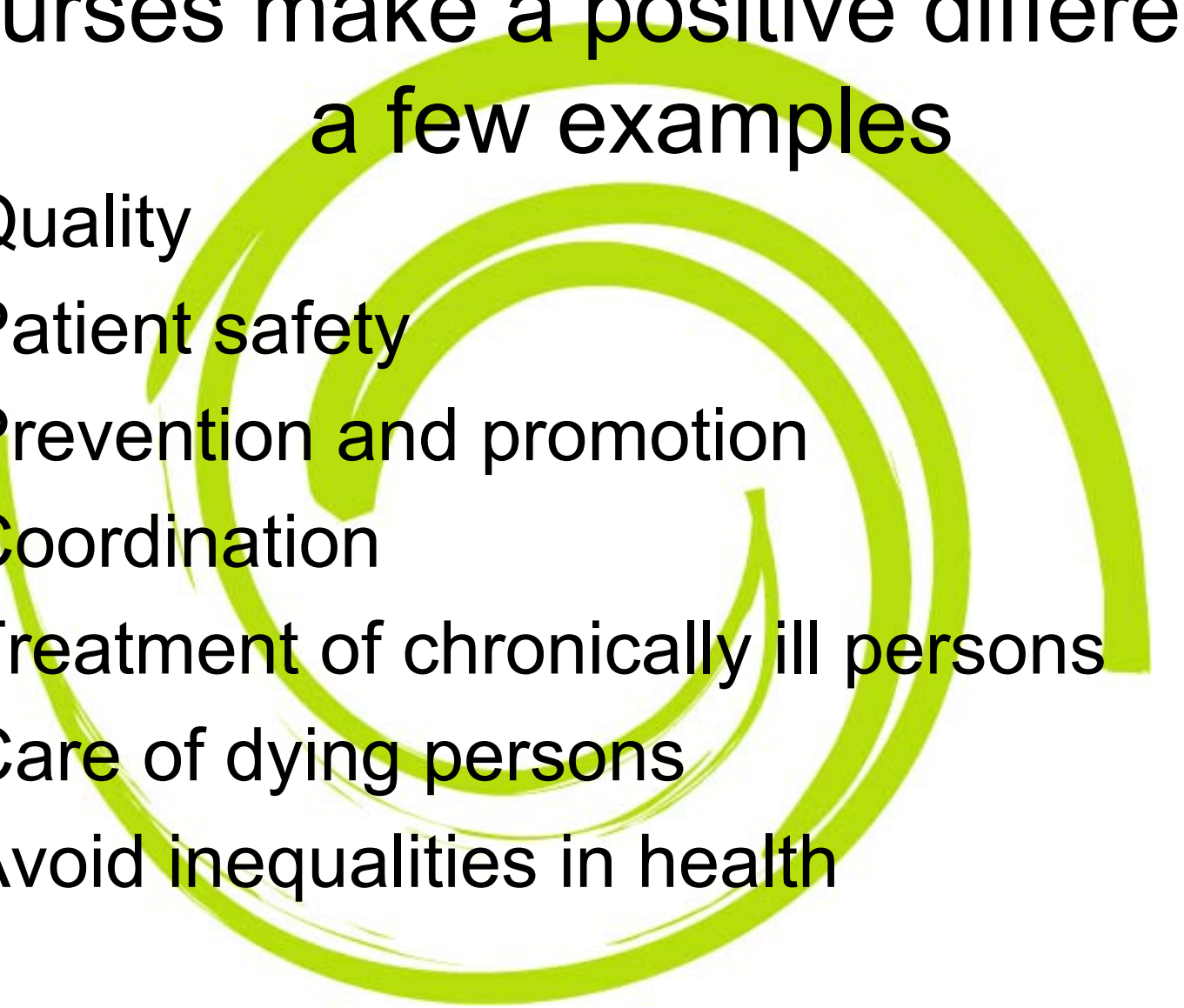


Too many tasks for nurses?

- **It is essential that nurses and nurse leaders prioritize and do not carry out tasks, if other with a shorter education are able to carry out the job**

Nurses make a positive difference

a few examples



- Quality
- Patient safety
- Prevention and promotion
- Coordination
- Treatment of chronically ill persons
- Care of dying persons
- Avoid inequalities in health

Cooperation is essential



- Cooperation and teamwork between professional groups is essential to achieve the same goals and demands from patients as well as society

Community Care is about giving people a choice

- Nurses are found in people's close neighbourhood where man and families live their lives and die as well
- Patients and families in the community have confidence in nurses

Care for the Nurses



- The working environment of the nurses in the communities must be taken into serious consideration – if nurses are to be recruited and retained in the sector in the future

An example from Denmark

- A profile for nurses in Primary Health Care sector is developed
- Picture of Expertise and what kind of citizens are being served
- Tasks are weighted against qualifications and competencies

Nurses are positive about the future

- **Nurses are ready to take up new responsibilities in the Primary Health Care sector!**
- **We are looking forward to our interdisciplinary colleagues and the politicians are ready to welcome the nurses.**



Thank You for listening

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