

BANCC: sharing and influencing clinical practice across Europe

The British Association for Nursing in Cardiovascular Care actively engages the European cardiovascular nursing community through its activities with the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) Council on Cardiovascular Nursing and Allied Professions (CCNAP). Hannah Waterhouse (BANCC President), Tootie Bueser (Vice-President), and Jan Oliver (former BANCC council member) were invited to attend the 'Train the Trainers' Workshop' organised by CCNAP to further the 'Be Guidelines Smart' campaign. This was held at the European Heart House in Antipolis, France in December. Former BANCC President and CCNAP Chair, Catriona Jennings, was part of the organising committee of this groundbreaking event.

BANCC representatives were joined by other national cardiovascular nursing organisations from over 22 countries across Europe and even as far as Indonesia and the United States (US). Over the 2 days, we learned about the various resources available to cardiovascular nurses to support awareness and implementation of clinical guidelines, particularly those developed by ESC working groups. These include:

- ◆ The CCNAP Be Guidelines Smart Toolkit (<https://tinyurl.com/ycmgsawf>): Online training videos to help improve the con-



Train the Trainers workshop held in Sophia Antipolis, France in December

fidence of junior nurses to speak up and emphasise their important role in using the guidelines, webinars, webcasts and other educational resources

- ◆ Availability of the various versions of ESC guidelines (<https://www.escardio.org/Guidelines>): full versions, pocket guidelines, slidesets and summary cards, which can be viewed and downloaded from the ESC website, viewed on the ESC app or hard copies can be ordered.

There were also sessions to improve presentation skills, social media presence and implementation science to foster strategies to promote the guidelines.

The whole delegation also participated in several workshops which identified the successes and challenges in each country for implementing the clinical guidelines, and working out tailored plans to overcome any barriers. It was evident that there was a wide variety of issues across the countries—from translations needed in non-English speaking countries; a lack of

time and confidence in learning and promoting the guidelines; to guidelines not being recognised in certain countries and institutions. What is common among all countries is that the resources needed to comply with the guidelines may not always be available; therefore, the group recommended that guideline committees should take this into consideration and be more aware of these disparities in services.

We are fortunate in the UK as we have well-established guidelines from the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), which inform our practice, and nurse training is based on evidence-based practice from the start.

This puts the BANCC in an excellent position to promote how nurses are trained to be more confident and professional in being advocates for guidelines. Jan Oliver also suggested improvements within the CCNAP webpages to make navigation within the Toolkit easier and participated in developing the videos in the Toolkit.

The challenge for us in the UK is to keep up with guideline updates, as well as to promote and implement specialty-specific guidelines that may come from scientific organisations like the ESC. BANCC is planning to address this by promoting the Be Guidelines Smart Toolkit, and also by incorporating updates in the annual BANCC Study Day, and publicising updates on social media via Twitter and Facebook. We must make accessing and using clinical guidelines as easy as possible for the busy cardiovascular nurse.

We came back from the workshop energised and inspired to support the #beguidelinesmart campaign and we hope to engage as many BANCC members and cardiovascular nurses as possible in 2018!

If you are not yet a member of BANCC, please visit the website at www.bancc.org to check out the many benefits of membership. These include opportunities such as the workshop highlighted in this month's BANCC feature, which can give you an important role to play in shaping health care on an international level.

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