SUMMARY

QUALITY ASSURANCE IN NURSING EDUCATION: a lever for the evolution of care

Secrétariat international des infirmières et infirmiers de l’espace francophone (SIDIEF)

Publication under the responsibility of the Advisory Council on Nursing Education

To obtain the publication: sidiief.org

Context
Concerned about the heterogeneity of university nursing education programs in the different countries of the Francophone community, SIDIEF’s Advisory Council on Nursing Education presents a report that identifies the main quality assurance components and consensus standards for nursing education programs.

In a context of globalization and scarcity of resources, it is more important than ever to define standards attesting to the quality of nursing education in order to ensure the excellence of nursing care and the protection of the population.

Approach
Based on a rapid review of the literature, the study sheds light on the quality standards of university nursing education programs used in different countries as well as the main quality assurance processes and initiatives implemented in university nursing programs.
Framework proposal

In this original publication, the Advisory Council on Nursing Education proposes a framework for the quality assurance components and standards of nursing programs that includes components related to the academic environment and to the education program. In addition, a continuum describing the quality assurance process is presented in the figure below:

The Advisory Council on Nursing Education has made ten key recommendations to ensure the quality of nursing education in the Francophone community, the themes of which are:

- Recognition of university education programs by decision-making bodies.
- Accessibility of nursing knowledge and well-qualified faculty.
- Adaptation of programs to the social and health contexts of a country or region.
- Alignment of the nursing education program with the nursing education enhancement guidelines.
- Interdependence of clinical and academic settings.
- Culture of continuous program improvement; monitoring.
- Development of a culture of program self-assessment.
- Interuniversity cooperation and solidarity.
- SIDIEF as a facilitator of networking, exchanges, and collaboration.
- Promotion of membership in a quality assurance program specific to nursing education by 2032.