NURSING AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION IN TURKEY
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I will talk about the importance of professional organization in nursing and the situation in Turkey.
All of nurses are need these.
The increase in world population on demands on health services of life expectancy in chronic diseases of the importance of preventive health services.

These are affecting the nursing education and the performance of nursing profession directly. Therefore, nursing profession should be performed professionally with the light of universal developments.

The reduce in the length of hospital stays.
standard education taken by the profession members
professional standards and ethical principles,

independency of the profession members in creating policies and decisions (autonomy)
giving services considering community’s social interests

updated and newly developed professional information originating from scientific researches

a professional profession should have some criteria

professional organizations
The Situation in Turkey

Among these organizations, **2519** were working on health area.

There are **108,370** non-governmental organizations in Turkey.

**158** of them were directly organizations related to nursing and special branches of nursing.
The first nursing organization in nursing is “Turkish Nurses Association (TNA)” founded in 1933. In 1949, Turkish Nurses Association became a member of International Council of Nurses (ICN) and the aim of the association is to work for nursing profession to be a qualitative and trustable autonomous health profession for the best benefit of the community.
According to the 2015 database of Turkish Statistical Institute, there are 139,000 nurses working in Turkey.

Nevertheless the biggest professional organization of nursing in the country (TNA) has only 5,000 members.
It can be said that the number of nursing organizations in Turkey are sufficient, however in comparison with the number of nurses in the country, the number of nurses who is a member of TNA are very low.
Some samples from Turkey

- In the study of Yigit et al. (2004) membership status to Turkish Nurses Association were asked to 417 nurses, and while 45.5% didn’t reply this question, only 24% stated that they are the member of the association.

- Karadag et al. (2007) reported that among 1011 nurses, 40.4% were the member of one professional nursing organization; while in the study of Korkmaz and Gorgulu (2010) among 180 nurses, the ratio of being member of a professional organization was found 23.8%.

These results show that there is a problem among nurses in coming together and working on a common purpose.
Nursing has a great potential as it is needed to work with human and community. However to take out this potential and come together as an organized power, all the members of the profession should work and go for it.

Not only the member of the profession, also the academicians, nursing managers, and even nursing students should join the organizational move actively.
TNA has founded Student Commission in 2011 to include nursing students into organizational works. On May 12, 2013, the nurse’s day, TNA and their Student Commission have organized a big meeting in the capital city (Ankara) with the slogan of “We are 1 missing without you”. Being united and the future of nursing profession in Turkey were the main subjects discussed in the meeting. Thanks to the scientific events and the meetings organized by the association, professional awareness and community awareness can increase.
Some photos from the meeting
In Turkey, the biggest and the most organized professional organization is Turkish Nurses Association. However there are many more specific nursing associations such as

- Emergency Nurses Association,
- Turkish Surgical and Operating Room Nurses Association,
- Oncology Nurses Association,
- Orthopedics and Traumatology Nurses Association,
- Pediatric Nurses Association,
- Turkish Intensive Care Nurses Association,
- Cardiovascular Surgery Nurses Association,
- Wound, Ostomy, Incontinence Nurses Association and others.
Consequently, in Turkey and around the world, nurses need professional organizations to unite, come together, create a force, reach to the updated information and learn the career possibilities.
Unity and solidarity; it overcomes everything except death.

“Mustafa Kemal Ataturk”
Thank you so much

Σας ευχαριστώ πολύ

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