

To: ESPNIC Nursing Executive Committee & Scientific Committee

Rotterdam, 5 December 2010

RE: European Critical Care Research Network Trial Group meeting

Dear Colleagues,

Together with Dr. Pierre Tissières and Prof. Francis Leclerc I have attended the European Critical Care Research Network Trial Group (ECCRN TG) meeting in Nice, France, November the 25th and 26th 2010, organized by ESICM.

This meeting was made possible by the ESPNIC Fellowship programme and I would like to thank the ESPNIC Nursing Board for granting this Fellowship programme.

The objectives of the ECCRN TG are to foster collaborative research among ESICM members and to promote European investigator-initiated Intensive Care research by:

- establishing an active network of investigator and research teams
- providing forums for discussion of research projects
- development and implementation of clinical trials
- providing methodological help (with link with the ESICM meta-analysis group)
- offer opportunities for education and collegial support for emerging investigators
- foster communication among the ICU research community.

It was a very interesting meeting: 82 delegates from 23 countries participated. Only two nurses attended this meeting; Dr Stijn Blott (adult ICU nurse scientist) and myself. The programme included two types of presentations (see the enclosed programme):

- 1/ Theoretical lectures delivered by European experts and regarding how to design a research project and what are the methodological aspects, including statistical and ethical issues.
- 2/ Twenty research projects (future and ongoing) presented and discussed by the audience in order to improve their feasibility and design. One of them concerned children: "Goal directed hypothermia in children by Doppler ultrasound after prolonged CPR (H. Ringe). During the second day of the meeting election for open position was organised.

What could be the ESPNIC Nursing implication in the ECCRN TG?

The steering committee members addressed that many adult ICUs take care of critically ill children. Therefore, the steering committee of the ECCRN TG has declared that paediatric clinicians are welcomed to participate in either the steering committee and/or in future ECCRN TG meetings.

Together with Dr Pierre Tissières and Prof. Francis Leclerc, we suggest that ESPNIC identifies two active ESPNIC members; one for the ESICM Research Committee and one for the ESICM Congress Committee. If this would be applicable or accepted for ESPNIC Nursing members is an issue to explore. However, in the near future it would be interesting to obtain a place for a pediatric intensivist in the steering committee of the ECCRN TG.

Furthermore, ESICM is planning to conduct a survey to identify how many adult ICUs also care for critically ill children.

ECCRN TG plans to organize two meetings per year and we have to encourage our European PICU colleagues to present their future research. Although it was acknowledged that this was the first meeting of ECCRN TG, the content of the meetings might be adjusted in the future

based on the evaluations of the first meeting. We believe that ESPNIC should very soon start an active communication with the ECCRN TG steering committee to obtain a close and strong scientific relationship.

What have I personally learned from this ECCRN TG meeting?

Besides the excellent theoretical scientific presentations the presentation of the 20 research projects have gain a lot of insight in establishing and preparing a multi-national studies. I have also learned that establishing a research network fosters a collaborative knowledge on nursing research. In this perspective we might be able to start such a European PICU Nursing network and also make links with the WFPICCS Nursing scientist who have organised them in the PICUPhD group. On European level we have meanwhile upcoming links such as the nurse scientist from the UK will meet in May 2011 in Liverpool with some PICU nurse scientist from The Netherlands. With the knowledge I have gained at the ECCRN TG I hope that I am able to contribute in establishing a European ESPNIC nurse scientist group. And if possible we could have an challenging nurse scientist session at the next ESPNIC congress in Hannover 2011. Of course we hope that with the support of ESPNIC we can organise and maintain these very important nursing research links among several European countries.

If you have any questions remaining, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Jos Latour

Jos Latour
Erasmus MC – Sophia Children’s Hospital
PICU & NICU, Room SP-1539
P.O. Box 2060
3000 CB Rotterdam
The Netherlands
Phone: +31 10 703 7174
Email: j.latour@erasmusmc.nl
Email: jos.latour@planet.nl