

# Helsinki 2025 ICN Congress

**NURSING POWER**  
to Change the World

9-13  
**JUNE**

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES  
2025 CONGRESS

**CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**

# NURSING POWER TO CHANGE THE WORLD

**ICN CONGRESS**  
**9-13 June 2025**  
**Helsinki - Finland**

ORGANIZED BY THE INTERNATIONAL  
COUNCIL OF NURSES



**ICN**

International  
Council of Nurses

*The global voice of nursing*

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE FINNISH  
NURSES ASSOCIATION



Finnish Nurses  
Association



# THEME – NURSING POWER TO CHANGE THE WORLD

The ICN 2025 Congress will take place in Helsinki, Finland, 9–13 June. This event will be a crucial gathering of thousands of nursing professionals, academics, leaders and esteemed speakers. As always, the ICN Congress will be a forum for an exchange of knowledge, fostering collaborative learning about health and health care, and delving into the nuanced strategies employed by nurses in navigating and redressing the multifaceted social determinants of health. Central to this discourse is the goal of achieving Universal Health Coverage and propelling the global health policy agenda forward.

With the overarching theme of "Nursing Power to Change the World," this Congress underscores the formidable influence wielded by nurses in shaping the landscape of health care delivery. Congress underlines the fact that nurses make up nearly 60% of the world's health workforce, emphasizing their profound capacity to affect lives across diverse health care settings, enhance accessibility to health care services, and significantly influence health policies across all levels of governance.

## SUB-THEME 1

**Empowering nursing leadership – Catalyzing global health**

## SUB-THEME 2

**Elevating health care excellence: Strategies for quality and safety in people-centred systems**

## SUB-THEME 3

**Advancing nursing practice: Seize the moment!**

## SUB-THEME 4

**Educating the nurse of tomorrow**

## SUB-THEME 5

**The 'Triple S' – A skilled, satisfied and sustainable workforce**

## SUB-THEME 6

**Nursing in humanitarian and emergency contexts**

## SUB-THEME 7

**Technology 4.0 – The era of connectivity, advanced analytics and automation**

## SUB-THEME 8

**Towards a healthier world – The strategic influence of nursing on global health priorities**

## SUB-THEME 9

**Upholding integrity and excellence – Nursing ethics and regulation**



## KEY DATES

### 2 AUGUST 2024

Online submission of abstracts opens

### 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

Online submission of abstracts closes

### BY END OF NOVEMBER 2024

Applicants notified of acceptance

### 31 JANUARY 2025

Early bird registration deadline ends

### 15 FEBRUARY 2025

Extended early bird deadline for abstract presenters\*

### 9 JUNE 2025

International Council of Nurses 2025 Congress opens

\*Presenters and session organizers MUST register for ICN 2025 by the above date to confirm attendance. Presenters/session organizers who have not registered by this date will have their abstracts removed from the programme.



# CALLING ALL UNDERGRADUATE NURSING STUDENTS

Abstract submission is also open to undergraduate student nurses. Undergrads, it's your time to shine at the ICN 2025 Congress! Submit your poster abstract and make your mark on the global nursing stage!



## SUB-THEMES

### SUB-THEME 1

#### EMPOWERING NURSING LEADERSHIP – CATALYZING GLOBAL HEALTH

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"Empowering nursing leadership: Catalyzing global health" delves into the dynamic role of nurses as leaders who advocate for and implement solutions to global health challenges. This theme captures the essence of nursing leadership's potential to reshape health care systems, to improve access to quality care, and to ensure that health policies reflect the needs and rights of all individuals.

#### KEY AREAS OF INTEREST

- **Policy influence:** Amplifying nurses' voices in health policy decision-making to drive systemic change.
- **Leadership investment:** The strategic development of nursing leadership capacities at all career stages, recognizing the value of investing in future health leaders.
- **Creating cultures of excellence:** Building high-performing health care cultures that value teamwork, innovation and commitment to excellence in patient care.
- **Intergenerational leadership:** Bridging the gap between generations within the nursing profession to foster a culture of mutual learning, respect and innovation.
- **Honouring leadership legacies:** Recognizing and celebrating the contributions of past nurse leaders whose visions and efforts have laid the foundation for today's nursing advances and leadership opportunities.
- **Indigenous leadership:** Highlighting the significant contributions of Indigenous nurse leaders in shaping inclusive and culturally safe health care practices.
- **Clinical leadership:** Highlighting clinical leadership in nursing that encompasses the guidance and coordination of patient care by nurses, integrating expertise in decision-making and critical thinking to ensure high-quality, patient-centred outcomes.
- **New leadership competencies:** Highlighting leadership competencies to address emerging needs of health systems and the health workforce.
- **Leadership at the global level:** Showcasing nursing leadership in policy changes, promoting evidence-based practices, and fostering collaboration among health care stakeholders to address global health challenges.

## SUB-THEME 2

### ELEVATING HEALTH CARE EXCELLENCE: STRATEGIES FOR QUALITY AND SAFETY IN PEOPLE-CENTRED SYSTEMS

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This sub-theme focuses on the strategies required to elevate the standards of health care delivery worldwide, emphasizing the critical importance of quality and safety in patient care. It highlights the holistic approach that encompasses every aspect of the health care system, from individual patient interactions to global health policies, ensuring that every patient receives quality and safe care.

#### KEY AREAS OF INTEREST

- **Safe staffing and quality of care:** Examining the impact of staffing on patient and system outcomes.
- **Empowerment of stakeholders:** Fostering relationships between consumers and health professionals, and recognizing that trust, mutual respect and sharing of knowledge are needed for the best health outcome.
- **People-centred care:** Tailoring health care services to meet the individual needs and preferences of patients, ensuring care that respects patient values, culture and promotes dignity.
- **Medication safety:** Implementing strategies to minimize the risk of avoidable medication-related harm.
- **Quality indicators in health services:** Using measurable indicators to assess and improve the quality and effectiveness of health care services.
- **Incident prevention and harm reduction:** Adopting proactive measures to identify potential risks and near misses, and implementing strategies to prevent harm to patients and health care workers.
- **Workplace health and safety:** Prioritizing the well-being and safety of health care workers as a core aspect of enhancing patient safety, with an understanding that health care worker safety is intrinsically linked to patient safety.
- **Combating antimicrobial resistance:** Addressing the global challenge of antimicrobial resistance through judicious use of antimicrobials and infection control practices.
- **Multisectoral collaboration:** Fostering partnerships across different sectors and disciplines to create an integrated approach to patient care across the care continuum.

## SUB-THEME 3

### ADVANCING NURSING PRACTICE: SEIZE THE MOMENT!

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"Advancing nursing practice: Seize the moment!" underscores the pivotal moment we stand in to revolutionize health care through the empowerment and optimization of the nursing profession. This sub-theme advocates for leveraging this critical window of opportunity to reimagine and optimize the roles of nurses to address the urgent and evolving health needs of populations worldwide. It calls for a strategic overhaul in the way nurse-led models of care are integrated, supported by conducive legislation, regulations and policies, alongside innovative funding models that recognize the value and efficacy of nursing practice. This theme is a call to action to seize the moment for advancing nursing practice, recognizing the urgency to plan for and invest in the future workforce to sustainably meet global health challenges with agility and comprehensive care.

#### KEY AREAS OF INTEREST

- **Advanced practice nursing:** Improving access to quality and affordable health care through the expertise of Advanced Practice Nurses.
- **Emerging roles in nursing:** Highlighting the profession's versatility and its evolving roles and responsibilities in response to the changing needs of society and health care.
- **Prescriptive authority for nurses:** Supporting safe nurse-prescribing to improve access to essential medicines.
- **Nurse-led models of care:** Promoting innovative care models led by nurses, which prioritize person-centred care, accessibility (for example by increasing access to surgery by nurse anaesthetists), and holistic, primary health care.
- **Legislation, regulation and policies for optimizing nursing practice:** Examining legislative/regulatory advocacy efforts and changes that optimize the scope of practice for advanced practice nurses, recognizing their critical role in health care delivery.

- **Community and primary health care:** Focusing on the role of nurses in leading and improving community-based and primary health care services, ensuring accessible and continuous care for all.
- **Cost effective care:** Exploring the cost-effectiveness and value-for-money of nurse-led models of care, highlighting the significant economic benefits and efficiencies these models bring to the health care system. Demonstrating how nursing practices not only improve patient outcomes but also contribute to the financial sustainability of health care institutions.
- **Value-based health care:** Designing health care that focuses on the quality of care, provider performance and the patient experience.
- **New models of care:** Involving a shift towards people-centred, integrated health care delivery, where nurses play a pivotal role.

## SUB-THEME 4

### EDUCATING THE NURSE OF TOMORROW

"Educating the nurse of tomorrow" underscores the critical need for a contemporary, innovative, inclusive and forward-thinking approach to nursing education. This approach is vital for preparing a nursing workforce that is not only clinically proficient and culturally competent but also capable of leading health care transformation in the face of global health challenges.

#### KEY AREAS OF INTEREST

- **Continuing professional development:** Emphasizing the importance of continuing professional development to adapt to the changing health care landscape.
- **Enhanced clinical placements:** Focusing on the value of relevant and diverse clinical placements to enrich student learning experiences.
- **Strengthening nurse faculty:** Investing in the development of nurse educators to lead the next generation of nurses with expertise and innovation.
- **Interprofessional and intraprofessional education:** Promoting collaborative learning among health care disciplines and within a specific professional group to foster teamwork and holistic patient care.
- **Emerging health challenges:** Preparing nurses to address new and complex health issues.
- **Education and advanced practice nursing:** Equipping nurses with the skills and knowledge to take on advanced practice roles in diverse health care settings.
- **Educational competencies:** Defining and upholding rigorous standards for nursing education to ensure excellence.
- **Incorporating lived experience:** Enriching the curriculum by including the perspectives of individuals with lived health experiences.
- **Creating educational pathways:** Developing clear, accessible pathways for nurses to advance their careers in academia.
- **Indigenous perspectives in nursing: from education to practice:** Centring Indigenous perspectives at the nexus of curricula, education, clinical practice and the nursing profession.

## SUB-THEME 5

### THE 'TRIPLE S' – A SKILLED, SATISFIED AND SUSTAINABLE WORKFORCE

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"The 'Triple S' – A skilled, satisfied, and sustainable workforce" articulates a forward-looking vision for building a nursing workforce capable of achieving Universal Health Coverage and effectively addressing global health challenges. It underscores the critical need for a comprehensive and integrated approach to workforce development that not only addresses immediate shortages but also fosters an environment where nurses can thrive, feel valued, and sustain their careers long-term. This sub-theme examines effective strategies to build the nursing workforce required to meet the demand for health care.

#### KEY AREAS OF INTEREST

- **Health workforce shortages:** Emphasizing multifaceted approaches to mitigate global health workforce shortages.
- **Investment in the nursing workforce:** Showcasing that investing in the nursing workforce leads to significant improvements in patient outcomes, health care efficiency and cost savings.
- **Improving job satisfaction and nursing retention:** Strategies that are based on labour market analysis and aimed at improving job satisfaction and retention rates.
- **Nurses' health and well-being:** Necessitating comprehensive support systems and initiatives that prioritize nurses' physical, mental and emotional wellness, including moral injury and psychological safety.
- **Addressing inequalities in nursing:** Strategies to promote diversity, gender responsive, equity and inclusion within the profession, ensuring that all nurses and patients have equal opportunities.
- **Combating racism:** Acknowledging the problem and contributing factors; implementing strategies to address and eliminate racism.
- **Nurse migration and mobility:** Examining the dynamics of nurse migration and stressing the need for ethican practices in nurse mobility.
- **Early career and new Nurses:** Focusing on the contribution of new members of the profession and the support they need to thrive.
- **Respecting the rights of nurses:** Upholding the legal, professional and ethical rights that are crucial for nurses to perform their duties safely, ethically and efficiently.
- **Indigenous nurses:** Enhancing the recruitment, retention and development of Indigenous nurses.
- **History of nursing:** Reflecting on the legacy of ICN's founders and the evolution of nursing roles, showcasing a history of compassion, innovation and unwavering commitment to health.
- **Nursing workforce in the Nordic countries:** Exploring the unique developments and achievements in nursing within the Scandinavian context, highlighting regional advances in strengthening the nursing workforce.

## SUB-THEME 6

### NURSING IN HUMANITARIAN AND EMERGENCY CONTEXTS

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This theme focuses on nurses providing essential health care services in challenging and crisis-ridden environments. Nurses demonstrate adaptability, resilience and compassion as they deliver life-saving care, address urgent medical needs, and support vulnerable populations affected by disasters, conflicts or humanitarian crises.

#### KEY AREAS OF INTEREST

- **Disaster nursing:** Specialized provision of health care during emergency situations that lead to health-related diseases affecting populations, including those due to natural hazards (e.g. earthquakes, hurricanes, floods, landslides, wildfires and droughts), technological hazards (e.g. chemical spills, disruption to infrastructure), complex situations (produced by conflict) and outbreaks.
- **Health system resilience:** Enhancing the resilience of health care systems to prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies, ensuring uninterrupted care and services during crises.

- **Community resilience and nursing:** Underlining the pivotal role of nurses in building resilient communities and fostering societal security through education, prevention and preparedness initiatives, fostering stronger, more informed partnerships before, during and after crises.
- **Education for disaster management:** Emphasizing the importance of equipping nurses and health care professionals with the competencies to respond effectively to emergencies, including risk reduction and crisis management.
- **Protecting the safety of health care workers:** Prioritizing the protection and safety of health care workers in emergency and conflict contexts.
- **Big data and disaster management:** Investigating how nurses can use big data analytics to improve disaster response strategies, enhance patient care and streamline resource allocation during emergencies.
- **Navigating regulatory challenges in crises:** Addressing the legal and ethical challenges faced by health care providers in emergencies, including dilemmas in resource allocation, adherence to regulations and maintaining professional standards under pressure.

## SUB-THEME 7

### TECHNOLOGY 4.0 – THE ERA OF CONNECTIVITY, ADVANCED ANALYTICS AND AUTOMATION

"Technology 4.0 – The era of connectivity, advanced analytics and automation" encapsulates the transformative wave sweeping across the health care sector, propelled by the rapid evolution of digital technologies. This era is marked by the seamless integration of digital health solutions, advanced analytics, automation and the proliferating field of artificial intelligence (AI), revolutionizing the way care is delivered, experienced and optimized. As these technological advancements redefine the landscape of health care, nurses stand at the forefront, not only as adopters, but also as innovators and leaders, ensuring the profession evolves in tandem with these changes to offer more personalized, efficient and accessible care.

#### KEY AREAS OF INTEREST

- **The automation revolution and robotic health care:** Examining the transformative role of robotics and AI in health care, from automated patient monitoring to robotic-assisted surgery, and how these advances redefine nursing responsibilities and care delivery.
- **Emergent technologies:** Investigating cutting-edge technologies and their impact on nursing care, including how innovations such as wearable devices and telehealth expand care delivery and patient engagement.
- **Virtual nursing:** The growing significance of providing health care services remotely, utilizing digital platforms and communication technologies to offer continuous patient support outside traditional settings.
- **Augmented reality, virtual reality and simulation-based learning:** Employing immersive learning experiences for nursing education.
- **Data driven Care:** Utilizing data and analytics to inform evidence-based clinical decisions, optimize care pathways, and improve health outcomes through precision medicine and personalized treatments and medicines.
- **Information management:** Emphasizing the role of nurses in ensuring accuracy, confidentiality, interpretation and accessibility of data and information in health care settings.
- **Machine learning and predictive analytics in patient care:** How machine learning can forecast patient outcomes and guide nursing interventions.
- **Mobile health (mHealth) applications:** The role of mobile apps in patient education, health monitoring and communication with health care providers.
- **Smart health care environments:** Creating smart hospitals and homes for proactive patient care.
- **Integration of the International Classification for Nursing Practice (ICNP) in advancing nursing practice and digital health:** Incorporating and standardizing nursing terminology in digital health.
- **Potential of AI in nursing:** Investigating the application of AI in nursing education and research, and its potential to revolutionize nursing science and practice through advanced analytics and intelligent systems.

## SUB-THEME 8

### TOWARDS A HEALTHIER WORLD – THE STRATEGIC INFLUENCE OF NURSING ON GLOBAL HEALTH PRIORITIES

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Nursing is integral in navigating the complex landscape of future health challenges, advocating for health equity, advancing preventive care, and confronting emerging health threats at both local and global levels. This theme explores the multifaceted health challenges faced worldwide and seeks innovative solutions to realize health for all, underscoring the adaptability and broad reach of the nursing profession.

#### KEY AREAS OF INTEREST

- **Promoting healthy ageing:** Encouraging healthy ageing through interdisciplinary collaboration and innovative nurse-led initiatives, addressing the needs of the growing ageing population.
- **Strengths-based approaches to Indigenous health and nursing:** Employing strengths-based strategies to reduce health disparities, enhance cultural competence in health care delivery and promote culturally competent care for Indigenous communities.
- **Rural and remote health:** Addressing the unique obstacles to delivering high quality care in rural and underserved regions, with strategies aimed at overcoming these challenges.
- **Palliative and end-of-life care:** The role of nursing in providing compassionate person-centred care to patients in their final stages of life.
- **Social determinants of health:** Empowering nurses to advocate for policies and interventions to address social determinants of health.
- **Non-communicable diseases (NCDs):** Spotlighting the critical involvement of nurses in managing and preventing NCDs through education, care and community programmes.
- **Mental health nursing:** Emphasizing the importance of mental health nursing in supporting individuals with mental health conditions, promoting mental well-being, and addressing discrimination, stigma and human rights.
- **Communicable diseases:** Reducing the burden of communicable diseases.
- **Sustainable health care practices:** Innovative sustainable care models that support planetary health objectives, demonstrating nursing's commitment to environmentally responsible health care and their involvement in the One Health approach.
- **Public health preparedness:** Comprehensive planning and readiness strategies to effectively respond to large-scale outbreaks of infectious diseases and enhance community engagement.

## SUB-THEME 9

### UPHOLDING INTEGRITY AND EXCELLENCE – NURSING ETHICS AND REGULATION

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Nursing ethics and regulation are foundational elements for the professional conduct and practices of nurses worldwide. These frameworks ensure that nurses provide care that is not only clinically competent but also ethically sound and aligned with the highest professional standards to ensure public safety.

#### KEY AREAS OF INTEREST

- **Definition of nursing:** Reviewing the nursing definition to ensure it reflects the profession's identity and dynamic response to societal needs, technological advancements and shifting health care paradigms.
- **Ethical challenges in modern health care:** Discussing the complex dilemmas arising from advances in health technology, resource allocation, patient autonomy and nurses' responsibilities, including nurses' support and care at the end of life.
- **Nursing scope of practice:** Highlighting changes to nursing scope of practice and how the changes enable their full contribution to health care delivery.
- **Competence and regulatory standards:** Developing and implementing regulatory standards to ensure nurse competence, patient safety and quality care.



- **Education regulation:** Ensuring nursing programmes meet quality standards for professional readiness.
- **Licensing and registration:** Establishing the requirements for nursing licensure and registration, setting the standards for who is qualified to practice nursing.
- **Specialty certification:** Emphasizing the importance of specialty certification in advancing nursing practice, recognizing expertise and enhancing patient care through specialized knowledge and skills.
- **Ethical considerations in utilizing AI in nursing practice, education and research:** Exploring the impact of AI in upholding professional integrity and ethical standards in nursing practices, education and research.
- **Indigenous data sovereignty:** Acknowledging and incorporating Indigenous rights, perspectives and concerns in the development and governance of digital systems, data and information.



## INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

1. The abstract text must be no more than 2,500 characters (about 250 words not including title and authors' information) and should highlight the main points the presenter/s wish to communicate. If your abstract exceeds this length, it will not be saved.
2. Abstracts are to be submitted via the internet (only). The link will be available on the [ICN website](#).
3. The abstract can be submitted in ONLY ONE of the following presentation preference types:
  - **Oral presentation:** A 12-minute presentation grouped by theme.
  - **E-Poster:** A digital presentation of research with an academic or professional focus by an individual or representatives of research teams for display. (There is the potential for an audio or video file to be attached to the E-Poster). The ICN 2025 Scientific Committee reserves the right to reclassify submitted abstracts into the most appropriate presentation type.
4. Abstracts can be submitted in English, French or Spanish. No other language will be accepted and will be deleted immediately after the submission system closes.
5. Only fully completed presenter profiles and abstract submissions (marked as final) will be reviewed (please make sure to submit all "Draft" abstracts before the deadline!).
6. A person who is not a member of an ICN member organization may only submit an abstract as a joint author/presenter with a person who is member of an ICN member organization.
7. A maximum of six co-authors may submit a joint abstract.
8. Applicants will be notified in **November 2024** that their abstract has been accepted.
9. Those whose abstracts are accepted must register for the Congress by midnight CET **15 February 2025**. Accepted abstracts will be eliminated from the programme after this date if registration and fee payment have not been received.
10. All decisions on abstract acceptance are final. Once the decision has been rendered on an abstract, no further correspondence will be undertaken on the selection process.



# WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!

**9-13 JUNE 2025**



[www.icncongress2025.org](http://www.icncongress2025.org)

Congress Secretariat: [icn2025@icn.ch](mailto:icn2025@icn.ch)



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