The Nordic Association for Intensive Care Nursing Research

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Nordic nursing research has a strong tradition within the qualitative approach when exploring the lived experience of critical illness and describing the perspectives of patient and family. The Nordic Association for Intensive Care Nursing Research (NOFI) was established in 2003 by academically prepared intensive care nurses from Denmark, Norway and Sweden.

The purpose of NOFI was to encourage research in intensive care nursing in the Nordic countries, to establish a network of intensive care nursing scholars, to exchange research experience and research outcomes among the Nordic research communities, and to increase the visibility of research in intensive care nursing in the Nordic countries.

Intensive care nursing is still a young domain of research. We need to encourage more scholars within this area to increase our knowledge base, improve the ICU-experience and formalize rehabilitation of post-ICU patients. Intensive care is a collaborative practice and future research should reflect the interdisciplinary aspect of the field.

NOFI increases the visibility of research in intensive care nursing in the Nordic countries. The NOFI website encourages networking by presentation of scholars and publications. Scholars in NOFI have collaborated on several studies combining data from the Nordic countries.

The initial focus of NOFI was on nursing research, but an interdisciplinary approach has also been encouraged with joint research and conference activities. The NOFI board members have arranged biannual meetings for members and individuals interested in the network. Conference activity has alternated between Denmark, Norway and Sweden. Conference themes have been: ICU environment and acoustics, relatives of ICU patients, ways of knowing, sedation, ethics, patient diaries, multimodal interventions, research designs, ICU delirium, psychometrics, burns, and mechanical ventilation. Other activities have included lectures from recently completed Ph.D. studies within the scope of intensive care in the Nordic countries.

NOFI provides the profiles of Nordic nursing scholars within intensive care in Denmark, Norway and Sweden presenting their research on the website, www.nofi.info