MS-NEED: Multiple Sclerosis-Nurse Empowering Education

European Multiple Sclerosis Platform
Rehabilitation in Multiple Sclerosis
International Organisation of Multiple Sclerosis
Nurses

Objectives of MS-NEED

- To uderstand the changing role of MS nurses in Europe

- Raise awareness of the role and identify best practice for education, certification and training of MS nurses

- Encourage comprehensive services to people with MS by MS nurses across Europe

- Identify areas where the MS nurse role can be changed or expanded to improve patient quality of life

European MS Nurse Survey

Focused on 4 key areas:

1. Clinical practice

2. Advocacy

3. Research and publication

4. Training and education

Methods

- 280 nurses:

Country	No of nurses
UK	50
Germany	50
Italy	50
Poland	50
Finland	50
Czech Republic	30

Recruitment criteria

- UK, Czech Republic – Specialist MS Nurse

- Germany, Italy, Poland - 30 % (Finland 25%) of time spent with MS patient, working with MS patients as a nurse for 1 year or more

Results

- MS nurses have wide ranging role, their role is diverse and varies substantially across Europe, nurses often provide advice regarding psychological support, medication management and daily health and well being
- One in two nurses regularly provide advice on symptom management with practical solutions
- Over one third of nurses often advise their patients on social support
- Only 5% of nurses often provide advice around employment, legal and insurance issues

Results continued

- Many MS nurses are currently involved in activities that reach beyond traditional responsibilities

- Over half of MS nurses are involved in managing othger health conditions associated with MS

- 59% of nurses help patients gain access to new treatments

- 79% actively help patients gain access to other serviced such as reahabilitation

Conclusions

- The outcomes of the MS-NEED survey show disparities in nursing practice across Europe.

- It is important to:

- Recognise nursing in MS as a specialty within Europe

- Facilitate the sharing of knowledge, best practice and build collaborative expertise between countries

- Standartise, benchmark and certify MS nurse training across Europe

Gothenburg
MS-NEED workshop

- Highlighted the need for a European wide consensus on the role of the MS nurse in order to avoid geographical inequalities in provisions of MS patient care.

- Recommends consolidating national tools in order to develop a European consensus framework to define the role and the responsibilities of the MS nurse.

The goals of the polish roundtable

- Better understanding of the changing role of MS nurse
- Increased awareness of the role of MS nurse in order to create good practise for education and certification
- Identification of the key areas, in which the role of MS nurse may evolve to improve the quality of MS patients care in Poland
- Education towards the standarisation of the MS nurse role within Europe

15 th of June 2010 - Polish roundtable

Participants:

- MS nurses, Polish Nurses Society, Chamber of Nurses and Midwives

- Neurologists

- Ministry of Health representative, from the Department of Nurses and Midwives

- Post- graduation Education Centre

- Psychologists

- Patients

- Polish Multiple Sclerosis Society representatives

Discussion topics:

- The nature of the relation between the patient and MS Nurse
- The changing role of the MS Nurse in the long term care for patients with MS
- The necessity of improving the qualifications of MS Nurses
- The necessity for certification

Conclusions:

All the participants of the roundtable stressed the necessity of:

- Increase in qualifications, education and most of all certification of Polish MS Nurses.

- Specialisation – key subject

„24% of all surveyed nurses in Poland feel they have not received adequate training and education to support them in their day-to-day role"

Accomplishments:

- First meeting of MS nurses
- One step further to system thinking when it comes to care for MS patient
- Need for certification
- Goal: specialised MD Nurse