

48th Global Nursing & Healthcare Conference

March 04-06, 2019 | Barcelona, Spain



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Nursing in Georgia and perspectives on its development

Nursing is an integral and important part of the healthcare system. In Soviet period nursing model in Georgia viewed nurse as the first stage of medical practice (doctor's assistant). This resulted in the impediment in the development of nursing as an independent profession. In order to improve public health through further development of the nursing practices in the country, and achieve increase in the quality of nursing care, introduction of higher education system was urgent. Throughout the recent history of Georgia, many fragmented attempts to develop the field were conducted. Nursing was one of the first health care group and practical discipline included in the Bologna Process. As a result of reforming the education systems, from 2011 new level of a nurse have been introduced in the healthcare system of Georgia - Bachelor Nurse. Revision of vocational curricula began just in recent years, however due to the lack of professional nursing literature and many other factors, such as the absence of nurse trainers and outdated methods of clinical practice, the quality of education in Georgia requires its harmonization with international standards and intensive work in this direction is in progress. The University of Georgia was the first educational institution in the country where BSN program was developed and introduced.

Biography

Maia Gogashvili is the Head of the Nursing Department at the School of Health Sciences and Public Health of the University of Georgia since 2012. She has her PhD degree in Public Health. She has her experience in: teaching, development and implementation of degree curricula and syllabuses in nursing; management and coordination of local and international projects; development and teaching of nursing courses; expert advisory work. She has actively participated in many international meetings related to nursing and health care management, education.

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