OC47 – NICUs and family-centred care, from the leadership to the design, the results of a survey in Italy (by FCC Italian NICU study group)

Immacolata Dall’Oglio (Italy)1; Anna Portanova (Italy)2; Emanuela Tiozzo (Italy)3; Orsola Gawronsk (Italy)4; Gennaro Rocco (Italy)5,6; JM Latour (United Kingdom)7

1 University of Rome ‘Tor Vergata’, Professional Development, Continuing Education and Nursing Research Service, Bambino Gesù Children’s Hospital, IRCCS;
2 Department of Medical and Surgical Neonatology, Bambino Gesù Children’s Hospital, IRCCS;
3 Professional Development, Continuing Education and Nursing Research Service, Bambino Gesù Children’s Hospital, IRCCS;
4 University of Rome ‘Tor Vergata’, Professional Development, Continuing Education and Nursing Research Service, Bambino Gesù Children’s Hospital, IRCCS;
5 Centre of Excellence for Nursing Scholarship; 6 Ipasvi Rome Nursing College; 7 Clinical Nursing, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Faculty of Health and Human Sciences Plymouth University

Theme: Leadership, management, nursing education.

Keywords: Family-centred care, health care quality, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) design, NICU environment.

Introduction: Family-centered care (FCC) in NICUs is related to staff culture and the organization of the unit.

Aim: To describe the organizational characteristics and services for families in Italian NICUs.

Methods: This survey involved 105 NICUs in Italy. The Italian version of the ‘FCC in the NICUs: A Self-Assessment Inventory’ developed by the Institute for FCC was sent to the
nurse managers in January 2015.

Results: Forty-seven NICUs answered (49%). The means of the NICU characteristics are number of beds: 20; newborns discharged/year: 331, of which very low birth weight infant: 68; unit’s rooms: 3.7). The total mean score of the 10 areas explored by questionnaire was 2.6 (on 5 points Likert scale) for the ‘status’ and of 2.3 (on 3 points scale) for priority for change.

Conclusion: The results show an organizational lack, but also the consciousness of the need of change. Sharing new organizational strategies could be an important issue for the future.