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Interoperability of Health Care Data Advanced by the International Classification for Nursing Practice (ICNP)

Geneva, Switzerland, 3 July 2012. The International Council of Nurses (ICN) is pleased to recognise the significant advancement of nursing and health care terminologies in Poland, demonstrated by the 2-3 July 2012 conference organized by the Polish Ministry of Health National Centre for Health Information Systems (CSIOZ). The conference, „*Electronic Medical Records - Interoperability and Implementation*”, is an important milestone for Polish nursing and health care as work continues in ICNP translation, education and clinical application.

ICNP, an international standard nursing terminology for use in electronic health records, is part of the ICN eHealth Programme, whose vision is to transform nursing through the application of information and communication technology. Systematic nursing documentation supports analysis of nursing interventions related to patient outcomes and the data-based decision-making and policy development.

“Nurses in Poland are demonstrating leadership for the profession while also ensuring full interdisciplinary collaboration for improved health care delivery. Given the challenges in health care today, such as economic uncertainty and an ageing population, standard documentation that results in systematic health care data nationwide supports evidence-based policy development and resource allocation,” stated David Benton, ICN’s Chief Executive Officer.

In 2010, the Polish Nurses Association and CIOZ, in collaboration with ICN, organised a conference on the topic of ICNP to support interdisciplinary collaboration for translation and education. Unifying ICNP with medical terminologies such as ICD-10 and ICF will improve interoperability of electronic health record documentation. The Polish Ministry of Health supports the Polish Nurses’ Association’s efforts to establish and implement ICNP.

Editors’ notes:

The International Council of Nurses (ICN) is a federation of more than 130 national nurses associations representing the millions of nurses worldwide. Operated by nurses and leading nursing internationally since 1899, ICN works to ensure quality nursing care for all and sound health policies globally.

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The Polish Nurses Association is a self-governing organization of Polish nurses, founded in 1957, continuing the activities of the Polish Association of Professional Nurses (PSPZ). Polish Nurses Association is the national association open to all who want to work for the safety of nurses and patients and the professionalization of the profession. The Polish Nurses Association is an organization in Poland, more than 4,000 nurses from 16 provinces and representing the Polish nurses in the International Council of Nurses (ICN) and the European Federation of Nurses Associations (EFN).

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