

Dear WoW members,

I am married, have three children and five grand children. I have been involved with ICT since 1984 - from hospital information systems to today's technology. I have been developing eHealth in practice field and later as an educator.

I read your goals and I totally agree that balance between female and male is not good. ICN is a voice of millions of nurses, which are mainly women. I am member of ICN eHealth Strategic advisory board and our objectives are e.g. to enhance nurses access to information sources around the world and to support nurse decision making based on evidence based knowledge, also female peer support and networks are important.

I am also an educator and member of IMIA-NI education working group. This group is now discussing the competencies related to nurse education/nurse practice. I have been as an eHealth expert in Health Informatics curriculum work in collaboration with four universities (University of Eastern Finland, University of Eduardo Mondlane in Mozambique, Cape Peninsula University of Technology and Obafemi Awololo University in Nigeria). We built fundamentals of Health informatics studies which are in pilot phase.

In my own work I have built master level programme Master of Health and Welfare which has students from different fields, nurse, bachelor of business, midwife, public health nurse, bachelor of engineering, for instance. So one way to support women into eHealth area is education and training.

Via eHealth projects it is possible to implement eHealth solutions. I have done PhD studies in the field on mother-child health care. Especially pregnant mothers and their possibility utilise eHealth solutions in their health purposes is very important to me. I was the project manager in 'Maternity and infant clinic on the Net' project where we developed a virtual clinic, first of it's kind, in the year 2000. Later on I have had several projects related to pregnant families. Latest is the utilisation of Facebook technology and we built a special environment for families, in year 2009. My recent projects are in African context, mother-child health and mobile technology. Mozambique and Zambia are the countries involved. It is important to reach out ordinary citizens and better access to health care services.

The role of women should be emphasized in conferences and seminars, to have presentations and show results from versatile projects /research, etc

Please ask more details or questions I am happy to describe more.

best regards
yours,

Pirkko

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