

**Call for abstracts**



# Leading Change:

## Building Healthier Nations



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## Overview

The ICN 24th Quadrennial Congress, its first in Africa, will showcase the key role nursing plays in leading the way to healthier nations. The Congress will permit access to and dissemination of nursing knowledge and leadership across specialities, cultures and countries. The three ICN pillars - Professional Practice, Regulation and Socio-economic Welfare - will frame the Congress sessions and programmes.

Featured plenary speakers will bring inspiration and the latest information on the nursing workforce and workplace, pandemics/disasters, ethics/human rights, clinical care and patient safety. Concurrent sessions, symposia and posters will address these issues plus developments in nursing education and the learning environment, advocacy, lobbying and legislation, care systems, technology, innovations and informatics, leadership and regulation. The Congress will also be the venue for ICN Network meetings, workshops and thought provoking main sessions - including a focus on task-shifting and the future of nursing.

To share your ideas and expertise you are invited to submit an abstract for a concurrent session, a symposium or a poster. **The submission guidelines and abstract form will be available on the Congress website [www.icn.ch/Congress2009.htm](http://www.icn.ch/Congress2009.htm) as of Monday, 17 March 2008.**

The Council of National Representatives, ICN's global governing body, will convene from 27-30 June. Congress participants who are members of ICN member associations will be able to observe nursing leaders from all over the world identify the profession's priorities and future directions.

**Further information and regular updates on the Congress programme will be posted on the Congress website at [www.icn.ch/Congress2009.htm](http://www.icn.ch/Congress2009.htm)**

## The main objectives of the Congress are:

- 1.** To lead informed and sustainable improvement in policy and nursing practice
- 2.** To demonstrate nursing's contribution to building healthier nations
- 3.** To encourage leadership development in the health sector

## ICN Networks

All ICN Networks will hold two-hour sessions, focusing on their specific areas of interest. Updates on the programme for these sessions will be available on the Congress website and through a series of media announcements. Areas of particular interest include:

- Nurse Practitioner/Advanced Practice Nursing Network
- Research Network
- Leadership for Change Network
- HIV/AIDS Network
- Regulation Network
- Socio-Economic Welfare Network
- Disaster Preparedness Network
- Remote and Rural Nursing Network
- Student Network

## General information

**Enjoying yourself in Durban** Durban is South Africa's most popular holiday spot and it's easy to see why. It has miles of soft sand, fantastic swimming beaches, great surfing and warm weather all year round. Located in South Africa's KwaZulu-Natal province and the city boasts an average of 320 days of sunshine a year. Temperatures range from 16-25°C in winter (June to August) to 23-33°C in the summer months (November to March). Durban also offers an exciting mix of design, art, music and food - peppered with fascinating cultural influences. Many events, cultures and nations have shaped Durban, and you'll find more than a dozen museums that tell its unique story.

**Continuing education credits** Congress participants will be able to earn international continuing nursing education credits (ICNECs) at this Congress.

**Congress fee** The early registration fee structure will be announced 1 June 2008 on the Congress website ([www.icn.ch/Congress2009.htm](http://www.icn.ch/Congress2009.htm)). The early registration deadline is 1 March 2009.

**Exhibition** A commercial and professional exhibition will run concurrently with the Congress. Industry and organisations will showcase their products and services and present the most recent health care information.

**Pre-and post Congress tours** will be announced on the website as soon as registration goes "live" (autumn of 2008).

**Professional visits** Congress participants will have the opportunity to learn about nursing practice and health care in the South African region. The Democratic Nurses Organization of South Africa (DENOSA) will be making special arrangements for professional visits. Further details will be posted on the Congress website.

**Refund/Cancellation** Registered participants who are unable to attend the Congress will have their paid fees refunded, less a processing fee, provided written notice of cancellation is received by ICN **before 15 April 2009**. After this date, no fee refund can be expected. All refunds will be processed after the Congress.

**Transportation** Durban is well served by several major international airlines and through the Johannesburg hub.

**Visas** As many countries have consolidated consular activities in certain regions, it is advisable to initiate the process for obtaining a visa early. Please check the following website at least 9 months before the conference to see whether you need a visa: [www.home-affairs.gov.za/visa\\_detail.asp](http://www.home-affairs.gov.za/visa_detail.asp)

**Website update** This first announcement and call for abstracts contains as much information as is known at the present time. However, the ICN website will be continuously updated with the latest Congress news. Check in at [www.icn.ch/Congress2009.htm](http://www.icn.ch/Congress2009.htm)

**Working languages** The working languages of the Congress are English, Spanish and French. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided for all plenary sessions, as well as a selection of other sessions.

## Call for abstracts

To share your ideas, research and expertise on how to provide quality care, improve health care practice, policies and services or contribute to the discussion of nursing knowledge, and leadership in building healthier nations, you are invited to submit an abstract. Abstracts must address one of the sub-themes listed below and demonstrate a direct link to the Congress theme of *Leading Change; Building Healthier Nations*.

### ABSTRACT SUB-THEMES:

#### 1. The nursing workforce and workplace

- What retention strategies ensure an effective workforce?
- What skill pool is required for quality care?
- What is the impact of positive practice environments?
- How does the global international labour market affect the health of nations?

#### 2. Pandemics/disasters

- What is the role of nurses in disaster preparedness and relief efforts?
- What competencies are specifically needed in disaster nursing?
- How do we screen and deploy disaster nurses effectively?
- What protective measures are required by relief workers?

#### 3. Ethics/human rights

- Do human rights provide the framework for equitable care?
- What ethical dilemmas exist in building healthier nations?

#### 4. Clinical care and patient safety

- What innovations in clinical practice support better patient outcomes?
- What is the link between positive practice environments and patient safety?
- Should our health goals reach beyond safety?

#### 5. Nursing education and the learning environment

- Where are the service/education gaps and how are they addressed?
- Will healthier nations depend on innovative learning environments?
- Will nursing education become articulated to meet the nursing continuum skill and knowledge needs?

#### 6. Advocacy, lobbying and legislation

- How do nurses lead change?
- What is the role of legislation in building healthy nations?
- How can the media be enlisted to promote healthier nations?
- What alliances can be generated to promote health?

#### 7. Care systems

- How are care systems evolving to meet changing needs?
- What happens at the interface between the health and social sectors?

#### 8. Technology, innovations and informatics

- How does technology serve building health nations?
- What have innovations brought to health care?
- How can computers and software serve nurses and nursing?

#### 9. Leadership - management

- What competencies are needed by our nurse managers?
- Are they different from the abilities of true leaders?
- Where and how does nursing leadership develop?

#### 10. Regulation

- What is the role of professional regulation in building healthier nations?
- How can accreditation systems benefit the patient?
- How is the focus on competencies changing the health sector?



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### Instructions for the submission of abstracts

**The deadline for the receipt of abstracts is midnight GMT 15 September 2008.**

1. The abstract text must be **no more than 250 words** and highlight the main points the presenter/s wish to communicate. Additional words will be cut.
2. Abstracts are to be submitted via the Internet at [www.icn.ch/Congress2009.htm](http://www.icn.ch/Congress2009.htm)\*
3. Those whose abstracts are accepted must register for the conference and pay the early registration fee by midnight GMT 1 March 2009. Accepted abstracts will be eliminated from the programme and CD-Rom on this date if registration has not been received.
4. The abstract can be submitted in **ONLY ONE** of the following categories:  
**Concurrent session:** A paper 15 minutes in length.  
**Symposium:** An 80 minute session with a **minimum of three speakers** presenting on a single theme from different perspectives. Speakers presenting a symposium must submit a **single joint abstract**.  
**Poster:** A visual presentation for display on a poster board.

5. Abstracts can be submitted in English, French or Spanish.
6. Only fully completed presenter profiles and abstract submissions will be reviewed.
7. A person not a member of an ICN member organisation may only submit an abstract as a joint author/presenter with a person who is member of an ICN member organisation.
8. Applicants will be notified by 1 December 2008 if their abstract has been accepted.
9. **All decisions on abstract acceptance are final. Once the decision has been rendered on an abstract, no further correspondence will be undertaken.**

### Factors that will be considered during selection are:

- Interest to an international audience.
- Relevance to both the Congress theme and one sub-theme.
- Scientific and/or professional merit.
- Contribution to knowledge, practice, policies or programmes of nursing and/or health.
- Clarity of abstract.



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The International Council of Nurses is the world's first and widest reaching international health professional organisation. As an independent, non-governmental federation of 130 national nurses associations, ICN has been working since 1899 for the improvement of health services and recognition of the vital role of nursing in health care. Through its quadrennial congresses and conferences, ICN provides a forum for nurses, health professionals and others to share ideas affecting health and the nursing profession.



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The Democratic Nurses Organization of South Africa (DENOSA) is a voluntary organisation for nurses and nursing in South Africa. DENOSA protects, promotes, develops, empowers and supports nurses and midwives/accouters, to the benefit of nursing and health for all.



### Congress website:

[www.icn.ch/Congress2009.htm](http://www.icn.ch/Congress2009.htm)

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\* Authors unable to submit via the Internet should contact Congrex.