



# Welcome to the First Issue of ProInCa NEWS



## ProInCa NEWS

28 March 2018

Issue Number 1

We are pleased to introduce our first newsletter – “*ProInCa News*” – to begin our newsletter publications. Eight additional newsletters will be published over the duration of the project (every 4 months). Each newsletter will contain reports on ProInCa activities and progress made toward the overall project objective of developing the sustainable innovation capacity of Kazakhstan’s Medical Universities for the modernization of nursing.

### IN THIS ISSUE

- Welcome Messages.....Page 1
- What Is ProInCa?.....Page 2
- ProInCa Team.....Page 2
- Upcoming Events.....Page 2
- ProInCa Logo.....Page 3
- ProInCa Kick-Off.....Page 3
- Four focus areas.....Page 4

## Welcome Messages

**Massimo Pignatelli, MD, PhD, FRCPath**  
**Dean, Nazarbayev University School of Medicine (Astana, Kazakhstan)**

Welcome to the first issue of the *ProInCa News* for 2018! The ProInCa project is positioned to be a driving force for nursing development in Kazakhstan. The partnership of Kazakhstan with European higher education institutions with world reputations marks the beginning of this unique collaboration (see page 2). Also, this project would not be possible without the support from Erasmus+, from the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and Science of Kazakhstan, and of course, the leadership of JAMK. In this issue, we present to you our first successful kick-off held at Nazarbayev University, Astana, Kazakhstan, last December 2017. Beginning this year, 2018, members of the ProInCa team commence to work, and events will follow to train nurses in the country. There is much to look forward to this year so stay connected with us on Twitter and Facebook for updates on the development of nursing in Kazakhstan. We are very excited about this project and the future newsletters!

**Johanna Heikkilä, PhD (Nursing Science), RN, FESC**  
**Senior Advisor, JAMK University of Applied Sciences (Jyväskylä, Finland)**

ProInCa is the result of a long and fruitful cooperation between Finland and Kazakhstan in the field of nursing education development. JAMK and Lahti UAS are the strategic partners of Ministry of Healthcare and the medical colleges in the development of nursing education. Together with partner universities from the Netherlands and Slovenia, we work together to develop the sustainable innovation capacity of Kazakhstan’s Medical Universities for the modernization of nursing. With the support of the Kazakhstan Ministry of Education and Science as well as the Ministry of Health, our project aims to increase knowledge sharing between the academic nursing community and the society by building a Center for Nursing Excellence, to improve efficiency and quality of Kazakhstan health care services by evidence-based nursing, to establish a higher education institution research program, and to modernize nursing leadership. As project coordinator, JAMK will oversee the project progress to ensure that the results can be implemented to aid the Kazakhstan health services transition!

## What is ProInca?

**ProInCa** – *Promoting the Innovation Capacity of Higher Education in Nursing During Health Services' Transition* - is a project co-funded by the Erasmus+ Capacity Building in the Field of Higher Education Programme. The project duration is 3 years and consists of European and Kazakhstan higher education institutes and associated partners representing a variety of different stakeholders.

The ProInCa project is a consortium of five higher education institutions from Kazakhstan and four from Europe. Divided into five Work Packages, its purpose is to strengthen the position of higher education in nursing and to develop nursing education to meet the needs of Kazakh and international nursing community and health care facilities.

ProInCa aims to develop the sustainable innovation capacity of Kazakhstan's Medical Universities during the health services' transition by enhancing knowledge sharing between the nursing community and developing nursing research, nursing leadership and evidence-based nursing. During the first project year, Kazakh partners will familiarize themselves with European operating models and practices, and project participants will produce analyses and studies on the current state of nursing research and education in Kazakhstan. As a result, partners collaborate on writing recommendations for future steps for nursing science in Kazakhstan. After the first project year, the focus will be on local development, for example creating educational materials and arranging training workshops for Kazakh nursing teachers and researchers. Finally, the results will

be put to practice on a national level by spreading the results to all levels of Kazakh nursing institutions and stakeholders. One sustainable project outcome will be a Center of Nursing Excellence, which includes an e-platform working as a mutual forum for the regional and international nursing community to share knowledge and research in evidence-based nursing.

Project activities began in October 2017 and got into full swing following a 3-day "ProInCa Kick-off" (see "*Kick-off Success*", page 3) in which project participants and associated partners met at Nazarbayev University, Astana, Kazakhstan to network and construct the concrete steps for the development work. During the next three years, good practices and operating models in nursing from Europe will be put to practice in Kazakhstan.

The project is supported by the Kazakhstan Ministry of Education, and Science as well as the Ministry of Healthcare, and coordinated by JAMK University of Applied Sciences, Finland. Associated partners, including higher medical colleges, medical colleges, hospitals and Republican Public Association "Specialists of Nursing Paryz", will work in close cooperation with the project participants to ensure the innovative nature of project activities and the sustainability of the project outcomes.

### FOLLOW US



## ProInCa Team

The **ProInCa** team is comprised of partnerships from both European and Kazakhstan universities.

**European Partners** JAMK University of Applied Sciences (Finland)

Lahti University of Applied Sciences (Finland)

Angela Boškin Faculty of Health Care (Slovenia)

Hanze University of Applied Sciences (Netherlands)

### **Kazakhstan Partners**

Astana Medical University

Karaganda State Medical University

Nazarbayev University

Semey State Medical University

West Kazakhstan Marat Ospanov State Medical University

*You can find more information about ProInCa members on our website: <http://proinca-nursing.kz>*

## Upcoming Events

### **Masterclass on Center of Nursing Excellence**

**Date:** April 16-20, 2018

**Venue:** Hanze University of Applied Sciences Groningen, School of Nursing Petrusdriessenstraat 3 9714 CA Groningen, The Netherlands

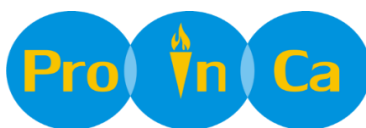
### **Masterclass on Modernization of Nursing Leadership**

**Date:** 1.-8.10.2018

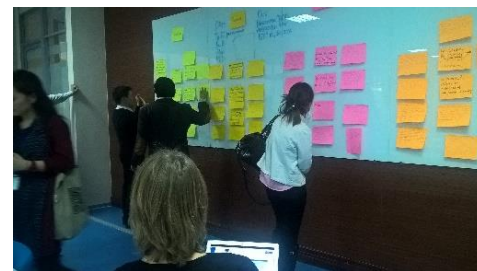
**Venue:** Lahti University of Applied Sciences, Mukkulankatu 19, 15140 Lahti, Finland

## The Logo

The logo was designed to capture the spirit of collaboration so essential to the success of this project. The 3 overlapping circles represent the 3-year project length, with the overlapping of the circles representing the joint collaboration of all of the participants in the ProInCa project. The "I" that is in the shape of a triangle is symbolic of the ProInCa project and knowledge triangle, with the flame on top giving the logo representation of the lamp commonly associated with Florence Nightingale and reminds us that this project has the opportunity and



responsibility of lighting the way for strengthening higher education systems in nursing. The blue and yellow colors reflect the colors of Kazakhstan as can be seen in the Republic of Kazakhstan national flag.



Working together in ProInCa Kick-off event.

**"Coming together is the beginning;  
keeping together is progress;  
working together is success".**

**Henry Ford**

## ProInCa Kick-off Success!



Dean Pignatelli providing opening remarks.

The inaugural kick-off project was held from 7-9 December 2017 in Astana, Kazakhstan. International and local partner universities and their representatives were in attendance. This kick-off was aimed to gather all participating universities to plan for the three-year project activity for Kazakhstan nursing education. The program was special, right from the opening: Massimo Pignatelli (Nazarbayev University), Johanna Heikkilä and Merja Hassinen (JAMK University of Applied Science) gave their opening and welcome remarks for the project. Several activities took place during the first day, importantly, a workshop of each work package.

The second day was well represented by the Ambassador of the Embassy of Finland, Mikko Kivikoski and by the Director of the Medical Science Division of the Ministry of Health of Kazakhstan, Almas Kenesarin. On the same day, work package workshops continued with information gathering about nursing education, practice, and research in Kazakhstan. During the last and third

day of the kick-off, work packages finalized and presented their work plan to the entire group. Commencing with this kick-off, each work package is ready to take action on carrying out several activities assigned, especially for the year 2018. We are all excited about the project and the upcoming years. We would like to take this opportunity to thank members of the project who were present during the kick-off and Nazarbayev University, School of Medicine for hosting this event.

**ProInCa  
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## Four focus areas of the ProInCa

In ProInCa the division of work between partners is based on their area of interest and capacity. According to the aims of the project, there are four focus areas. The target and programme country partners work as pairs during the project. The unique approach is that all partners are working in all focus areas. The European experts use participatory methods to enhance the collaboration between the stakeholders to create mutual understanding.

Hanze University and Astana Medical University focus in this project in development of mechanisms for collaboration and knowledge sharing between academic national and international nursing community and society in a form of Centre of Nursing Excellence (CNE). CNE will focus on the transfer of research outcomes into nursing practice and the research ideas to the universities for research and educational purposes.

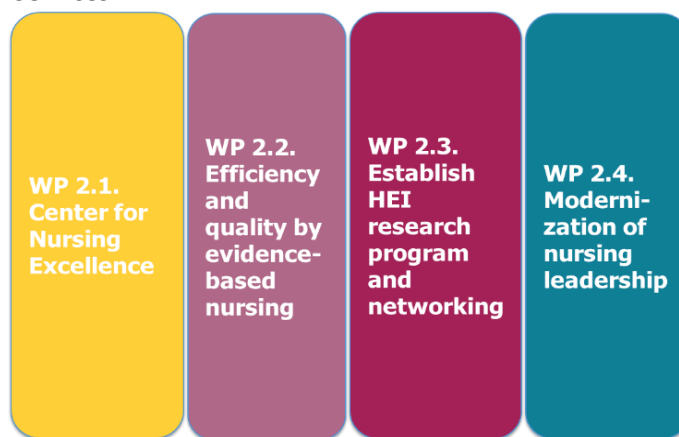
Angela Boskin Faculty of Health Care and Semey State Medical University focus in transferring the European best practices on implementing evidence based nursing (EBN) in nursing research, education and practice. The idea is to build the capacity of all staff members that teach Evidence Base Nursing regardless are they employed in medical university, higher medical colleges, medical colleges or in the health care facilities.

JAMK University of Applied Sciences and Karaganda State Medical University focus on strengthen HEI's role in building evidence based nursing research activities in health services.

Developing the infrastructure for nursing research and defining the strategy for nursing research in Kazakhstan will serve as the basis for developing joint capacity of medical universities and health facilities in nursing research.

Lahti University of Applied Sciences and West-Kazakhstan State Medical University focus on promoting capacity and system of nursing leadership and management through collaboration of HEI's and Health care facilities. The idea is to strengthen the nurse leaders' role and position in a structural level through capacity building of the chief and senior nurses' leadership and management

competences as well as university staff. Leadership training materials and tools will be produced for the use of nurse leaders and university teachers'.



ProInCa focus areas are interconnected.

### Newsletter Editorial Team

Greetings from the *ProInCa News* editorial team at Nazarbayev University School of Medicine and the Department of Nursing Education: Nancy Stitt, RN, BSN, RN-BC (Director) and Paolo Colet, RN, PhD (Faculty); and Alma Syzdykova, MD, MSc, MBA; Director, Science and Education Department, University Medical Center in Astana, Kazakhstan. We are delighted to launch the first edition of *ProInCa News*.

Each newsletter will be published every 4 months beginning with the next newsletter to be published at the end of June 2018. We look forward to receiving your contributions and ask that you submit by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the publication month (**publication schedule** for 2018: June, October; 2019: February, June, October; 2020: February, June, October. See page 3 for email contact information).

## ProInCa COORDINATOR

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