

Editorial Comment / Redaksionele Kommentaar

In this issue of Health SA Gesondheid the focus is on the challenges of a dynamic society with specific focus on challenges in the transformation of health care delivery, education and research in South Africa. The importance of providing quality health care during a period of transformation is imperative. Part and parcel of quality health care is the importance of nurse managers to provide healthy labour relations and to prevent unnecessary strike action by health workers. Challenges in education include providing multimedia supported education for an increasing number of students in the health field, as well as to select nursing students for the B.Cur. The selection needs to ensure that these students would complete the programme successfully and be competent nurses in practice, providing quality health care. Research is an integral part of education and providing quality health care in a country. Research should be conducted in a scientific manner and health professionals should be empowered to conduct such research through the supervision of experienced and competent mentors. Research supervision should be based on clear cut principles that promote excellence in scientific research. There are more positive issues involved in transformation than negative ones and we, as health professionals, should face these challenges in a well prepared, competent and scientific manner.

Die fokus in hierdie uitgawe van Health SA Gesondheid is op die uitdagings van 'n dinamiese samelewing met spesifieke fokus op uitdagings in die transformasie van gesondheidsdienslewering, onderrig en navorsing in Suid-Afrika. Die belangrikheid om kwaliteit gesondheidsdiens te lever gedurende 'n tydperk van transformasie is essensieël. Die belang daarvan dat verpleegdiens-bestuurders gesonde arbeidsverhoudinge sal voorsien en onnodige staakaksie deur gesondheidswerkers sal voorkom is 'n integrale deel van kwaliteit gesondheidsdiens. Uitdagings in onderrig sluit in die voorsiening van multimedia ondersteunde onderrig vir 'n toenemende aantal studente in die gesondheidsveld, sowel as om studente vir B.Cur te keur wat die program suksesvol sal voltooi en bevoegde verpleegkundiges sal wees in die voorsiening van kwaliteit gesondheids-diens. Navorsing is 'n integrale deel van onderrig en die voorsiening van kwaliteit gesondheidsorg in 'n land. Navorsing behoort in 'n wetenskaplike wyse uitgevoer word en gesondheidspersoneel behoort bemagtig te word om navorsing uit te voer met die leiding van ervare en bevoegde mentors. Navorsingsleiding behoort gebaseer te wees op duidelike beginsels wat uitnemendheid in wetenskaplike navorsing bevorder. Daar is meer positiewe aspekte betrokke in transformasie as negatiewe en ons, as gesondheidspersoneel, behoort hierdie uitdagings in 'n goed voorbereide, bevoegde en wetenskaplike wyse die hoof te bied.

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