

## 2<sup>nd</sup> N-ECCO Research Networking Forum 2015

***The sunshine of Barcelona welcomed the second successful N-ECCO Research Networking Forum. Following on from 2014, the forum has now been taken into the repository of the ECCO Educational Programme.***

The meeting was attended by 46 nurses from Europe, Canada and South Africa, many of whom held PhDs or Masters. Once again, a large cohort wished to learn about research, how to undertake a research project and how to get started practically, underpinning the educational importance of the forum.

Opened by Karen Kemp and co-chaired with Palle Bager, the forum offered an overview of qualitative (Lesley Dibley, UK) and quantitative methods (Susanna Jaghult, Sweden). This was followed by two inspiring presentations by Katarina Pihl-Lesnovska (Sweden) and Lars-Petter Jelsness-Jorgensen (Norway), illustrating how they became involved with research and describing their very different experiences of research and their differing career trajectories.



The last presentation was delivered by Teresa Corral from the Institute of Health Carlos III, Spain. Teresa is the National Contact Point for Spain at the European Project Office, which supports researchers interested in the Horizon 2020 research programmes. Teresa described the various funding calls within the programme and explained how Horizon 2020 is organised and the requirements for submission. A number of nurses attending the forum were planning on submitting applications to Horizon 2020.

The forum will not distract outcome findings from being presented at the main ECCO Congress and nurses will be encouraged to submit abstracts to ECCO. The N-ECCO Research Networking Forum will continue to concentrate on methodology and the practical aspects of undertaking nursing research within IBD.

***The continued vision for the forum is for it to become a shared learning experience of research into IBD,*** led by IBD nurses who are experienced in a range of methodologies and outcomes research related to IBD care, and to mentor nurses new to research. It is clear that the forum has already provided a networking opportunity for nurses to collaborate in research projects across Europe. The launch of the ECCO Scientific Platform will support the nurses in this endeavour. The N-ECCO Research Forum is not restricted to active researchers but open to those new to research and those wishing to embark upon a study. The N-ECCO Committee is grateful to all of the presenters and for the support from ECCO. The forum drew to a close with a discussion of events for the 2016 agenda in Amsterdam.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Karen Kemp

N-ECCO Committee Member