



EUROPEAN  
DIALYSIS AND  
TRANSPLANT  
NURSES  
ASSOCIATION

EUROPEAN  
RENAL CARE  
ASSOCIATION

## EDTNA/ERCA DOWN UNDER!!

As many of you may be aware Australia and New Zealand are often referred to as “down under” due to the distance and location we are in regards to Europe. Therefore I’d like to give you an update as to some of the strategies that we’ve put into place in order to maximise our collaboration with national renal organisations and promote the EDTNA/ERCA here.

I am privileged to work with a group of enthusiastic and collaborative nurses nationally and abroad who are all keen to achieving our collaborative goal of shared information and experiences. As well as promoting both Conferences EDTNA/ERCA (September) and the Renal Society of Australia conference (June), publication submission to the journals is encouraged (“The Renal Society of Australasia”) and we share information through e-blasts, newsletters and email groups.

As a promotional strategy at the 2012 conference in Strasbourg, we raffled one registration to the RSA Conference and we hope that the Italian recipient will be able to make the journey. Likewise we are strongly promoting the 2013 EDTNA/ERCA Conference in Malmo and are raffling a registration in the hope that another Australasia will attend. There is great interest in attending conferences and I am very pleased that we often have around 8 attendees from Australia/New Zealand which is a mammoth task considering the distance and time involved. Their promotion and interest in attending the conference and reporting back is certainly strengthening the international interest here in Australia.

For the first time this year we were able to provide access to a free EDTNA/ERCA article with-in the journal club for the Nephrology Educator’s Network e-learning programs. These are open to RSA and non-RSA members, and this has proven a popular method of encouraging education and information and I look forward to this being an ongoing endeavour.

On a personal note I am involved with one of the International Projects as well as being a Link Member which has enabled me to share and receive lots of knowledge and ideas that I previously wouldn’t have had access to. The world-wide renal community of nurses continues to be a strong and motivated field of which we can all be immensely proud to be part of. I am often asked to speak within my organisation regarding the benefits of participating in such an international community and it constantly provides me with joy to share this knowledge and at what we as renal nurses are achieving, both for our patients and for our profession.

Angela Henson, ILM Australia