1. Introduction

The original IMIA WG 8, formally authorized by the IMIA General Assembly meeting in Melbourne back in September 1982, has now become a Special Interest Group (SIG) N1 on Nursing Informatics. The original Working Group was established to act as an international focus for activities in Nursing Informatics, in accordance with the IMIA by-laws, providing international links for those who are working in this field. At the transformation last year to Special Interest Group (SIG) N1 took over representative members in 24 countries.

IMIA (SIG) N1 will continue the aims and objectives of WG 8 and to foster collaboration among nurses who are interested in nursing informatics. The specific objectives are:

- Explore the scope of nursing informatics and its implications for information handling activities associated with nursing care delivery, nursing administration, research and education.

- Support and development of nursing informatics in the member countries of IMIA.

- Provide appropriate informatics meetings, in conjunction with MEDINFO Congresses and provide opportunities to share knowledge and research to facilitate communication of developments in the field.

- Encourage the publication and dissemination of research and development materials in the field of nursing informatics.

- Develop recommendations, guidelines and courses related to nursing informatics.

2. Past International Symposia on Nursing Informatics:
- Past International Post-conference Conferences:
  - Harrowgate, UK  -  1982
  - Calgary, Canada  -  1985
  - Killarney, Ireland  -  1988
  - Sorrento, Australia  -  1991
  - Austin, Texas, USA  -  1993

- Past International Working Conferences:
  - Stockholm, Sweden  -  1986
  - San Antonio, USA  -  1994

The main event in 1995 was MEDINFO 95 in Vancouver, Canada. A number of meetings were arranged for nurses during the conference and a full-day tutorial arranged by COACH Nursing Informatics Special Interest Group on the theme: Information: Change Agent for Nursing. The University of Maryland School of Nursing sponsored another full day tutorial on the theme: Informatics Nurse Specialists: A Collaborative Partnership. A workshop was held on Nursing Terminology and Vocabulary Standards organised by IMIA (SIG) N1 in cooperation with EFMI WG 5 - Nursing Informatics in Europe.

3. Future International Working Conferences/Activities

A workshop on terminology and a seminar on education will be organised during MIE 96 in Copenhagen as a joint venture between IMIA (SIG) N1 and EFMI WG 5.

The Sixth Nursing Informatics Conference will be held in Stockholm, Sweden in September 1997. The President of the Swedish Nurses Association will chair the Organising Committee and the Scientific Program Committee will be chaired by Marianne Tallberg from Finland. The other members of the SPC are Sue Grobe - USA, Heather Streachan - UK and Margaretha Enfors - Sweden.

The Seventh Nursing Informatics Conference will be hosted by the (SIG) N1 representatives in New Zealand.
4. Proceedings and Publication (IMIA (SIG) N1)


Articles from the post-conference in Austin, Texas 1994 have been published in the AMIA Journal during 1995.

5. Other involvements and relationships
As well as links with IMIA WG 1 and 16, members of (SIG) N1 also have contacts with WG 10 Hospital Information Systems, WG 4 Data Protection and EFMI WG 5. Other links are maintained with the World Health Organization and International Council of Nurses.
6. List of Members
Can be obtained directly from IMIA (SIG) N1 Chair.
Report to IMIA GA August 1996

MEDINFO '95
The main event in 1995 was Medinfo in Vancouver, Canada. A number of meeting places were arranged for nurses throughout the conference.

Tutorials:
COACH Nursing Informatics Special Interest Group arranged a full day tutorial on the theme "Information: Change Agent for Nursing".

The University of Maryland School of Nursing sponsored another full day tutorial on the theme "Informatics Nurse Specialists: A Collaborative Partnership"

Workshop:
Nursing Terminology and Vocabulary Standards organised by IMIA-NI in cooperation with EFMI WG5. The workshop was chaired by professor Virginia Saba, IMIA NI Secretary and Ms. Angela Juene, EFMI WG 5 Secretary

Scientific paper presentations:
21 nursing papers were presented in the four nursing sessions and more were found in many other sessions.

Other activities:
The Nursing Informatics group within AMIA hosted a well-attended party for nurses from all over the world.

The IMIA-NI Assembly 1995 took the following decisions:

- to establish three working groups. One on Standards, chaired by Dr. Kathleen McCormick, USA, and the other on education, chaired by Dr. Evelyn Hovenga Australia. With links to IMIA WG1 and 16. The third group is on Information and Publishing and chaired by Ms. Heather Strachan, UK

- to continue the cooperation with EFMI WG5. A workshop on terminology and a seminar on education will be organised during MIE 96 in Copenhagen as a joint venture between IMIA-NI and EFMI WG5.

The seventh international conference on Nursing Informatics the year 2000 will be hosted by the Nursing Informatics Group of New Zealand.

IMIA-NI newsletter has been e-mailed out to the members The news can also be found on the Queensland University WEB site.

Argentina
Under the auspices of IMIA-NI Argentina will have its first national conference on Nursing Informatics in December 1996

NI'97
The planning for the sixth international conference on Nursing Informatics to be held in Stockholm, Sweden, September 1997, is on schedule. The papers are due 1 of September 1996 and the preliminary program will be available in February 1997.

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Proceedings and publications

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