

# Provision of advanced uro-oncological care

## Part I – EAUN committed to supporting urology nurses in expertise development



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For several years, it is a trend in many countries to implement Advanced Nursing Practice (ANP) services. ANP is an 'umbrella' term for an extended nursing practice. These ANP services are intended to achieve an improvement in holistic patient care.

### Advanced Practice Nurse

The services are provided by Advanced Practice Nurses (APN) - usually by a Nurse Practitioner in the substitution model or a Clinical Nurse Specialist in the delegation model<sup>1</sup>. The prerequisite for both roles is a Bachelor's degree in Nursing, the subsequent completion of a Master's degree and specialisation in a field with a focus on a specific patient group<sup>2</sup>. However, the tasks and competences of the APN often vary, depending on the setting (outpatient or inpatient care), the patient population and national regulations<sup>3</sup>.

### European Oncology Nursing Society

Based on the educational framework of the European Oncology Nursing Society<sup>4</sup>, the scope of practice of the APN in oncology care includes parts of research, education, clinical practice and management. The APN has a high degree of professional autonomy and runs an independent clinical practice. In addition, the APN has independent case responsibility and the ability to assess health/disease and make informed decisions.

### Diagnostic thinking skills

The basis of patient care is diagnostic thinking skills, which are part of the extended scope of practice. Furthermore, the APN advises health care providers, plans, implements and evaluates specific care programmes. This professional is the first point of contact for people with cancer and their relatives, e.g. in the follow-up of cancer survivors. Furthermore, the APN has the authority to diagnose, prescribe medication and treatment, refer people with cancer to specialists or admit them to hospital or other healthcare facilities<sup>5</sup>.

### EAUN is committed

The European Association of Urology Nurses (EAUN) is also committed to supporting urology nurses in the practice of their competences and the development of their expertise on different skill and grade level. Thus, competences are to be developed through various training courses (e.g. Webinars, ESUN courses) based on an educational framework concept. This educational framework concept is currently in the development phase<sup>5</sup>. Furthermore, in the future, EAUN training courses might be creditable in the academic ECTS system. Further updates will be provided on the EAUN website ([www.eaun.org/nurses/education-2/other-resources/](http://www.eaun.org/nurses/education-2/other-resources/)).

### Different settings and patient groups

Urological ANP care services are found internationally in different settings and are specialised for different patient groups. They range from inpatient to outpatient and from primary to secondary (hospital) care. In terms of uro-oncological patient groups, mostly people with prostate, bladder, kidney, penile and testicular cancer are involved. In the case of people with prostate cancer, the prevention of the disease through genetic counselling is of particular interest<sup>6</sup>. In addition, APNs support, for instance, informed decision-making on prostate-specific antigen (PSA) testing as part of the diagnostic process. They are also involved in assisting patients in coping with symptoms and therapeutic side effects (e.g. erectile dysfunction, incontinence, bone health)

during the cancer survivorship phase. APNs are also trained to improve living conditions at home during the end-of-life phase and include relatives through the approach of Advance Care Planning.

### Key people

It becomes clear that the care provided by an APN extends from the prevention of an oncological disease to the end of life phase. Various studies show that APNs can, among other things, improve health-related quality of life<sup>7</sup> and patients symptom management<sup>8</sup>. In turn, the coordinative tasks of an APN can improve, e.g. interprofessional collaboration<sup>9</sup>, reduce waiting time for diagnostic/treatment and the length of hospital stay<sup>10</sup>.

In summary, APNs contribute to improve patient uro-oncological care in today's world. Understanding APNs tasks and competencies will help implement this role in the interprofessional team and let patients, as well as health care professionals, benefit from their interventions. APNs broad expertise and problem analysis skills make them key people in identifying health care service gaps as well as in nursing practice development.

### References

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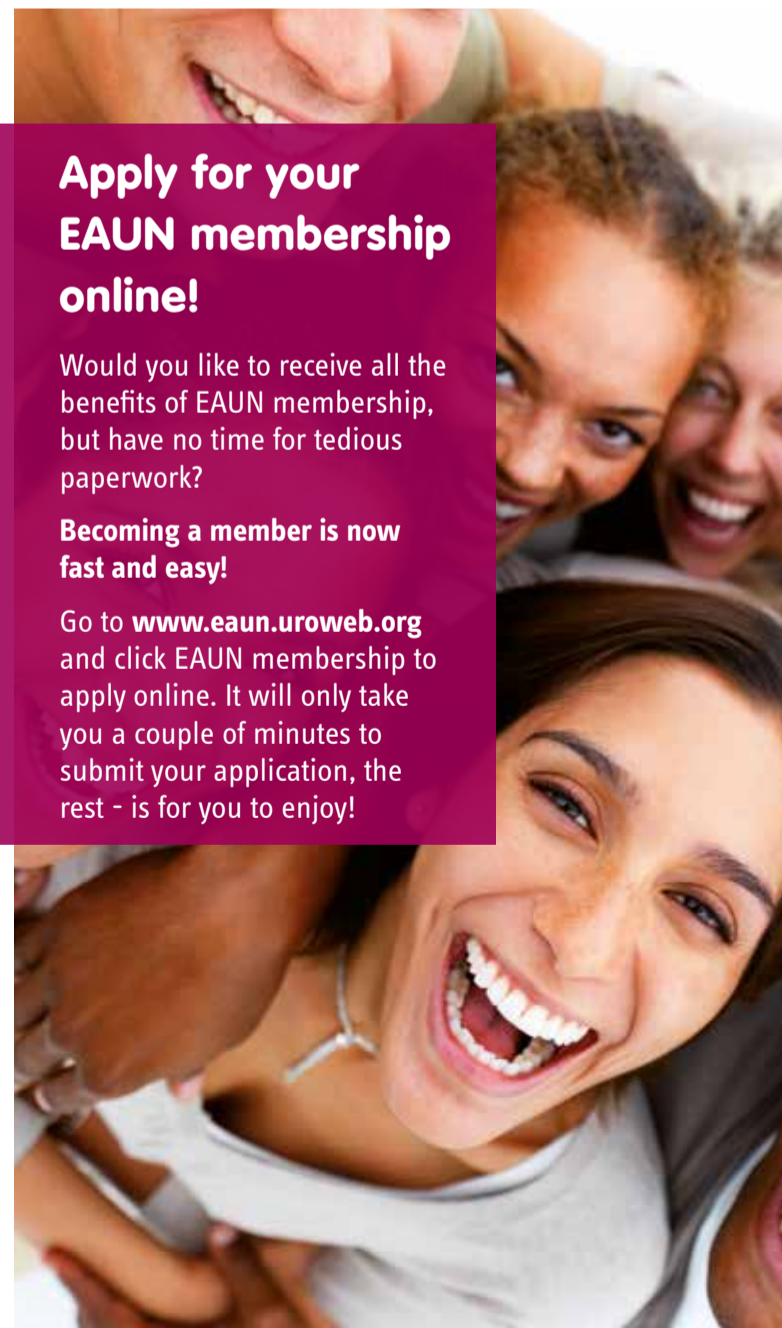
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# A varied new EAUN21 programme to look forward to

## EAUN21 adapts to new realities in the COVID-19 era

We are delighted to be able to organise the 22nd International EAUN Meeting (EAUN21) as a live event in Milan despite the COVID-19 pandemic. The meeting will be taking place in July instead of in March, and it will be a two-day congress on 10 and 11 July 2021 instead of the usual three days.

Despite the limitations caused by the pandemic, we have organised a programme with a wide variety of sessions; some are new, others were part of EAUN20, which was cancelled. Have a glimpse at the programme in this article!

### New topics

The opening session will be about the doctor-nurse cooperation in daily practice from both points of view, now an even more important subject than before, followed by a session on castration-resistant prostate cancer. As all International EAUN Meetings that came before, EAUN21 will present a diversity of sessions about prostate, bladder, and kidney cancer. Examples include sessions about gay men with prostate cancer and their special position and an interesting kidney session on the basics of the kidney function and dysfunction.

**Abstract submission now open!**  
Deadline: 1 March 2021

**Difficult Case Submission now open!**  
Deadline: 1 March 2021

**Research Plan Submission now open!**  
Deadline: 1 March 2021

The Special Interest Groups (SIGs) will present respective sessions on continence care, endourology (i.e. coverage on stone disease, benign prostatic hyperplasia, and technologies such as robotics), and



Mrs. Jeannette Verkerk  
Chair of the EAUN Scientific Congress Office

skeletal issues in metastatic prostate cancer. EAUN21 will also feature palliative and end-of-life care in urology and the effects of COVID-19 on urology care.

**Save the date!**  
Deadline: 10-11 July 2021

### Profound impact

Another session will increase the attendees' know-how on the predictive factors and the management of enuresis and nocturia. Enuresis is prevalent among children and nocturia among middle-aged and older adults; both conditions have a profound impact on the patients' quality of life.

"Having a profound impact" can also be said of the nurses whose dedication is a source of inspiration, and whose contribution helps boost the quality of nursing care. They will share their expertise in the session "Nursing solutions in difficult cases."

### The role of ANP

The Plenary Session "Educational Framework for Urological Nursing (EFUN) (Curriculum) and the role of the ANP" will centre on the development of the Advanced Nurse Practitioner (ANP) role, which has advanced in a variety of ways across Europe. Experiences with the ANP role and the link to the current Guidelines will be shared with the audience, as well as the progress in the development of an

Educational Framework for Urological Nursing (Curriculum).

### ESU course

This year's ESU course will involve Peyronie's disease, one of the lesser-known urological conditions affecting men. The surgical treatment, which is the only effective treatment advised in the EAU Guidelines, will be discussed. Unfortunately, we can't organise any workshops and hands-on training this year.

Join other nursing specialists and affiliated medical professionals for a critical assessment of clinical

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practices and key research developments at Europe's biggest urological nursing event. EAUN21 presents the latest in science and education in various formats to suit the needs of all participants (such as continence nurses, stoma care nurses, oncology nurses, operating room nurses, etc.). Please visit [www.eaun21.org](http://www.eaun21.org) to view the entire provisional scientific programme and to find all other relevant information, such as the information on registration and abstract submission.

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## "Spot-on" evidence-based nursing care New research and developments

Dear EAUN members,

**The growing evidence in urology nursing care is amazing!**

With this column, the EAUN SIG Groups want to put the spotlight on recent publications in their field of interest. This month's articles have been carefully chosen because of the scientific value from PubMed and represent different methods and approaches in research and development in urological nursing care.

We hope this initiative will have your attention and continuously provide information on "spot-on" urological nursing care. If you would like to inform us and your colleagues about new initiatives or exiting developments in one of the special interest fields you can contact us using the email addresses below.

Best regards

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### Selected from PubMed

#### Bladder Cancer

- Jensen BT, Lauridsen SV, Jensen JB. Optimal Delivery of Follow-Up Care After Radical Cystectomy for Bladder

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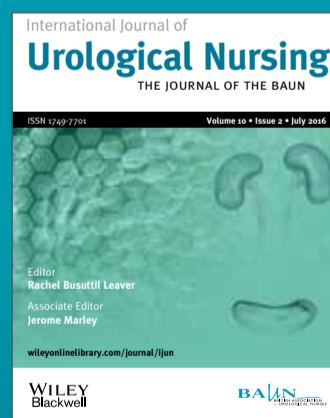
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