SUMMARY

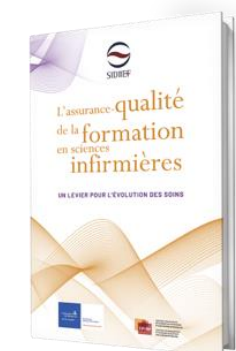## QUALITY ASSURANCE IN NURSING EDUCATION:
a lever for the evolution of care

Secrétariat international des infirmières et infirmiers de l'espace francophone (SIDIIEF)

Publication under the responsibility of the Advisory Council on Nursing Education

To obtain the publication: sidiief.org

Context

Concerned about the heterogeneity of university nursing education programs in the different countries of the Francophone community, SIDIEFF's Advisory Council on Nursing Education presents a report on a study today that identifies the main consensual quality assurance components and standards of nursing education programs.

In a context of globalization and scarcity of resources, it is all the more important to define standards attesting to the quality of nursing education in order to ensure the excellence of nursing care and the protection of the population.
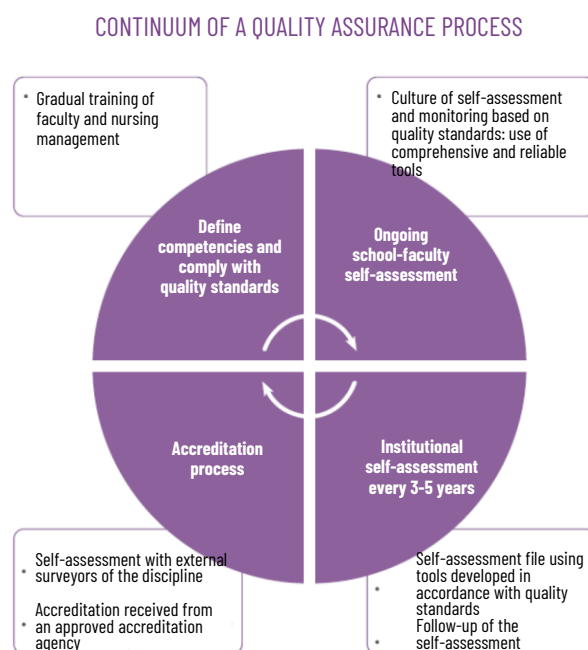
Approach

Based on a rapid review of the literature, the study sheds more light on the quality standards of university nursing education programs used in different countries as well as the main quality assurance processes and initiatives implemented in university nursing programs.

Framework proposal

In this unprecedented publication, the Advisory Council on Nursing Education proposes a framework for the quality assurance components and standards of nursing programs that includes components related to the academic environment and to the training program. In addition, a continuum describing the quality assurance process is presented in the figure below:

CONTINUUM OF A QUALITY ASSURANCE PROCESS

* Gradual training of faculty and nursing management

* Culture of self-assessment and monitoring based on quality standards: use of comprehensive and reliable tools

Define competencies and comply with quality standards

Ongoing school-faculty self-assessment

Accreditation process

Institutional self-assessment every 3-5 years

* Self-assessment with external surveyors of the discipline
* Accreditation received from an approved accreditation agency

* Self-assessment file using tools developed in accordance with quality standards
* Follow-up of the self-assessment

The Advisory Council on Nursing Education has made ten key recommendations to ensure the quality of nursing education in the Francophone community, the themes of which are:

- Recognition of university training programs by decision-making bodies.

- Accessibility of nursing knowledge and well-trained faculty.

- Adaptation of programs to the social and health context of a country or region.

- Alignment of the nursing education program with the nursing education enhancement guidelines.

- Interdependence of clinical and academic settings.

- Culture of continuous program improvement; monitoring.

- Development of a culture of program self-assessment.

- Interuniversity cooperation and solidarity.

- SIDIIEF as a facilitator of networking, exchanges and collaboration.

- Promotion of membership in a quality assurance program specific to nursing education by 2032.