

### 2.1.3 - Patterns of information consumption and social media use among nursing members of Sigma Europe Region. A study by Sigma Europe Region Communications Committee [Dr Helena De Rezende, Bournemouth University, Bournemouth, UK]

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Theme Digital health

Session Concurrent

Chair Rafael Bernardes

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#### 126 Patterns of information consumption and social media use among nursing members of Sigma Europe Region. A study by Sigma Europe Region Communications Committee

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#### Abstract

**Background and aim:** Social media use in nursing education has gained popularity over recent years, facilitating networking opportunities to support the development of professional groups, share ideas, explore nursing practice and foster recommendations for improvement. Knowing the most effective ways to engage with nurses through social media to promote networking is essential. Therefore, this study aimed to explore the patterns of information consumption and the use of social media by European members for networking, cooperation and learning purposes.

**Study design and participants:** This descriptive-cross sectional study disseminated an online survey to all nurses who are members of Chapters in the European Region of Sigma Theta Tau organization. Additionally, non-Sigma members were invited to participate. The questionnaire consisted of the following sections: a) socio-demographic and professional characteristics, b) social media use, c) patterns of learning and d) patterns of networking using social networks. Qualitative information was also collected using two open-ended questions.

**Ethical considerations:** Ethical approval was obtained for this research.

**Contributions:** This study will contribute to the existing knowledge of social media use by nurses and the most effective platforms for communication. The findings will be presented and may provide a better understanding of nurses' learning and collaboration patterns through social networks in Europe. The results of this study may also be used to support policy development regarding the management of information and communication between the nurses in Sigma Europe and across all Sigma Regions.