

ADVANCED ROLES OF NURSES IN PRIMARY HEALTH CARE IN FINLAND

**Workshop on nurses in PHC teams
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National Development Plan for Social and Health Care Services **KASTE Programme 2008-2011**

- ❖ **Adopted by the Government in January 2008**
- ❖ **Based on the Act on Planning and Government Grants for Social Welfare and Health Care (733/1992)**
- ❖ **Defines development objectives and main measures for municipal social and health care in 2008-2011**
 - **Prevention and early intervention**
 - **Ensuring the sufficiency of staff and strengthening skills**
 - **Services functioning as an integral whole, effective models of operation**
- **Government grants: annually 25 M€ in 2008-2011 for municipal development activities**

ADVANCED ROLES OF NURSES BASED ON THE RENEWED DIVISION OF WORK

Primary health care

- Family Physician – Family Nurse working in pairs
- Nurse's consultation for acute health problems and NCDs
- Nurse's consultation supported by the physician's e-consultation

Specialised medical care

- Nurse's consultations at out patient clinics
- Advanced roles e.g. in operating rooms

Specialised medical care & Primary health care

- Nurse facilitated model of heart patients follow-up
- Nurse telephone consultations, triage & nurse consultation in emergency care

FAMILY PHYSICIAN – FAMILY NURSE WORKING IN PAIRS

- **Patients reallocated to the family physician and the family nurse**
- Renewed division of work between the physician and the nurse
- The propriety of the nurse's decision making supported by postgraduate studies, EB guidelines and consultation of the physician
- Certain patient groups to the nurse's consultation:



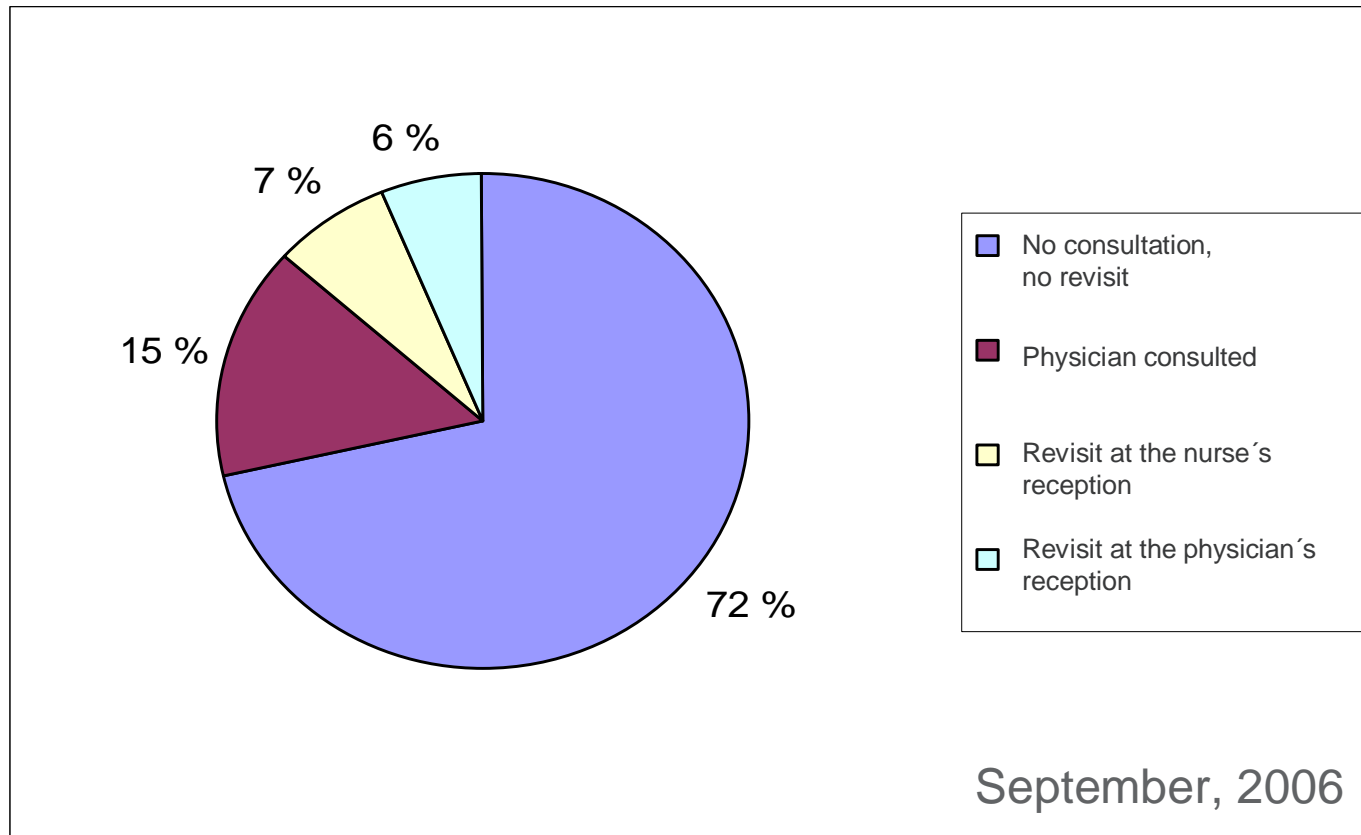
Acute health problems:

- Common infections
- Allergies
- Minor wounds
- Minor injuries

RESULTS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ADVANCED ROLES OF NURSES

- ❖ **Better access to care**
- ❖ **Higher patient satisfaction**
- ❖ **Better readiness and willingness for self care**
- **Nurse consultations cover 1/3 of the acute visits and 1/2 of the total amount of the patient visits.**
- **The nurse and the physician linked by e-consultation:**
 - **The nurse:** Referred 22 % of the patients to the physician
 - **The physician:** Managed 80 % of the cases requiring medical judgement through e-consultation
- **Revised patient allocation and working in pairs:** Productivity improved 5 % and the increasing demand of physicians slowed
- **Improved multiprofessional co-operation**
- **Improved well-being at work**

THE NURSE CONSULTED THE PHYSICIAN IN ACUTE HEALTH PROBLEMS



Source: Olli R. 2008. Primary Health Care and Social Services of Kallio.

NEXT STEPS

- **The Bill on Nurse Prescribing was given to the Parliament in January 2010**
- **The aim is to support:**
 - **better access to care**
 - **better exploitation of nursing knowledge and skills in patient care**
 - **functioning and flexibility of services in primary health care settings**
- **A national list of medicines and nationally defined postgraduate education will be regulated by decrees**
- **The implementation of nurse prescribing; it can be supported by the state grants on the basis of applications of municipalities**