

## FEND UPDATE MARCH 2021

Dear Member

I hope you and those dear to you continue to be well. Undoubtedly the different surges of the pandemic continue to be disruptive in Europe but the arrival of different vaccines and when distributed will bring hope to us all and the possibility of returning to a degree of normality. We do recognise there are many challenges not least the routine service and monitoring in support of people with diabetes.

### UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

FEND is committed to its mission and I am very pleased to inform you that two FEND doctoral Fellowships are now available funded by FEND. See the FEND website [www.fend.org](http://www.fend.org) and for full details and how to apply go to:  
<https://jobs.kcl.ac.uk/gb/en/job/019526/Doctoral-Fellow-Diabetes-Nursing>

FEND has already funded five Fellowships over the last six years and all of the recipients had the opportunity to present their work at FEND and other conferences and publications. We congratulate them on their success and the contribution they make in the specialty of diabetes nursing. The MSc programme continues.

### VIRTUAL CONFERENCE 2021

As you will appreciate it is necessary to hold the 26th annual conference virtually as in 2020 because of the global pandemic. The conference will be available from 24 September. The provisional programme can be viewed at [www.fend.org/conference](http://www.fend.org/conference) Invitations to keynote speakers are underway including a number of FEND ENDCUP MSc graduates and once we have complete confirmation the names will be added to the programme. Registration will open from 1 May.

### ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

The Chair of the Abstract Committee, Prof Unn-Britt Johansson encourages you all to seriously consider submissions for consideration. The relevant information and guidance is available at [www.fend.org/conference/abstracts](http://www.fend.org/conference/abstracts) We encourage you to share your work in this prestigious conference and we know that members greatly appreciate the opportunity of reading your research and find it inspiring on an individual basis.

### MEMBERSHIP

It is encouraging to see an increase in the membership of FEND and thank you for your personal renewal. For those of you who have yet to do so please note that your membership (grace period) will lapse on 31 March so please renew as your membership is important to all of FEND. We would appreciate if each FEND member could recruit at least one new member of FEND. Membership is open to all nurses working in the specialty of diabetes or who have a particular portfolio/case load of people with diabetes. We are very aware of the significant contribution of community nurses in the care of PwD, in particular vulnerable groups who are less able to actively engage with ambulatory service provision. So with your help in recruiting community nurses this will further enhance the voice of FEND at many levels.

It is worth remembering that FEND provides an MSc in diabetes to its membership and fully funded by FEND. It is a three academic programme, led by Prof Angus Forbes and his team in the Florence Nightingale faculty of nursing, midwifery and palliative care at Kings College London. The programme is unique, not least in that it brings together nurses from across Europe in a creative environment sharing their different and valuable experiences and establishing a significant network.

#### FEND JOURNAL

As you are aware FEND has decided to publish the journal online using the original title International Diabetes Nursing. The working group is chaired by Prof Davide Ausili. There has been some temporary disruption to the progress however I am very pleased to say that work is ongoing and Sarah Hills is attending to the administrative aspects as Managing Editor. Thank you for your understanding and be assured we have not lost sight of this important aspect of FEND.

#### SPONSORSHIP OF FEND

FEND greatly appreciates the support of its generous Sponsors without whom it would be very challenging financially. Confirmed sponsors for 2021 so far are Bayer and Lilly and we are in negotiations with Ascencia and Sanofi. We will keep you updated on progress in this area.

The Spring holiday is within sight and nature is responding in a beautiful way with early spring flowers and bird song. So I wish you a very pleasant Spring break and continued good health to you and those dear to you.

Kind regards  
Anne-Marie  
FEND President