

The Italian version of this guide

The nursing profession in Italy in the recent twenty years has seen radical changes. Starting, in fact, from the issue of the professional profile of the nurse with the Ministerial Decree 739 of 1994 "Regulation concerning the identification of the figure and the relative professional profile of the nurse" and, subsequently, pursuant to Law no. 42 of 1999 "Provisions on the subject of health professions", the recognition of the nursing figure took place as a professional with professional autonomy. In fact, the profession entered the category of health professions, deleting the term "auxiliary".

Furthermore, over the years, there has been the transition to university education and training, which combined with what is sanctioned by the D.M. and by the law mentioned, as well as by the Code of Ethics, defines the profile of responsibility and autonomy of the Nurse. Subsequently, the path of nursing management was opened, with the promulgation of Law no. 251 of 2000 "Discipline of the health professions, nursing, techniques, rehabilitation, prevention as well as the obstetric profession" followed by Law 43 of 2006 " Provisions on the nursing, midwifery, rehabilitation, technical-health and prevention health professions and delegation to the Government for the establishment of the related professional associations "where the roles of the coordinating nurse, general nurse, expert nurse and specialist nurse.

In this regulatory framework, the National Federation of Nursing Orders itself issued a document entitled "Evolution of nursing skills", approved by the Central Committee of the National Federation of IPASVI Colleges with resolution no. 79 of 25 April 2015. Further advances for the nursing profession followed and the qualifications that can be obtained have increased in line with the responsibilities, preparation and changing health needs of the population. The regulatory novation also saw a change in the IPASVI colleges, which are transformed into Professional Orders, with Law n.3 of 2018.

An increasingly specialized type of assistance is required of nurses, and in fact, the 1994 Professional Profile already provided for various areas of study and specialization for nurses, such as the pediatric area, mental health area, geriatric, public health and critical area, to which numerous other specializations have been added over the years, such as the recent recognition of Family and Community Nurses (D.L. economy, as well as social policies related to the epidemiological emergency from COVID-19 ") converted into Law on 17 July 2020 with Law n.77.

These various regulatory changes place the nurse, from an ethical and legal point of view, in a context of responsibility, towards users, in the management, preparation, information and administration of drugs, including biological and biosimilars, full and total. And it is in this context that the nurse is required to have a mindset, a critical thought and a modus operandi, such that, even when not in possession of current knowledge in a specific area, as a professional, they must in any case, knowing where to go to find the information necessary for safe and quality assistance, through the consultation of truthful and official sources, counteracting disinformation and misinformation.

Therefore, the Italian translation and adaptation of the guide on biological and biosimilar drugs published by the European Specialist Nurses Organization ESNO has become essential. It is hoped that this paper will be of use to nursing professionals in the daily practice of the profession.

Enjoy the reading.

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