



## APANE's statement on COVID-19

This statement was established by the Board members of the Asian and Pacific Alliance of Nursing Education (APANE) on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2020 for responding to the impacts on nursing education under the pandemic of Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

COVID-19 is an enveloped RNA virus transmitted through secretions or droplets, which may cause respiratory diseases, pneumonia, and even death. It has spread worldwide, brought life-threatening conditions and affected society, economy, and education globally. Faced with this challenge, countries around the world have invested a lot of human resources to respond, and nurses are the majority of health professionals caring the COVID-19 patients in the front line.

APANE takes actions to provide advices for nursing education in response to the rising global outbreak of COVID-19. We aim to foster the preparation of high-quality professionals with international perspective and improve healthcare services. One of the responsibilities of APANE is to promote the partnership among nursing education professionals across Asian and Pacific regions. Therefore, as a leader of nursing education system in Asian and Pacific regions, APANE is calling for nursing schools to support their nursing students, faculty and staffs during the battle against COVID-19. We expect that nursing education societies not only provide professional knowledge and skills, but also raise social concerns and global vision regarding preparation for future nursing workforce. APANE will keep monitoring the pandemic and update the information about the impact of nursing education in time. Our website will share knowledge, practices, and experiences of innovative teaching strategies responding to COVID-19. APANE dedicates to decrease the impacts related to COVID-19 and foster high standards of nursing education among the Asia and Pacific region.

In the pandemic of COVID-19, health and well beings among faculty and students are concerned due to their burdens of work, high risk of contagion, and stigma from the public. Hence, health promotion, psychosocial support and coping strategies for stress are needed for nursing faculty and students. We are intent to overcome the drawbacks of COVID-19 through collaborations among nursing education professionals across APANE in this critical situation.

*Nai-Ying Ko*

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APANE President

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