



NEWSWATCH

NUUSFLITSE

ANASA FOR PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT

The Association of Nursing Agencies (ANASA) was founded on 23 November 1994 with the ultimate goal of membership of all existing nursing agencies.

The stated mission of ANASA, as determined by its Constitution, is to set standards and objectives for professional improvement of nursing agencies; to initiate, improve and enhance, through its membership, high standards of efficiency and co-operation and to encourage in-service training for all categories of agency personnel.

For more information contact ANASA, PO Box 12174, Clubview, 0014.

STAATSKOERANT / GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

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In die Staatskoerant van 12 April 1995, No 547 is die volgende wet gepubliseer:

No 5 van 1995: Wysigingswet op Verpleging, 1995.

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In die Staatskoerant van 12 April 1995, No 548 is die volgende wet gepubliseer:

No 6 van 1995: Wysigingswet op Aptekers, 1995.

A DIAMOND FOR THE COUPLE SEARLE



Prof Charlotte and Arthur Searle have recently celebrated their 60th (diamond) wedding anniversary. SANA wishes them the very best of diamond years to come.

CLINICAL SNIPPET

STIMULATION THERAPY IMPROVES COMA RECOVERY

Recovery from coma depends on the severity and location of the injury, the amount of time in coma, and the patient's personality characteristics before the injury. According to an article in the August 1994 issue of *Critical Care Nurse*, chances for recovery from coma can be increased if the coma patient undergoes stimulation therapy.

Providing meaningful stimuli to coma patients as soon as possible helps produce patient responses and decrease sensory deprivation. Health care providers should determine patients' social history, including interests, hobbies, favourite music, and daily routine and use this information when developing a plan for stimulation therapy.

Because research indicates that touch may promote wellness and reduce intracranial pressure, the article advises using various textures, lotions, and tactile pressures when bathing a patient. To activate neuronal systems, a nurse can expose a patient to various odors (depending on the degree of injury to the nose and face), such as the patient's favourite coffee, perfume or cologne, or spices.

Developing an individualized coma stimulation program should be a group effort that includes physicians, nurses, neuropsychologists, dietitians, speech and language therapists, physical and occupational therapists, and anyone else who interacts with the patient, including family members. If a group effort is not possible, critical care nurses can incorporate these techniques into their care routines.

LD Helwick, "Stimulation programs for coma patients", *Critical Care Nurse* 14 (August 1994) 47-51.

Nursing Times March 1, Volume 91, No 9, 1995

AROMATHERAPEUTIC HAND CREAM R 15.00 for 125mls

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