



**Millennia2015 International  
seminar 2011  
Séminaire international 2011 de  
Millennia2015**

**Foresight analysis of the 37  
variables of Millennia2015 +  
Session Women and eHealth  
Analyse prospective des 37  
variables de Millennia2015 +  
Session Femmes et eSanté**

21 November 2011 - 9h00-17h30  
Salle Vendôme, Ecole des Mines - Paris

Processus de  
recherche  
prospective et  
conférences  
internationales

Liège 2008  
Paris 2012  
New York 2015

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***WeHeath session : Women and Telemedecine***  
**Patty Schweickert – nurse practitioner and member  
of the executive board of the American Telemedicine  
Association**

Thank you very much for giving the opportunity to speak about my perspective which is the nursing perspective. I work at the University of Virginia as a nurse practitioner and I have been supporting nursing, eHealth promotion and patients' education.

What I would like on this group is to pursue patients' education on a global area. My three main areas of focus in my past are the simple practice which I am involved with the huge telemedicine system at the University of Virginia and we care for neurovascular patients' stroke. We can do those consults from far away in remote areas.

My second area of focus is tele-education. I recently completed a tele-education project with elderly patients, it was very well received and it was as expected as face to face education. From using that model, we are establishing another stroke education project eHealth, eCongregation. We are providing tele-education to many congregations in Virginia and North Carolina and once we have this project completed I would like to extend that project, that model to -perhaps help- women project so we can get tele-education to women in remote areas. So that's why I decided to join Millennia2015 WeHealth group

The other area that I am passionate about is the education of nurses. If you look at some of the curriculums for the US, it rarely exists. There are some programmes that are establishing telemedicine in curriculums in processes for nurses. In the United States we have a shortage of 1 million nurses right now and the next ten years, 60% of the PhD educated nurses, who train other nurses will retire and my question is who is going to educate these nurses? And who is going to educate them in field of telemedicine?

I work a lot with nurses right now and they are frightened when I first get them into telemedicine department, they look at the lectures and PowerPoint slides and they look at some of the actual practices of telemedicine in clinical care and they say "oh that's nice, oh that's interesting, we can do that" and I show them how to actually do the

telemedicine consults with a laptop, a computer, a screen and they connect with somebody in the other room. Then I asked them to think about what are your most serious patients' problems? What are your most difficult problems you can't resolve? Nursing only is not going to resolve these problems. Now take technology, use your creative thinking and apply that and solve those problems. So that's what I am trying to do: to get the nurses in the US well educated to use the telemedicine in the clinical arena. My involvement with the American Telemedicine Association involves working with students members from IT, business and medical fields and trying to empower them and educate them also. I appreciated to give my nursing perspective.

Transcription: Coumba Sylla