

**VFP**  
**APSI**

Schweizerischer Verein für Pflegewissenschaft  
Association suisse pour les sciences infirmières  
Swiss Association for Nursing Science



# Annual report 2021



# Management im Gesundheitswesen

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# 1 Editorial

Dear Members

2021 was another moving, challenging but also a rewarding year for nursing science. The long-lasting path for more resources on nursing education, higher independence for nurses in long-term care to reimburse their services, and improved work condition has gained a new dimension. With the clear yes of the Swiss population to the nursing initiative, these elements are now anchored in the Swiss Constitution. The implementation of the new regulations will require high commitment and perseverance. Therefore, at the general assembly, VFP/ APSI established the new academic society «Nursing Economics». This society will strengthen essential econometric figures for nursing science. Facts will be fundamental to demonstrate not only that nursing care is more cost-efficient for the provision of patient care, but also that it enables safe and high quality, patient-oriented health care. We are much looking forward to the first analyses and recommendations of this academic society.

The second pandemic year has also taught us that evidence-based nursing care is indispensable for the national health system. At regular intervals, nursing experts from education, practice, management, and research highlighted specific topics in our monthly newsletter, and exchanged their reflected experiences and knowledge in the network of the academic societies and webinars.



The numerous activities in the board, in the academic societies, and with our partner organizations demonstrate that VFP/ APSI is still needed after its 25th year of existence. We are grateful to all those who continuously and with high engagement help to advance nursing science in Switzerland and beyond.

With best regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "i. Bischofberger". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Prof. Dr. Iren Bischofberger,  
VFP/ APSI president

## 2 Board and office

### 2.1 General assembly

On May 10<sup>th</sup> 2021, 30 members with voting rights gathered for the general assembly once more on Zoom Video Communications. Before the general assembly, Prof. Dr. Rahel Naef from the Institute of Implementation Science of the University of Zurich presented the new institute and her role and research activities as the new professor with a focus on nursing science.

The general assembly approved anonymously the proposed changes in the association bylaws.

Dr. Dunja Nicca stepped back in May 2021 after six years of effective work in the board. The general assembly applauded her for the engagement. Prof. Dr. Monica Bianchi was elected as new member of the board. Ester Bättig, Dr. Fritz Frauenfelder and Dave Zanon were re-elected for a second term of board membership.

### 2.2 Board

The board met five times for regular meetings. In addition, the involvement in the nursing initiative with official communiques as well as three intense information exchange meetings with VFP/APSI members and the presidents of the academic societies led to several extra meetings. Furthermore, the board initiated first steps in the development of the strategy 2023-27 and approved compensation and governmental regulations.



### 2.3 Advisory Board

The board nominated three new members for the Advisory Board: Prof. Dr. Herbert Binggeli, Mrs. Manuela Kocher and Mrs. Marianne Streiff-Feller. The Advisory Board will meet early 2022 and discuss the path towards the regulation of the MSc in nursing study program and scope of practice.

### 2.4 Executive Office

Dr. Dalit Jäckel decided after six years of dedicated and successful work to step down as managing director of VFP/APSI. The association deeply thanks her for the outstanding engagement and wishes her all the best for her professional and personal future.

Dr. Claudia Weiss as her successor took over in July 2021. She is a pharmacist with long-term experience as managing director in Not-For-Profit health organizations but also brings along research experience in academia and industry. Despite her probation period coinciding with home office requirements, she had a smooth start at VFP/ APSI.

Livie Savary, MScN student at the IUFRS in Lausanne successfully started her new position as French editorial assistant.

### **2.5 Working group «Digital Nursing Science»**

The working group «Digital Nursing Science» made up of one representative of each academic society and facilitated by the two board members Carole Délétroz and Esther Bättig, met three times in 2021. The working group requested to the board to become the Digital Nursing Science

Commission. The aim remains to make a substantial contribution to the development and positioning of the nursing science profession in a digitalized world. The commission provides support to the VFP/ APSI board and the academic societies in issues regarding digital transformation and technologization of the nursing profession by maintaining a network with relevant stakeholders in academia and practice. The final goal is to publish a position paper as a framework for a digital nursing science agenda (planned for mid-2024).



## 2.6 Members

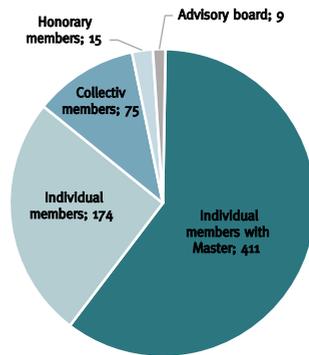
In 2021, VFP/APSI gained 36 new individual and five new collective members. On January 1<sup>st</sup>, VFP/APSI counted 675 members and 684 on December 31<sup>st</sup> respectively. The memberships are overall stagnant. The main reasons for leaving VFP/APSI are retirement or change of career.

In 2021, the memberships in the academic societies grew by 5% from 241 to 253. In addition, 11 collective members benefited from a discounted logo placement on the landing page of the VFP/APSI website. This illustrates the broad network and generated additional income for the association.

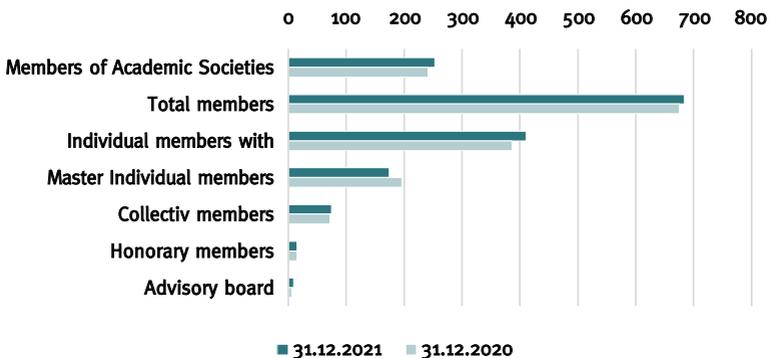
The following new collective members were welcomed in 2021:

- [Ensemble Hospitalier de la Côte](#)
- [Kliniken Valens](#)
- [LEP AG](#)
- [MediService AG](#)
- [Rehaklinik Zihlschlacht](#)

**VFP/APSI members 31.12.2021**



**Membership movements 2021**



## 3 Academic Societies

In 2021, the VFP/APS board met twice with the presidents of all academic societies. Both meetings took place online due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2022, the format of one on-site and one online meeting is envisaged and shall be kept in future years. Furthermore, three additional exchange meetings took place to share experiences, facts and figures during the nursing initiative campaign.

### 3.1 New academic society on nursing economics

The general assembly voted unanimously in favor of the foundation of an academic society nursing economics. Economic issues and challenges are increasingly dominant in the healthcare sector. The focus of the academic society is analyzing, generating, and promoting nursing economics and advise the nursing research community on health care policy and best practices in service delivery. Founding members are Monica Bianchi; Katja Bohner; Laura Canduci; Shaila Cavatorti; Birgit David; Fritz Frauenfelder; Gerhard Kalbermatten; Stefan Kunz (president a.i.); Giovanna Pezzoli; Davide Sari and Michael Simon.

### 3.2 Symposia

Due to the pandemic situation several symposia had to be postponed to 2022. However, two academic societies successfully launched their symposia.

- The symposium «La profession infirmière à la lumière de la transition» of the Academic Society for Agogy in Nursing together with the Haute école de santé de Genève took place digitally in May.
- In November, the Academic Society Women's Health organized a half day virtual Symposium on «Mental Health around Pregnancy».
- Finally, the science apéro was once more held virtually in November. MSc students met representatives of the academic societies and were introduced to their work as well as a short insight of the association.



## **Academic society 2021 in a nutshell**

Acute Care	Matthias Odenbreit handed over the presidency to C. Leoni-Scheiber and K. Ritschard Ugi. The AS thanks him for his years of intensive and expert commitment in favor of nursing science. The meetings and discussions in the AS were strongly influenced by the Covid-19 pandemic as well as the planning of the BIG DATA - BIG NURSING symposium, which will take place on May 19, 2022 in Lucerne. In addition, the AS participated in a meeting with the company eHealth Suisse on the topic «Introduction SNOMED CT» and was involved in the Digital Nursing working group.
Cardiovascular Nursing	In 2021, AS Cardiovascular Nursing in collaboration with the working group for cardiovascular nurses and allied professionals contributed the Nursing Track Day of the virtual annual meeting of the Swiss Society of Cardiology (SSC). The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the nursing initiative were important discussion points in the group. Furthermore, the AS participated on the consultation of the partial revision of the Transplantation Act.
Education in Nursing	The AS successfully run the virtual Symposium «The Nursing Profession in Light of Transition» in partnership with the Haute école de santé de Genève. The president Gora da Rocha stepped back and handed over to Annie Oulevey Bachmann. The AS tanks her for her energetic, positive, and inspiring involvement in the development of the nursing discipline. The AS presented itself at the Science Apéro 2021.
Gerontological Nursing	The 50 members of the AS discussed scientific and nursing practice topics. The publication «social isolation of elderly people during the Covid-19 pandemic», the commitment to the nursing plebiscite and the circular with the picture «laufen lassen» were the key topics that were discussed successfully.

## **Academic society 2021 in a nutshell**

- Home Care Nursing** The AS, strengthened by eight new members, worked in various work group for which the AS had been requested. The AS took further steps in the Best Home Care Practice project «Stopp Sturz». To make the work of the AS visible, the group organized a virtual 'open door' an open-door meeting in English and updated the website. Quality indicators in home care nursing we discussed as well as the role development of APN's in home care services in Switzerland.
- Nursing Economics** Two online meetings took place. Primarily the distribution of tasks within the AS had to be defined: Katja Bohner and Anna-Barbara Schlüer (from May 2022) will be ready to lead the new AS in a co-presidency and Michael Simon agreed to occupy himself of the accountability part. Secondly, an online survey has been launched to identify and prioritize key themes on which the AS wants to concentrate in the future.
- Oncology Nursing** Prof. Dr. Antje Koller was elected as a co-president to support our co-president team. As in previous years, the AS supported the Swiss annual oncology nursing congress in collaboration with the Swiss Oncology Nursing Society. The 2020 webinars on the COVID-19 pandemic consequences for oncological nursing resulted in a literature review about telephone consultation published at the FIT nursing care website. Furthermore, objectives to better organize future AS engagements for oncology nursing were defined.
- Pediatric Nursing** In January 2021, Veronika Waldbboth joined the co-presidency. The AS met three times for short online meetings focused on general information and exchanges. An on-site meeting at ZHAW comprised workshops, presentations, and discussions. The AS collaborated with the Allianz Swiss Pediatric Nursing in the organization of a successful on-site congress. Not least the AS initiated a project to develop a top 5 list for pediatric nursing in Switzerland, which will include a selection of unnecessary nursing care (Choosing wisely).

## Academic society 2021 in a nutshell

- Psychiatric Nursing** Many members of the AS were involved in the committee of the nursing initiative and supported the voting campaign through statements. Furthermore, the working group «*nursing language psychiatry*» is, together with the NPFG continuing its work and expanded the focus to nurses in clinical practice and patients or peer workers as well. In addition, a constructive exchange with the VPPS was established, which contributes to a better understanding between management, academics, and clinical practice.
- Rehabilitation Care** The academic Society of Rehabilitation Nursing worked this year furthermore with the Interest Group for Rehabilitation Nursing on a brochure with the aim of showing the diversity of rehabilitation nursing. Originally, the planned symposium should have taken place in 2021, but this was postponed to 2022. Instead, the AS held an online symposium where four exciting MAS theses were presented and discussed. The AS met for four online meetings this year and strongly promoted the exchange of expertise.
- Women's Health** In 2021, the symposium «Mental Health Around Pregnancy» took place, due to the pandemic situation, in a hybrid form. It was an exciting and successful event and the highlight of the academic society in 2021. The AS met three times.



<b>Academic society</b>	<b>Members Count</b>
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Acute Care	<p>Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 01.01.2021: 13 members</li><li>• 31.12.2021: 12 members</li></ul> <p>New members: Martine Amrein (ex-officio) and Marco Thoma (ex-officio)</p> <p>Co-presidency: Claudia Leoni-Scheiber and Karin Ritschard Ugi</p> <p>Congratulations: Claudia Leoni-Scheiber has achieved her doctorate – congratulations, well done! AS member Dave Zanon won a poster award at Acendio Conference 2021 – congratulations!</p>
Cardiovascular Nursing	<p>Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 01.01.2021: 13 members and 1 ex-officio member</li><li>• 31.12.2021: 13 members and 1 ex-officio member</li></ul> <p>New members: Yvonne Kröger, Valerie Veltmann</p> <p>Co-presidency: Prof. Dr. Petra Schäfer-Keller and Lukas Weibel</p>
Education in Nursing	<p>Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 01.01.2021: 13 members</li><li>• 31.12.2021: 13 members</li></ul> <p>New members: Marianne Frech, Pauline Roos</p> <p>President: Annie Oulevey Bachmann</p>
Gerontological Nursing	<p>Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 01.01.2021: 45 members</li><li>• 31.12.2021: 51 members</li></ul> <p>New members: Claudia Baldegger, Sever Draganescu, Vanessa Gasser, Julia Grütter, Iris Gugerli, Eva Horvath</p> <p>Presidency and vice-presidency: Claudia Lötscher and Eva Ziegler</p>
Home Care Nursing	<p>Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 01.01.2021: 27 members and 9 ex-officio members</li><li>• 31.12.2021: 38 members 27 members and 11 ex-officio members</li></ul> <p>New members: Elisa Dolci, Anne Peschak (Co-Worker), Julia Pfalzgraff, Melanie Näf (ex-officio), Christine Reichart,</p> <p>Co-presidency: Nicole Oberhänsli and Angela Schnell</p> <p>Congratulations: We congratulate Angela Schnell on completing her PhD on «Aggressive behavior of Persons with dementia in professional home care nursing».</p>

## Academic society      Members Count

Nursing Economics	<p>Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 01.01.2021: –</li><li>• 31.12.2021: 8 members and 2 Co-Worker</li></ul> <p>New members : Monica Bianchi, Katja Bohner, Fritz Frauenfelder, Gerhard Kalbermatten, Stefan Kunz, Anna Maria Peschak, Anna-Barbara Schlüer (Co-Worker), Verdiana Silano, Michael Simon (Co-Worker), Angela Tolotti</p> <p>Co-presidency: Katja Bohner and Stefan Kunz</p>
Oncology Nursing	<p>Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 01.01.2021: 26 members</li><li>• 31.12.2021: 24 members and 2 ex-officio members</li></ul> <p>Co-presidency: Marika Bana, Antje Koller and Matthias Hellberg-Naegele</p> <p>Congratulations: Franziska Geese won the first price at the OPS congress for the best research project with her project (Inpatient care for people with a malignant brain tumor by a team of nurse practitioners – a role evaluation).</p>
Pediatric Nursing	<p>Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 01.01.2021: 23 members</li><li>• 31.12.2021: 23 members and 12 ex-officio members</li></ul> <p>New members: Colette Balice-Bourgeois</p> <p>Co-presidency: Chantal Grandjean and Veronika Waldboth</p>
Psychiatric Nursing	<p>Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 01.01.2021: 52 members</li><li>• 31.12.2021: 53 members</li></ul> <p>New members: Eliane Baumberger, Ursula Bregenzer, Stefan Rogge, Nanja Schlup,</p> <p>Co-presidency: Christian Burr and Caroline Gurtner</p> <p>Congratulations: Anna Hegedüs receives a Doctorate – congratulations, well done!</p>
Rehabilitation Care	<p>Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 01.01.2021: 18 members &amp; 8 Co-Workers</li><li>• 31.12.2021: 19 members &amp; 8 Co-Workers</li></ul> <p>New members: Sabine Gschwend, Nicole Schubiger</p> <p>Co-presidency: Stephan Behr and Myrta Kohler</p>

<b>Academic society</b>	<b>Members Count</b>
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Women's Health	<p>Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 01.01.2021: 10 members</li><li>• 31.12.2021: 10 members</li></ul> <p>Co-presidency: Madeleine Bernet and Lotti Lauk</p>
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<b>Academic society</b>	<b>Objectives for 2022</b>
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Acute Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To organize an exciting and successful symposia</li><li>• Six meetings are planned in the first six months – with at least one meeting on site</li><li>• Develop an «onboarding program» for new members</li><li>• New members are well integrated</li><li>• The shared database in the Dropbox will be evaluated and possibly redesigned.</li><li>• A strategy day is planned for fall 2022 – to work out mission, vision, and values for the next three to five years (coherent with the content of the office)</li><li>• Close collaboration with the board and the office</li></ul>
Cardiovascular Nursing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Defining strategic aims and developing the profile of the AS</li><li>• Contributing to the annual meeting of the SSC</li></ul>
Education in Nursing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Resumption of the activities of the Society after the pandemic and renewal of its committee.</li><li>• Follow-up of the implementation of the new training programs in the universities of French-speaking Switzerland.</li><li>• Continuation of the recruitment strategy for new members in French-speaking Switzerland and in the other linguistic regions of Switzerland.</li></ul>
Gerontological Nursing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Focusing on «visibility and networking» to strengthen ties</li><li>• shed light and food for thoughts on «no-go» topics of gerontological nursing practice.</li></ul>
Home Care Nursing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Start working on 5 No-Go's for Home Care Nursing</li><li>• Discussion and evaluation of the fact sheet «APN in home care nursing»</li><li>• Evaluation of the meeting modalities</li></ul>

## Academic society Objectives for 2022

Nursing Economics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Holding a first «in-person» meeting.</li><li>• Completing the online survey regarding future priority issues until the meeting in March 2022.</li><li>• Editing a «white paper» to summarize the key themes identified by the AS members as well as structural and strategic priorities (e.g. how does the AS wants to promote community building? On which activities the group school focus for this purpose?).</li></ul>
Oncology Nursing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Determine the aims for our academic society</li><li>• Finalize our project about the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic for oncology nursing</li><li>• Represent oncology nursing at the Oncosuisse Board in collaboration with the Swiss Oncology Nursing Society</li></ul>
Pediatric Nursing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue discussing future orientations of the AS</li><li>• Enhancing visibility and recruiting new members</li><li>• Adapting meeting format and content</li><li>• Continue collaborations and projects (e.g. Smarter Medicine Project – Choosing Wisely)</li></ul>
Psychiatric Nursing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Organizing a joint meeting with delegates of various AS and the presidents and the board of the VFP/APSI to address further collaboration</li><li>• Organize and realize the 2nd conference «Forschungsplatz Psychiatrie Schweiz» together with the VPPS in October</li><li>• Collecting the data of the workshops in clinical practice on behalf of the topic «nursing language psychiatry» and further publish first results at conferences and a journal paper together with the NPFP</li></ul>
Rehabilitation Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Performing the 4th symposium rehabilitation care which will take place in March 2022</li><li>• Discussion and Publication of different APN roles in rehabilitation nursing in a brochure</li><li>• Further work on the research agenda in rehabilitation nursing and strengthen the exchange of expertise during the meetings</li></ul>
Women's Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Holding at least three working meetings (online and in person)</li><li>• Discuss ideas and topics for further events</li><li>• Update Website</li></ul>

## 4 Communication

### 4.1 Congratulations on 25 years of VFP/ APSI

For its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, VFP/APSI produced a funny video clip: 25 members asked 25 other members a specific question on nursing science or on VFP/APSI. Hence, 25 exciting answers provide insight into a variety of current developments of the association and the nursing science community. The clips can be seen [here](#).

### 4.2 COVID-19

To highlight the situation and contribution of nursing science in different working areas, interviews in the format of «3 questions – 3 answers» regarding COVID-19 experiences were published monthly in the VFP/APSI newsletter. In 2022, the consolidated contributions will be synthesized as a brochure. Numerous VFP/APSI members were again presenting the Swiss media.

### 4.3 Flyers

A working group with Karin Ritschard-Ugi, Angela Schnellli and Dalit Jäckel designed a common postcard flyer for and with all academic societies listed. A QR code was added and linked to their websites. The flyers are available in French and German as print version.

### 4.4 Website

The number of nursing science students and graduates of bachelor, master and doctoral programs at Swiss universities and universities of applied sciences raised again in 2021. The current figures are displayed in several graphs on the VFP/APSI [website](#), based on data from the Swiss Federal Statistical Office. The graphs are updated annually.

# Flyers

**VFP** Schweizerischer Verein für Pflegewissenschaft  
**APSI** Association suisse pour les sciences infirmières  
Swiss Association for Nursing Science

## Akademische Fachgesellschaften ...

**VFP** Schweizerischer Verein für Pflegewissenschaft  
**APSI** Association suisse pour les sciences infirmières  
Swiss Association for Nursing Science

- ... vernetzen Pflegewissenschaftler\*innen einer Fachrichtung und ermöglichen einen Erfahrungsaustausch
- ... fördern die Erarbeitung von neuem Wissen und stellen Fachwissen zur Verfügung
- ... unterstützen die Qualität des wissenschaftlichen Diskurses
- ... fördern die interprofessionelle Zusammenarbeit national und international
- ... unterstützen die Anliegen der Pflegewissenschaft gegen aussen

AFG Agogik in der Pflege  
AFG Akutpflege  
AFG Frauengesundheit  
AFG Gerontologische Pflege  
AFG Kardiovaskuläre Pflege  
AFG Onkologiepflege  
AFG Pädiatrische Pflege  
AFG Pflegeökonomie  
AFG Psychiatrische Pflege  
AFG Rehabilitationspflege  
AFG Spitex Pflege



Hier gehts  
zu den AFGs

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# 5 Research

## 5.1 Swiss Research Agenda for Nursing SRAN 2019-2029

In 2020, the SRAN 2019-2029 was presented online to all interested academic societies. For the dissemination phase, Dr. Dunja Nicca and Nicole Zigan handed over the lead to the SRAN dissemination working group. A poster, PowerPoint slides, recorded presentations in four languages, a short video clip as well as a short and long version of the agenda were made [available online](#) for dissemination. A peer-reviewed publication is being prepared.

Prof. Dr. Manuel Stadtmann took over the lead of the working group by November 2021. Active members of this working group are Prof. Dr. Iren Bischofberger, Prof. Dr. Rahel Naef, Dr. Colette Balice, Prof. Dr. Véronique de Goumoëns and Christian Burr.

## 5.2 Swiss Nursing Research Overview

As a continuation of the work on the SRAN, the [VPF/APSI Swiss Nursing Research Overview](#) database was launched in May 2020. Its aim is to inform about nursing science research studies conducted in Switzerland or by Swiss researchers and to support researchers who are looking for others working on a similar topic. Members are continuously encouraged to enter information, and current authors were reminded once a year to update their information.



## 6 Networking

### 6.1 «APN-CH: organisation of regulation»

The VFP/APSI is a founding member of the association «APN-CH: organization of regulation» and represented by the board member Ursula Wiesli. This registration is voluntary and self-organized, since no national legal framework is in place.

In September, APN-CH association organised a round table with representatives from the Romandie, where the development and implementation of the role of Advanced Practice Nurses on national, cantonal, and international level was discussed. Currently, an unanimously accepted and nationwide definition/requirements to hold an «APN» title is not available. Cantonal APN-registries in the Romandie are in place (Vaud) or will be soon (Geneva). The next steps will be discussed in a follow-up meeting in spring 2022.

VFP/APSI will be represented in a working group of the Federal Office of Public Health to draft an answer to the postulate of national counsellor Marianne Streiff-Feller (19.4278) «Closing gaps in care. It is time for new care models». Based on the report on this postulate, the Federal Council will have to decide on the way forward to the statutory regulation of Advanced Practice Nurse in the Health Professions Act, how their services can be included in the Health Insurance Act (also e.g., in the accident insurance actant) and what a suitable tariff

structure for financing the services provided by APN could include.

### 6.2 MScN study programs

The board invited MScN study directors and student representatives to a virtual meeting in February 2021. There are currently no structures, were all directors from Universities and Universities of Applied Sciences meet regularly and with a common agenda. However, this is need to define a consensus on MScN competencies, particularly for the clinical scope of practice of the NP education and practice. These competencies are extremely important for a future regulatory framework. VFP/APSI will invite for a follow-up meeting in 2022 and will discuss in early 2022 the next steps with its advisory board.

### 6.3 Swiss Nursing Network

The Swiss Nursing Network met four times in 2021, twice with the Swiss Nurse Leaders and VFP/APSI only. The presidents and directors of the associations focused besides of the nursing initiative on the development of the Chief Nursing Officer position on national and cantonal level. With the newly created Primary Care Health Professions Section at the Federal Office of Public Health, the common endeavor for a CNO position at federal level seems to come closer.



#### 6.4 [swissprevent.ch](https://www.swissprevent.ch)

In the mandate of VFP/APSI, Prof. Dr. Petra Schäfer-Keller (co-president of the academic society for cardiovascular nursing), is a member of the [swissprevent.ch](https://www.swissprevent.ch) [association](#). She participated in several workshops with the aim to develop online interprofessional education and training modules on prevention. The overall goal is to increase the competence of health professionals to achieve a long-term change in risk behavior among patients by means of short counselling sequences integrated into their daily practice. The Institute for Continuing Education and Counselling of the University of Teacher Education at the Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz was consulted to develop the didactic-methodological aspects and an adequate learning architecture including web space. The 2-hour attendance module can be integrated into the regular

continuing education and training of the participating professional societies and will be offered on a regular basis as of August 2022. Furthermore, the organization initiated important reorganizational processes.

#### 6.5 Patient Safety Switzerland

VFP/APSI is represented in the foundation board of [patient safety Switzerland](#) with its president Prof. Dr. Iren Bischofberger. She serves as vice president of the foundation. The national pilot program [«progress! Safe medication in nursing homes»](#) brings the goal closer of making the medication process safer for residents in Swiss nursing homes: Patient Safety Switzerland has defined quality standards for all professionals involved in the medication process by means of a consensus process with experts. In order to improve medication

safety in nursing homes, polypharmacy and PIP (potentially inappropriate prescribing) must be identified and the medication must be adapted in a competent and resident oriented manner.

There is no ideal patient safety governance model. An [OECD report](#) on this topic, which was commissioned by the FOPH, was published in September and summarizes best practice for improving patient safety. The federal government has already taken action.

In the end of 2021, the governance and the financial situation of the foundation were in a crucial phase based on the revised Federal Insurance Act (Art. 58). The development of a new strategy and the search for a new presidency and a new director of the foundation will be the main focus of the foundation board.

## 6.6 International collaboration

Due to the Covid pandemic, the joint meeting of the [Deutsche Gesellschaft für Pflegewissenschaft \(DGP\)](#), the [Gesellschaft für Pflegewissenschaft GesPW](#) (österreichischer Gesundheits- und Krankenpflegeverband) and the VFP/APSİ is displaced into early 2022. A common position statement on a nursing diploma and BScN degrees was prepared and will be discussed and published in early 2022. Prof. Dr. Andrea Brenner, director of the BScN study program at the University of Applied Sciences OST was actively involved as a representative of VFP/APSİ.

## 6.7 Swiss National COVID-19 Science Task Force

Sonja Baumann, Eva Horvath, and Prof. Dr. Michael Simon, all VFP/APSİ members, are part of the Swiss National COVID-19 Science Task Force in the expert groups clinical care and public health.

## 6.8 smarter medicine – Choosing Wisely Switzerland

The VFP/APSİ board decided to become an official partner of smarter medicine – Choosing Wisely Switzerland. The partnership started on January 2021 and included the publication of the associations' goals, an active contribution to the implementation of its objectives, as well as a small annual support fee.



## 7 Policy activities

### 7.1 Initiative «Für eine starke Pflege» / Initiative populaire «Pour des soins infirmiers forts»

On 28 November 2021, Swiss citizens and most of the cantons clearly adopted the nursing initiative with 61% votes in favour. This is a historic and major achievement for the nursing profession and the entire nursing field of work. In addition to the education part of the initiative, better working conditions, sufficient nursing staff and appropriate remuneration for nursing services are now to be ensured in a federal act.

Since the launch of the initiative, VFP/APSI has repeatedly discussed this important topic in its board meetings and supported

the contributions. VFP/APSI vice-president Dr. Stefan Kunz was mandated to the strategic group of the initiative. On June 19<sup>th</sup>, the initiative committee decided not to accept the counter proposition of the parliament but to go for the populaire vote on the initiative.

In the run-up to the vote, VFP/APSI enforced the dialogue with its members, academic societies, and its stakeholders. In several online meetings, consensus was sought between opposing views, and chances and risks of the initiative and the counter proposal were discussed also with experts to give an external insight. Furthermore, the board published two communiques on their point of views and



was involved in a multimedia production from students of the University of Applied Sciences Graubünden <https://www.instagram.com/snacc.ch/>.

Finally, VFP/APSİ – in close collaboration with its stakeholders - will continue to take an active role in up-coming discussions to foster the implementation of the new constitutional article 117c. Furthermore, the topic of health policy will be prioritized within the framework of the Swiss Research Agenda on Nursing (SRAN). Corresponding activities are planned for the coming strategy in 2022. A permanent health policy commission is in discussion.

## **7.2 National Commission on Quality**

Based on the new KVG/L'AMAL article 58/58a, the Federal Commission on Quality started its work in April 2021. PD Dr. Franziska Zúñiga from the university of Basel was nominated by VFP/APSİ and was elected. In addition, the VFP/APSİ member, Prof. Dr. Manuela Eicher, as well as Sophie Ley, from the Swiss Nursing Network, are also commission members. Quality of care has always been an important topic for nursing science (including in the SRAN). Therefore, it is most important for the VFP/APSİ to have positioned nursing science in the context of quality.

## **7.3 National Guidelines on Nursing**

Evidence-based care guidelines are an important pre-requisite for patient safety, and thus a core element of quality assurance towards safe patient care. While in English-speaking countries concise and up-to-

date evidence-based nursing guidelines are readily available, most of the nursing institutions in Switzerland develop their own guidelines or are looking for guidelines to be adapted within the institution. This is not efficient and neither guarantees access to up-to-date knowledge.

Representatives of the 'Netzwerk klinische Fachentwicklung Pflege' together with national partners such as FIT Nursing Care (St. Gallen), BEST (Lausanne), Swiss Nurse Leaders (SNL), the Swiss Nurses' Association (SBK-ASI) and the Swiss Association for Nursing Science (VFP/APSİ) agreed on the aim to develop, provide and use national Swiss nursing guidelines to support the quality of nursing care in Switzerland. Therefore, providing current evidence in a practice-friendly way and in the national languages will be fostered. VFP/APSİ is represented in this working group by Karin Ritschard Ugi and Prof. Dr. Véronique de Goumoëns.

## 8 Finances

### 8.1 Income statement and the balance sheet

On the expense side, the tax costs were, due to the one-time profit of CHF 17'256 in 2020 higher than expected. Furthermore, the IT costs raised due to an updated framework contract with Hausformat. This update was necessary to guarantee the functioning of the VFP/APSI website. Finally, VFP/APSI had to renew its IT equipment in the executive office. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the travel costs were considerably lower than budgeted and there were no expenses for congress participation, general assembly, a board event, and only very few other meeting related costs. The overall income

increased by CHF 3'340 due to higher memberships. The association ends its financial year with a profit of CHF 4'689 which is CHF 3'985 lower than budgeted.

### 8.2 Sponsoring and Benefactors

In 2021, eleven of our collective members placed their logo on the front page of our website which kept the sponsor contributions at the same level as in 2020. We thank our sponsors for their financial engagement.



## 9 Governance

### 9.1 General assembly

The general assembly is the supreme body of the VFP/APSI and consists of the active members of the association. The association has 684 active members in 2021 (s. also 2.6).

### 9.2 The Board

The board is the strategic body of the VFP/APSI. The members in 2021 are:

President: Prof. Dr. Iren Bischofberger (since 2018)

- Vice-President: Dr. Stefan Kunz (vice-president since 2018, board member since 2014)
- Esther Bättig (board member since 2017)
- Prof. Dr. Monica Bianchi (board member since 2021)
- Prof. Dr. Véronique de Goumoëns (board member since 2019)
- Carole Délétroz (board member since 2018)
- Dr. Fritz Frauenfelder (board member since 2017)
- Dr. Dunja Nicca (board member since 2014 until May 2021)
- Ursula Wiesli (board member since 2015)
- Dave Zanon (board member since 2017)

### 9.3 The Executive Office

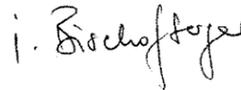
The Executive Office is the operative body of the association based in the House of Academies in Bern.

Managing director: Dr. Dalit Jäckel (50% until June 2021), Dr. Claudia Weiss (50%, since July 2021); Assistant: Jenny Bärtschi (40%)

### 9.4 Revision

The General Assembly confirmed Bernhard Brändli and Ursula Neuhaus as auditors. For the financial year 2021, the auditors conducted the revision.

Bern, January 31, 2022



For the board:  
Prof. Dr. Iren Bischofberger, president

### **Bericht der Revisoren an den Vorstand zuhanden der Generalversammlung des Schweizerischen Vereins für Pflegewissenschaft (VFP)**

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Als Kontrollstelle haben wir die Jahresrechnung des Schweizerischen Vereins für Pflegewissenschaft (VFP) für das am 31. Dezember 2021 abgeschlossene Geschäftsjahr geprüft.

Für die Jahresrechnung ist der Vorstand verantwortlich, während unsere Aufgabe darin bestand, diese zu prüfen. Wir bestätigen, dass wir die gesetzlichen Anforderungen hinsichtlich Unabhängigkeit erfüllen. Unsere Revision umfasst hauptsächlich Befragungen und analytische Prüfungshandlungen sowie den Umständen angemessene Detailprüfungen der bei der geprüften Einheit vorhandenen Unterlagen.

Dagegen sind Prüfungen der betrieblichen Abläufe und des internen Kontrollsystems sowie Befragungen und weitere Prüfungshandlungen zur Aufdeckung deliktischer Handlungen oder anderer Gesetzesverstöße nicht Bestandteil dieser Revision.

Bei unserer Revision sind wir nicht auf Sachverhalte gestossen, aus denen wir schliessen müssten, dass die Jahresrechnung nicht Gesetz und Statuten entspricht.

Aufgrund der Ergebnisse unserer Prüfung beantragen wir der Generalversammlung die Jahresrechnung zu genehmigen und dem Vorstand Decharge zu erteilen.

Bern, 02. März 2022

Die Revisoren



Bernhard Brändli



Ursa Neuhaus

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## **Imprint**

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Layout: [Kasimir Meyer AG, Wohlen AG](#)

Text: Executive office, president and presidents of the academic societies

Photographs:

Pages 1, 6, 7, 9, 19, 21, 22, 23, 25: VFP/[Matthias Willi](#)