



Enhancing Nurses Competence in Providing Spiritual Care through Innovative Education and Compassionate Care (EPICC): moving forward in Wales

Ian Stevenson (1), Martin Semple (1), Linda Ross (2),

Welsh Government, CNO Office (1), University of South Wales (2)



The authors with Chief Nursing Officer (CNO) Professor Jean White



EPICC participants from across Europe

Healthier Wales talks about putting 'what matters to people' at the heart of Health and Social Care provision. **Spiritual care**, which responds to people's personal, religious and spiritual beliefs and needs, is important to patients (Ross and Austin 2013).

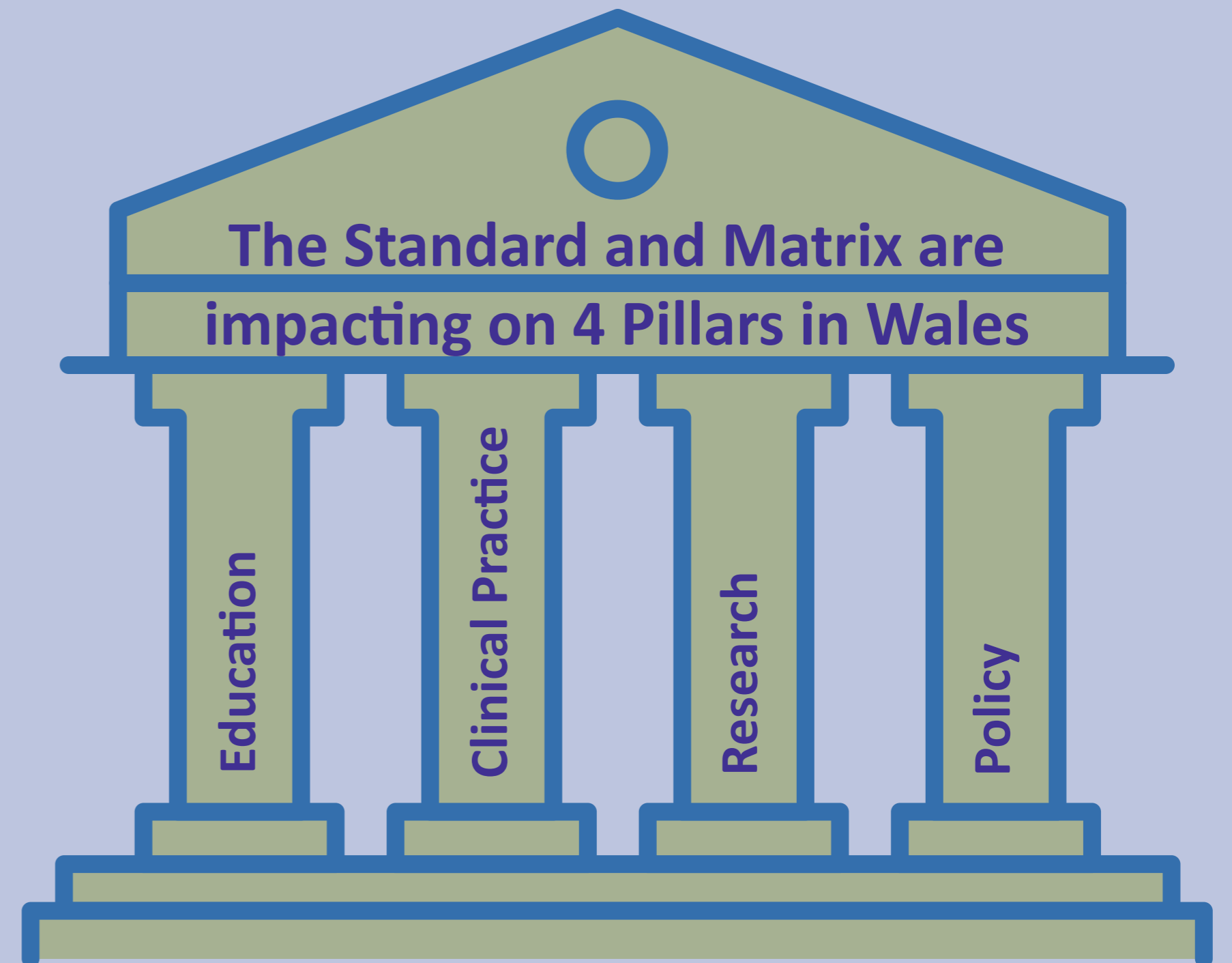
6 Partners, 32 pre registration nurse/midwifery educators from 19 European countries and stakeholders worked on the project over 3 years. For Wales this was through the Office of the CNO.

The co-produced outputs include:

1. **Spiritual care competencies ('Standard')**
2. **Gold Standard Educational Matrix**
3. **Toolkit**
4. **Website www.epicc-project.eu**
5. **EPICC Network to continue the project beyond 2019**



All Wales Spirituality Health and Wellbeing Group (SHaW)



Education

- The Standard is included in the re-write of pre registration nursing/midwifery curricula in all 6 universities in Wales & in the clinical practice assessment document
- Thus all students in Wales will be assessed on the 4 competencies both in university and in clinical practice during their studies.

Clinical Practice

Discussions are underway and ongoing with Health Education Improvement Wales (HEIW) about the competencies being used in:

- Pre registration education of other healthcare professionals
- Upskilling the current NHS workforce through the Post Registration Framework and the Values and Behaviours Framework within Health Boards

Research

- A PhD study (2019-21) is developing All Wales documentation of spiritual needs and care aligning with the national e-Nursing project

Policy

- Opportunity to revisit and refresh the 2010 Standards for Spiritual Care Services in the NHS in Wales and to refresh the supporting guidance for spiritual care within the Health and Care Standards (2015)

