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WHO Regional Office for Europe
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2100 Copenhagen Ø
Denmark

International Council of Nurses (ICN)
3, Place Jean-Marteau
1201 Geneva
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Position Statement

Polish Initiative for Advanced Nursing Practice (OIZPP).

We express our concern regarding the position of the Polish Medical Chamber, which would limit the competencies of Advanced Practice Nurses (APN) to a dependent and purely administrative role.

Such an approach is inconsistent with:

- the ICN definition of Advanced Practice Nursing,
- WHO recommendations on strengthening and expanding nursing roles,
- OECD policies on task shifting and health workforce optimization.

In OECD countries, Advanced Practice Nurses:

- perform advanced clinical assessment,
- make diagnostic decisions within a defined scope of practice,
- prescribe medications,
- independently manage patients with chronic and stable conditions.

Restricting APN autonomy in Poland would:

- reduce access to healthcare services,
- increase waiting times for patients,
- weaken the efficiency and sustainability of the health system,
- limit the effective use of qualified health professionals.

We kindly request WHO and ICN to:

1. acknowledge the inconsistency between the proposed Polish regulatory approach and international APN standards,
2. support the implementation of a full APN role in Poland aligned with global best practices,
3. highlight the importance of Advanced Practice Nursing for improving access to care and patient safety.

Respectfully,

Polish Initiative for Advanced Nursing Practice (OIZPP)

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