



Lead, represent, develop and support Australian critical care nurses

COVID-19: a spotlight on critical care nurses

Healthcare services continue to manage the current COVID-19 surge that is expected to continue into the new year. While navigating through staff shortages and skill mix issues, it is now recognised that the most vital and finite workforce in healthcare is qualified Critical Care Registered Nurses (CCRN).

COVID 19 placed a spotlight onto the vital knowledge and skills of critical care and intensive care nurses. The expertise and knowledge of CCRN has meant that, whilst under pressure, nurses have adapted to contemporary challenges and cared for the most critical COVID-19 patients, providing the last line of defence for many Australians.

The CCRN workforce in Australia is respected and renowned for our qualifications, expertise, and skills. We are also attributed to exceptional patient outcomes and consistent ICU standards of practice by comparison to other regions globally. It will be vital that, beyond this latest pandemic surge, the nursing workforce is well supported to ensure current staff longevity, as well as the future growth of new CCRN's who have stepped up to help ICU environments during this time. Through the ICU NUM Community of Practice in Victoria, ACCCN is helping to define and track the number of CCRN's to assess and mitigate the future workforce pressures and assist the expansion of the qualified workforce.

To ensure a safe, effective and quality ICU service and delivery; a specialist workforce is integral. There is already recognition and plans to support Victoria's critical care services, increase the number of nurses in critical care, and the number of beds. CCRN's must be central to all plans to care for and manage the multiple and complex needs of critically unwell patients and uphold our ICU standards of practice.



As we approach the end of 2021, it is important to take time to reflect on the personal and professional challenges that we have faced during the pandemic. Even though we have all been impacted by the public health and safety measures, ACCCN, at both State and National levels, recognises your invaluable contribution to the critical care environment. Your irreplaceable knowledge, skills and dedication have ensured vital critical care and intensive care services for our community and rapid expansion of our renowned health care services.

The pandemic has also highlighted many key learnings at both a personal and professional level which will drive upcoming change. Moving into the future, ACCCN is committed to the ongoing safe quality, care of patients and wellbeing of health care workers as well as learning from the current contemporary issues to improve, enhance and maintain critical care and intensive care for the future.

We wish you all a safe and happy holiday season.

By Libby Muir, VIC Committee Member

NSW/ACT Members' Professional Development Grant Recipient

ACCCN's Annual Education Meeting, Canberra

By Sharon Newton, CNE, ICU Shoalhaven District Memorial Hospital

I am not sure how 2021 will be remembered by all ICU workers.....likely with a mixture of emotions. 2021 was undeniably difficult for so many critical care health workers around the state and there was little reprieve from the stressors and demands of our work. However, there was one event in 2021 that I can look back fondly upon and that is the ACCCN AEM conference held in Canberra in May. In amongst the surges, the training, PPE and lockdowns, somehow the stars aligned, and we were able to gather together, in person, to learn and network.

It was a pleasure to be able to attend with members of my team from Shoalhaven ICU. It was a great time to catch up with colleagues and friends from other hospitals as well as engage and meet new ones. Whilst COVID-19 experiences were featured in many presentations, it was also exciting to discuss and learn about advances and changes to the way we work in ICU to deliver care. It was good to have a mixture of presentations and workshops as well as attending the cocktail party at the National Museum of Australia (one of the last events where we were allowed to eat, drink and dance in a large group, all whilst standing up!)

I want to thank ACCCN for delivering this event and bringing us together, and of course ACCCN NSW/ACT branch for supporting me to be able to attend. I look forward to seeing friends and colleagues at the ANZICS/ACCCN Intensive Care ASM in April to share COVID 'war' stories, lessons learnt and to discuss the future of intensive care after the pandemic.



Australian Critical Care: CALL FOR PAPERS

CALL FOR PAPER

Australian Critical Care

SPECIAL ISSUE ON

Critical care workforce: Developing,
supporting and forecasting our future

Special Issue Guest Editors:

A/Prof Naomi Hammond & A/Prof Deena Costa



The wellbeing of the critical care workforce has never been in the spotlight more than it has in the past 2 years. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the longstanding issues of moral distress, stress owing to limited resources and the emotional challenge of caring for patients and families during very difficult and uncertain times. Concerns regarding the well-being of our workforce, including the diverse needs of our clinician community, the supply of critical care clinicians, and how organizations and healthcare systems can support critical care clinicians to provide high quality care have continually increased.

For this special issue, we are putting out a call for manuscripts that will address:

1. Critical care clinician well-being (including but not limited to burnout, moral distress, dissatisfaction, psychological health, and mental health)
2. Addressing the diverse needs of the critical care workforce
3. Workforce supply, development, and retention
4. Models of care to support the critical care workforce
5. Opportunities and strategies to enhance resilience at the organisational, team, and individual level
6. Inequity in the critical care workforce (including but not limited to discrimination, access to training and education, harassment)
7. Challenges and opportunities for the critical care workforce
8. Critical care teams
9. Specialist roles in critical care
10. Critical care workforce needs, challenges and opportunities in low and middle income countries

Submissions are preferably original research or review articles that are related to the above current and emerging critical care workforce needs. Please read the scope of ACC here:

www.australiancriticalcare.com/content/aims

Submission deadline: 1 June 2022

For additional information please contact Prof Andrea Marshall, Editor-in-Chief at editor.acc@accn.com.au

ACCCN Online Journal Club – 23rd February, 2022



ACCCN Online Journal Club
 Wednesday 23rd February, 2022
 6:00pm – 7:30pm
 Via zoom, facilitated by NSW Branch

'The effects of intensive care unit-initiated transitional care interventions on elements of post-intensive care syndrome: A systematic review and meta-analysis'

We are pleased to announce that the NSW ACCCN Branch will be facilitating an Online Journal Club! Participating in an online journal club is a great way to keep up to date with the latest practice developments in critical care, as well as build your critical appraisal skills and meet other members of the critical care community.

The session will include a presentation of the key points of the article as well as a facilitated discussion about how the research findings may (or may not) be applied in the clinical context.

['The effects of intensive care unit-initiated transitional care interventions on elements of post-intensive care syndrome: A systematic review and meta-analysis'](#)

All critical care healthcare professionals regardless of expertise and experience are encouraged to participate.

ACCCN Members - free registration, non-members - \$20

VIC Critical Care Seminar: NEW DATE – 3 June, 2022



Postponed from
October 2021

ACCCN

***In Case U missed it:
Innovations and Inspiration***

VIC Critical Care Seminar
Friday 3 June, 2022
Oaks on Market, Melbourne

Victoria - it's been a while! The ACCCN Victorian State Committee invites you to join us for **"In Case U missed it: Innovations and Inspiration"** exploring contemporary changes occurring within the Intensive and Critical Care environment by examining our past as we look to the future.

Influential Victorian policy makers and leaders will open this seminar by presenting innovations and futuristic concepts improving intensive care practises and outcomes. The program will showcase clinical advancements in renal replacement therapies, therapeutic plasma exchange, fluid therapy in sepsis. New techniques and principles in ventilation strategies will be presented, and the role of ECMO as a mainstream treatment modality in both metropolitan and regional health settings will be explored. The program will conclude with inspirational discussions underpinning environmental, end of life patient dignity, and career sustainability. There will also be an engaging trade display for participants throughout the day. The Victorian State Committee looks forward to welcoming you to celebrate this long overdue face-to-face event.

ANZICS/ACCCN Intensive Care ASM: 27-29 April, 2022

ACCCN Members receive up to \$150 discount off registration prices!

Book early to take advantage of great early bird rates.



ANZICS/ACCCN
Intensive Care ASM

27-29 April 2022

ICC Sydney
New South Wales

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM NOW AVAILABLE

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

- **Prof. Dale M. Needham**, Johns Hopkins University
- **A/Prof. Sapna R. Kudchadkar**, Johns Hopkins Hospital
- **Dr Sangeeta Mehta**, Mount Sinai Hospital
- **Dr Lennie Derde**, University Medical Center Utrecht
- **Prof. Dale Fisher**, National University of Singapore
- **Prof. Eddie Holmes**, University of Sydney
- **A/Prof. Deena Costa**, University of Michigan School of Nursing
- **Prof. Monique Van Dijk**, Erasmus Medical Center
- **Dr Peter Nydahl**, University Hospital of Schleswig-Holstein
- **Rachael Moses**, NHS England and Improvement

www.intensivecareasm.com.au



KEY DATES

Abstract Submission Deadline
14 January 2022

Early Bird Registration Deadline
11 March 2022



#2022ASMSydney



Employment Opportunities



Registered Nurses - A new, bigger, better emergency department is opening soon, recruiting now!

A new, bigger, better emergency department is opening soon and recruiting now!

Victorians in Melbourne's south-east will have faster access to emergency care with a brand new department at Monash Medical Centre, Clayton equipped with:-

- a new emergency and triage entrance
- improved facilities in a sustainable design, filled with colour, natural light and space
- dedicated adult and children's emergency area including procedures rooms and short stay units
- cutting edge state of the art technology
- resus bays with pandemic negative air flow capacity
- mental health, alcohol and other drugs hub

In the unrelenting pursuit of excellence, our new emergency department will deliver quality patient-centred healthcare services to support the growing needs of our diverse local community.

We invite **registered nurses** with demonstrated acute, critical or emergency care experience to join our new, bigger, better emergency department with dedicated tertiary adult and paediatric areas. Full or part-time permanent positions with flexibility to work a minimum of 24 hours per week across a 24/7 rotating roster

Monash Health is a great place to work so come join our new, bigger, better emergency department!

[CLICK HERE](#) for more details about our emergency departments nursing roles, how to apply and probity check requirements, please refer to attached 'Application Guide' located under Position Documents.



Critical Care Registered Nurses - ICU Dandenong

We currently have a number of opportunities for suitably experienced Registered Nurses holding a Graduate Certificate in Critical Care Nursing to join our team in providing excellent care to our complex patients. Working across a rotating roster (24 hours / 7 days) we have both full time and part time positions available on an ongoing basis to commence as soon as possible.

Looking to grow our dedicated & knowledgeable team, we are wanting you to bring your demonstrated skills and experience within a Critical Care skillset to look after our patients.

Enquiries to Danielle Johnstone, Nurse Manager on 0418 172 544

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to apply via our Monash Health website

Applications Close: 31 January 2022



INTENSIVE CARE UNIT AT BARWON HEALTH

[Barwon Health – Intensive Care Unit Careers in Nursing](#)

Barwon Health Intensive Care Unit (ICU) is seeking ICU Nurses looking for a change of scenery and wanting to embark on a new adventure.

Barwon Health (ICU) admits about 1500 patients a year, the University Hospital Geelong ICU is a 24-bed level 3 adult, mixed medical, surgical, cardiothoracic and level 2 paediatric ward, admitting about 200 children annually. The ICU is actively involved in clinical research, critical care education for Deakin School of Medicine, and education and training of junior doctors and nurses.

Meg Gallagher- ICU Nurse has been in ICU for the past 8 years. Whilst working the ICU she completed a post graduate certificate in critical care and then completed ECMO and paediatric training. "I've always been proud to say I work here. The work is stimulating we have an excellent team of clinicians. It's also a great place to lead an active lifestyle and bring up a family."

<https://www.barwonhealth.org.au/careers-volunteers/careers-in-nursing>



Critical Care Registered Nurse - Peninsula Health

Critical Care Nurse- Emergency, Cardiac or Intensive Care.

- Opportunities Exist at Peninsula Health for Critical Care Areas.
- Training and Development Offered with Area Specific Education
- Ongoing and Contract Positions Available

At Peninsula Health, we have two Emergency Departments, located at Frankston and Rosebud. Both ED's are undergoing rapid growth with recent expansions of the Short Stay beds and with Redevelopment plans at Peninsula Health in 2024 ongoing growth.

We are seeking candidates with demonstrated Critical Care Experience with a Post Graduate certificate or Diploma in Critical Care, Emergency or Cardiac Care to work in our Critical Care areas.

Apply now to be part of our expanding services and growth.

For more details email jbarton@phcn.vic.gov.au or call on 9784 1185

To apply click here - [Peninsula Health - eRecruit \(mercury.com.au\)](#)

Applications Close: 25 December 2021