



Lead, represent, develop and support Australian critical care nurses

At a time like no other, critical care nurses have been asked to rise to a tremendous challenge. The Australian College of Critical Care Nurses (ACCCN) wishes to acknowledge the amazing response and expert care that these nurses have provided and continue to provide. Your commitment to your patients, our community and our profession is truly remarkable. Australia reports some of the best health outcomes in the world for critically ill COVID-19 patients.



We acknowledge that the challenges have been immense. They are not over yet. Each one of you has contributed immeasurably to ensuring the best outcomes for those in your care and we know that the dedicated care will continue over the months to come.

We thank you for your diligence, drive & determination under exceptionally trying circumstances. You have done the critical care community, and our country proud.

If you have considered returning to work to support your ICU colleagues, ICU Nurse Unit Managers across Australia are seeking your support in ensuring our patients continue to receive exceptional care. There are programs to support you re-joining and playing a crucial role in the current pandemic response.

If you are interested in re-joining your colleagues in the fight against COVID-19 contact the leadership of your local or former unit and keep an eye out for job advertising in the monthly newsletter, on Facebook and on the ACCCN website.

ACCCN continues to support critical care nursing and provide educational resources to assist acute care nurses in managing COVID-19 patients. The online lectures relating to the pathophysiology and management of COVID-19 patients in the acute inpatient environment are freely available on the ACCCN website - <https://www.acccn.com.au/events/category/www.acccn.com.au/events/category/covid-19-acute-care-nursing-lecture-series>



The ACCCN Annual General Meeting was held on Thursday 25th November 2021 and we are delighted to announce the following:

- Professor Ian Baldwin was granted ACCCN Life Membership
- Alysia Coventry - recipient of the Diane Chamberlain Research Seeding Grant
- Priscilla Pather – recipient of the Diane Chamberlain Research Seeding Grant

Thank you to all the members who joined the virtual AGM and for your continued contribution to the college and critical care nursing.

WA Cardiac Study Day - A Change of Heart: The Deteriorating Cardiac Patient – Friday 19th November 2021

After what seemed like an eternity, a snap COVID lock down and the venue being commandeered by the Health Dept for vaccinations in February, the long-awaited WA Cardiac Study Day - A Change of Heart: The Deteriorating Cardiac Patient was finally delivered on Friday 19th November.

With support from the National Events Coordinator, the ACCCN WA Branch Committee persevered to the end and was able to deliver a highly anticipated, face-to-face, professional development day which examined acquired and congenital cardiac disease in both the paediatric and adult cardiac patient. A flurry of late registrations ensured the day was a SOLD-OUT event.

ACCCN WA Branch would like to acknowledge the sponsors of the day and recognise their contribution to what was an outstanding success: The Hyatt Regency Perth, 3M, Zoll, Edwards Lifesciences, Nurses Midwives Health and Davies Publications.



Photo credit - De-Ann Raphael

The event was officially opened with a formal 'Welcome to Country' delivered by Noongar Elder, Ken Hayward, sponsored by Jeremy Davies from Davies Publications. Ken's pulsating Didgeridoo performance mesmerised and captivated many of the participants. Ken went on to recount his own personal experience of family members who had been affected by heart disease. He also alluded to the role of traditional healers, who ensure a balance is achieved between the physical and spiritual selves for First Nations people, during their hospitalisation.

The opening plenary saw Dr Warren Pavey and former patient Brett Driessen join forces to present on heart transplantation. Dr Pavey spoke of the research currently underway in Perth, highlighting the novel technique of using gas instead of blood to resuscitate and support donated hearts before transplantation. <https://www.fsh.health.wa.gov.au/About-us/News/Clinical-care-improvements-driving-heart-and-lung-research>. Brett Driessen then followed suit, to present an enthralling and very personal recounting of the emotional journey leading up to his own heart transplant.

Immediately following the plenary, the program divided into two separate streams. Participants then had the opportunity to cross freely between the paediatric or adult topics and listen to presenters from either stream. Both streams impressively covered a broad spectrum of cardiac medical and surgical conditions. Paediatric topics included cardiomyopathies, congenital heart disease and cardiac surgery, acute pharmacology, the vital work of Heart Kids, and a rheumatic heart disease case study. The adult stream incorporated everything from aortic and mitral valve disease to pharmacokinetics of heart failure drugs, a post-partum pulmonary embolus (PE) cardiac arrest with ECMO, and cardiac rehabilitation. The final session offered concurrent interactive workshops on pacing and ECG interpretation for both adult and paediatric focused delegates.



Photo credit - De-Ann Raphael

Thank you to all those who supported and participated in this event to make “A Change of Heart” a very successful day. We hope delegates who attended will be keen to join us again next year at WA ACCCN’s Shock Study Day planned for November 2022.

Congratulations to the following prize winners:

- Matt Campbell – Christmas High Tea, donated by the Hyatt Regency Perth (Study Day venue)
- Anna Brantestad – Stethoscope, donated by 3M
- Kay Rojo and Carmen Little who each won a copy of “Critical Care Nursing” (4th Ed) textbook by Aitken, Marshall & Chaboyer
- Trinity Parkins and Nadine Turner who each won “There’s a bird in my hand and a bear by my bed - I must be in ICU: The pivotal years of Australian critical care nursing” by Wiles & Duffum
- Kate Wellstead - Free registration for ACCCN WA’s Shock Study Day in 2022. This prize draw was open for new ACCCN members who signed up on the study day.

By Dr Kylie Davies & Judith Bruechert

SA/NT Spring Symposium – ‘Advanced Ventilation’ Friday 5th November 2021



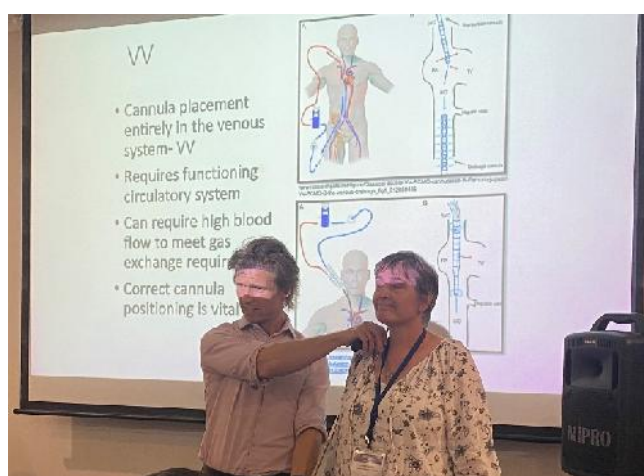
In a novel twist to the traditional full day seminars, the SA/NT ACCCN Branch delivered a four-hour Spring Symposium on Advanced Ventilation in Adelaide, Friday morning 5th November.

COVID-19 venue capacity restrictions at the time in South Australia were 1 person/2m² which enabled over 50 delegates and speakers to attend the symposium. Delegates comprised a mixture of ICU nurses, doctors and physiotherapists. Topics covered ventilation technicalities, respiratory support and clinician experiences during the pandemic. The compact program commenced with the engaging and knowledgeable Dr Bernie Bissett addressing and interacting with delegates via a zoom link from Canberra as she conveyed the importance of inspiratory muscle training for ventilated patients. Further presentations covered ARDS and COVID-19 pathophysiology and management, ventilation modes and waveforms. Dr

Eamon Raith shared with us the confronting and challenging times he experienced in London during the first COVID wave in 2020 and the valuable lessons learned as the pandemic evolved. Dr Raith was working in a hospital devoted to neurotrauma that converted to COVID admissions. Finally, Dr Michael Farquharson spoke enthusiastically on “Extreme Ventilation”. In a daring magician-like feat, he proceeded to demonstrate where to insert ECMO cannulas on his impromptu assistant, the lovely Jo Buttery, much to the amusement of the delegates.



The timing of the morning symposium allowed us to explore a different approach to delivering education which turned out to be very popular judging by the number of attendees. We look forward to receiving the evaluation feedback from delegates who attended this event to gauge whether the morning time slot worked well and to perhaps plan for similar events in the future.



Thank you to all our wonderful speakers for their time and enthusiasm. It was great to finally be able to gather at a face-to-face education session in South Australia!!!

If you have any suggestions for future symposium topics/themes please email them to sa.acccn@gmail.com. We want to be able to give you the members, the types of education sessions that you want!! So please let us know.

If you are interested in joining the SA/NT ACCCN Branch committee please email sa.acccn@gmail.com

The SA/NT ACCCN Branch committee wishes all our members a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

Regards,
Kate Yendall and the SA/NT ACCCN Branch Committee

Research Advisory Panel Webinar – ‘How to write an abstract’

In October the Research Advisory Panel hosted a very successful webinar. Over 30 registrants joined Naomi Hammond, Frances Bass and Dr Kaye Rolls for a presentation on how to write an abstract for both qualitative and quantitative research. The presenting panel discussed what to include, what reviewers are looking for, how to keep your abstract succinct, who to include as Authors on the abstract and how to keep to time lines.

This was a great opportunity for those wanting to submit an abstract for the ANZICS/ACCCN ASM next year or another conference. Attendees took away some great tips and tricks to get motivated and start writing your abstract.

ACCCN members can access the recording through the member centre - <https://www.acccn.com.au/member-centre/past-event-recorded-presentations>

NB: Abstract submissions for the ANZICS/ACCCN Intensive Care ASM will be open until **3 December 2021**. Please ensure you read the [submission guidelines](#) prior to submitting your abstract.

TAS Hot Topic – 9th December



The graphic features a crossword puzzle where the letters 'HOT TOPIC' are formed by the intersection of two words. To the right of the puzzle, the event details are listed. The ACCCN logo is in the top right corner.

TAS Hot Topic Evening
'Nasal High Flow (NHF) Therapy presented by Fisher & Paykel Healthcare'
 Thursday 9th December 2021
 5:30pm – 9:00pm
 RACV Hobart Hotel

The ACCCN TAS Committee invite you to join them at the upcoming Hot Topic Evening - 'Nasal High Flow (NHF) Therapy' presented by Fisher & Paykel Healthcare

The physiological mechanisms associated with Nasal High Flow (NHF) therapy are explained and we apply these mechanisms to a case-based learning scenario. The science of dispersion and aerosolization are explained and where NHF sits in this paradigm. We then ask the question: Does NHF have a place in treating the COVID patient?

Register Now - <https://www.acccn.com.au/events/category/hot-topics-webinars>

ACCCN Online Journal Club - 2022

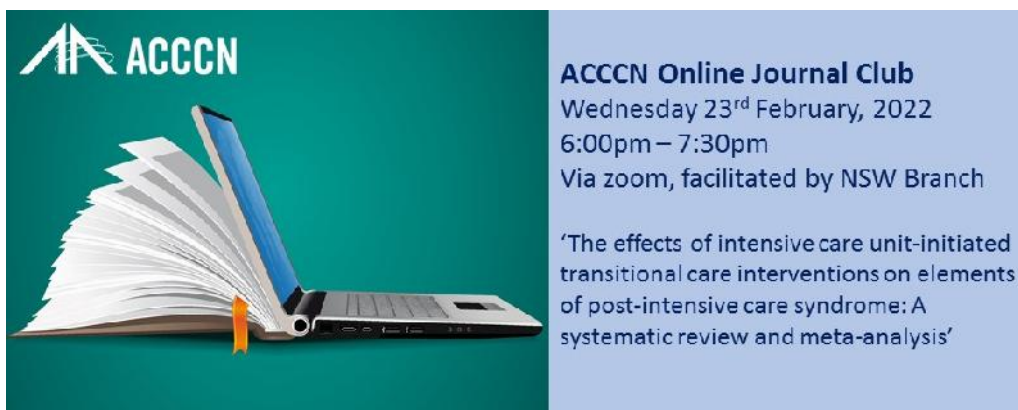
We are pleased to announce that the NSW ACCCN Branch will soon be facilitating an Online Journal Club! Participating in an online journal club is a great way to keep up to date with the latest practice developments in critical care, as well as build your critical appraisal skills and meet other members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

Sessions will be conducted online via zoom, with a semi-structured presentation of the key points of the chosen article as well as a facilitated discussion about how the research findings may (or may not) be applied in the clinical context. Expert critical care nurse researchers will comprise the facilitation team.

All critical care healthcare professionals regardless of expertise and experience are encouraged to participate. Details about how to register for the first session will be provided soon.

We look forward to this exciting program and hope you will be able to join us online in 2022.

SAVE THE DATE



The graphic shows a laptop with a book open on its screen, set against a teal background. The ACCCN logo is in the top left corner. To the right, the event details are listed.

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'

VIC Critical Care Seminar – 23rd March, 2022

SAVE THE DATE



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 2022



Key Dates

Abstract Submissions:
Now Open

Registration:
Now Open

Abstract Submissions Close:
3 December 2021

Early Bird Registration Closes:
18 February 2022

We are pleased to advise that registration for the 2022 ANZICS/ACCCN Annual Scientific Meeting, is now open

Discounted early bird registration is available until **18 February 2022**.

Abstract submissions will be open until **3 December 2021**. Please ensure you read the [submission guidelines](#) prior to submitting your abstract.

We hope you can join us at this vibrant meeting and we look forward to a memorable and rewarding experience in Sydney, in 2022.

Register

Industry Updates

NATIONAL COVID-19 CLINICAL EVIDENCE TASKFORCE

COMMUNIQUE

NATIONAL
COVID-19
CLINICAL
EVIDENCE
TASKFORCE

LATEST GUIDANCE

- [Ronapreve for pregnant or breastfeeding women](#)
- [Ronapreve for children & adolescents](#)
- [Pulse oximeters for children & adolescents](#)
- [Pathways to care flowchart](#)
- [ATAGI for vaccine advice](#)

Employment Opportunities

TASMANIAN
HEALTH
SERVICE

Registered Nurse – Close Observation Unit

Department of Health are seeking applications for the role of Registered Nurse to work in the Close Observation Unit at the Mersey Community Hospital, Latrobe, Tasmania.

Fixed-Term Full-Time / Part-Time Shift Worker position working up to 76 hours per fortnight commencing from 12/12/2021 - 10/12/2022.

For More Information and How to Apply:

Please visit <https://careers.pageuppeople.com/759/cw/en/job/1069553/registered-nurse-514543>

Contact: Hayley Morse
Position: Acting Nurse Unit Manager
Phone: (03) 6478 5369
E-mail: hayley.morse@ths.tas.gov.au

Applications Close: 4 December 2021



Clinical Nurse Educator

St John of God Bendigo Hospital is a private hospital located in central Victoria. The Hospital has an exciting opportunity available for an experienced and dedicated Clinical Nurse to join the team in our Learning and Development Department working as **Clinical Nurse Educator in the Critical Care Unit**.

As a member of the divisional Learning and Development team, you can be involved in something amazing by being responsible for the delivery, assessment and evaluation of Learning and Development programs and activities that reflect best practice standards to achieve excellence in service.

This position is offering 45.6 hours per fortnight on a permanent part time basis.

To apply for this role and for a full description of the role, please visit:

[Clinical Educator - Critical Care 11457](#)

For enquiries please contact Karen Millsom-Ryan on (03) 54343481

Applications Close: 10 December 2021



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>



Registered Nurse - Intensive Care

We currently have a permanent full time and part-time opportunities for a Critical Care Registered Nurses with postgraduate qualifications.

Our Critical Care program and ICU – MMC is a truly great place to work.

We are seeking candidates with demonstrated Critical Care experience; with a Post Grad in Critical Care. Your demonstrated experience within an ICU environment will see you flourish in our critical care environments.

Flexibility to work a minimum of 24 hours per week across a 24/7 rotating roster

Applications will only be accepted via the Monash Health online Mercury System only. Email applications will not be considered. [CLICK HERE TO APPLY](#)

Any queries, please contact: Adrienne Pendry (ICU NM) Tel: 0395943194

Applications Close: 6 December 2021



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



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
