

Lead, represent, develop and support Australian critical care nurses

# **Clinical Spotlight**



Each month we will focus on refreshing our knowledge and skills around a relevant clinical concept at the time. If you have suggestions for topics for us to focus on, we encourage you to contact us <u>here</u> or via the QR Code.

These ideas could be anything that you or your colleagues have come across in your clinical practice which you would like us to help you review and refresh your knowledge on.

Making suggestions helps keep this newsletter and its segments relevant and useful for you!

### IND Our Nurses Our Future – Be a Florence Nightingale!

In line with the International Nurses Day theme the clinical spotlight is a little bit different in its focus this month.

I read an interesting article comparing Florence Nightingale to a CNS (American definition) or something that resembles our CNSs and certainly our other advanced practice nurses (CNCs, NPs etc). Therefore, I wanted to explore how our advanced practice nurses can model off Florence Nightingale to design, implement, and evaluate our practices and ensure we are providing best practice for our patients. Ultimately, they can then share this knowledge with nursing colleagues and implement strong practice change for the benefit of our patients.

Florence Nightingale was not just a pioneer nurse but also a strong and respected statistician. It was with this power of analysis and evidence through which she was able to make a strong argument for the changes she proposed. The point I wish to make here is that with great evidence comes great change, so nursing research needs to be held up to the strengthen and rigor test in order to make the changes to our practice that is to benefit our patients optimally. Continuing to see the connections between research and practice and therefore, knowing why we do things the way we do and knowing that we are employing best practice is the key.

Florence Nightingale was also seen as a systems reformer, ensuring nurses' roles were visible and strong. Her belief that the true place for the nurse as patient advocate with a focus on health promotion and wellbeing allows the nursing profession a strong place in the health system. Learning from our past experiences whether it is war time infection rates or COVID pandemic pressures will continue to empower

nursing into the future. Therefore, our response to keeping our health system strong is to continue to better ourselves.

"Nursing is a progressive art such that to stand still is to go backwards." (Florence Nightingale)

Continual professional development for the individual, for the nursing profession, and the healthcare system is paramount! Be a Florence Nightingale!

**Reference:** Matthews, J. H., Whitehead, P. B., Ward, C., Kyner, M., Crowder, T. (2020). Florence Nightingale: Visionary for the role of clinical nurse specialist. *OJIN: Online Journal of Issues in Nursing, 25* (2), Manuscript 1. DOI:10.3912/OJIN.Vol25No02Man01

Written by Kylie Thompson (ACCCN National Nurse Educator

# OUR NURSES. OUR FUTURE. International Council of Nurses International Nurses Day 12 May 2023



ACCCN

# Membership with ACCCN

ACCCN offers a range of member benefits. These include discounted registration for courses and events, access to the Australian Critical Care journal online, a premium subscription to Continulus online along with opportunities to apply for grants and funding assistance for professional development, education and research.

Join now and stay connected!

For further information please email member@acccn.com.au

# Australian Critical Care (ACC) Journal Highlight

The Australian Critical Care Journal is a wonderful wealth of current research and practice developments that we as members of the ACCCN have access to!

So, to highlight this, I aim to focus on one article to summarise each month and encourage you to read it and many others yourself.

Our article this month is: McCarthy, P. D., Street, M., Sprogis, S. K., & Considine, J. (2023). The patient experience of a medical emergency team review: A convergent mixed-methods study. *Australian Critical Care*, 36, 254-261. DOI:10.1016/j.aucc.2021.12.005



This is a great article that explores the importance of a patient-centred approach to our practice in the context of a medical emergency (MET/ALS/rapid-response) call. And while we must be mindful that the patient's condition could limit the level of engagement, they can have during the MET call as this is an emergency situation, we can still go some way to making this an event that is patient-centred. This article explores the patient experience of a MET call and allows us to reflect on the level of patient engagement and who and how this is performed.

In 38.5% of medical emergency encounters clinicians were observed to NOT speak directly or indirectly to the patient about their care. Furthermore, 58.3% of interventions were performed without explanation.

When we see statistics like this we should ask – why? What stopped this patient engagement happening? What were the clinicians thinking and feeling in this situation? When patients see a large group of people enter their room and start performing assessments and interventions with minimal to no explanation, what are they thinking and feeling?

This study then explored the patient's experience by conducting interviews. Patients expressed surprise and confusion at all the commotion and events that happened during a MET call, However, they still felt safe, a sense that even though they didn't know what or why things were happening, things were being done in their best interests. Does this enduring sense of safety stem from the outcome (of usually feeling better at the conclusion of the event), or of a general trust in those who work in the healthcare system?

In most instances patients were not even informed that a MET call had been made, certainly a missed simple opportunity of keeping the patient informed about their care and their condition. The usual activator of a call was the nurse, so should it at least fall within their role to go back to the patient to inform them that a MET call had been made and start to prepare them for what to expect?

Expanding on the ALS nurse role (and thinking back to the article covered in the February newsletter) we can reflect on how the ALS nurse's role is important in achieving patient-centred care. Significant reference can be made to the substantial theme of the ICU nurse in the rapid-response team being there to 'keep the patient safe'. Is psychological safety just as important as physical safety? Can you see a consideration of the patient experience fitting into everyone's role but particularly facilitated by the ALS nurse or even the bedside nurse in the first instance?

Articles like this allow us to reflect on other research like the wealth of evidence of the benefits of family being present during a resuscitation attempt and the benefits of having a dedicated person to support them during their attendance. Where does this lead in regard to having a support person for the patient? Does this fit into one or more of the roles of the clinicians present at the emergency call?

Also we can reflect back the article on we featured last month which discussed the of teaching nontechnical skills and consider how situational awareness (being aware of the patient experience), communication, emotional intelligence etc, could enhance the provision of patientcentred care?

It is interesting how all these articles and research outcomes can tie together and give us

### **QUESTIONS TO REFLECT ON...**

- What is the level of engagement and interaction with the patient during a MET call in your experience?
- What do you and your ALS team do to engage your patients, even in the emergency situation?
- Could non-technical training support the performance of patient-centred care in your setting?

new aims in our clinical practice and performance during an emergency event.

Written by Kylie Thompson (ACCCN National Nurse Educator)

# **ACCCN Advisory Panels**

### End-of-Life (EOL) Advisory Panel

The End-of-Life (EOL) Advisory Panel are committed to supporting ACCCN members in the provision of high-quality person-centred EOL care. The 2021-2023 EOL Advisory Panel produced the first Australian **position statement** to guide adult EOL care, and published a **review** of adult critical care nurses' experiences after patient death.

Please meet the 2023-2025 EOL Advisory Panel:

- Prof Melissa Bloomer (Chair, continuing), Professor in Critical Care Nursing (QLD). Melissa's
  research focuses on communication, decision-making, family care and support before and after
  death in adult critical care.
- Laura Brooks (continuing) is a lecturer and PhD candidate (VIC). Laura's research focuses on communication and care of patients and families from culturally-diverse backgrounds at the EOL.
- *Alysia Coventry* (continuing) is a research officer and PhD candidate (VIC). Alysia's research focuses on preparing and supporting families for dying and death in critical care.
- Dr Kristen Ranse (continuing) is a senior lecturer (QLD) and her program of research focuses on skilled compassionate EOL care, and improving EOL care quality.
- Jess Rowe (new) works in paediatric ICU and retrieval (VIC). Jess is involved in developing clinical guidelines and resources to support paediatric EOL care, parental bereavement and memory-making.
- Shontelle Thomas (new) works in paediatric ICU (QLD) and as the organ and tissue donation nurse specialist. Shontelle has a strong passion for family-centred care, and the design of hospital spaces for family use before and after their child's death.

Our plans for the 2023-2025 term are to update the ACCCN organ donation position statement and then to continue our research related to nurses' experiences after patient death. For further information or to contact the End-of-Life Advisory Panels please email <u>rnapier@acccn.com.au</u>

# **ACCCN Membership**

Meet Anthea Rix, ACCCN Member and learn a bit about her career, her life and why she joined the ACCCN!

### What do you enjoy about critical care nursing?

I have been an intensive care nurse since I was 21 years old and have loved it from the beginning. I have never had the desire to move out of the speciality. What I love is that it requires the use of critical knowledge and insight as well as the application of empathy and care that typifies nursing. It is the best of both worlds, the academic and the compassionate. It is an environment that keeps you constantly stimulated and in which you learn to be "comfortable with being uncomfortable" which is ideal in someone who can be easily bored. It is also a discipline that allows growth and development and I have been involved in education and research and this has prompted me to branch out and develop as a critical care nurse as well as a person.



### Why did you join ACCCN?

I am passionate about education and research, and I love the way ACCCN is so involved in the education and development of nurses as well as the promotion of the implementation of evidence-based practice. The ACCCN dedication to providing ongoing education and knowledge through conferences and Hot Topic evenings is very impressive and something I want to be a part of. I believe that being part of ACCCN will be of great value to me as I continue on my educational journey towards acquiring my PhD.

### What do you love about Tassie?

My husband and I came to do an exploratory visit of Tassie and knew immediately that this was the place we wanted to be. I love the slower pace of life and the lack of traffic here in the Northwest. I love being surrounded by nature and having beautiful things to look at even when you are simply getting into your car to go to the shops. I am grateful that my children are able to go to school in a small country place, far from the frenetic activity and emphasis on materialism that is so prevalent in bigger places. I feel I have found my place here.

### What do you get up to when you aren't at work?

I am a keen artist, and I am an avid watercolourist. I have had a couple of exhibitions already here in Tassie and I have my work up for sale in Penguin. It is a creative outlet for me, and I find it incredibly therapeutic. It gives me the opportunity to get lost in something creative and beautiful and thereby destress.

Anthea Rix, ACCCN Member



Help a friend enjoy the benefits of ACCCN membership and be rewarded when they join.

As an existing member you will receive an additional <u>1-month free membership</u> for each friend you refer when they mention your name in their application\*.

Visit the Member Benefits page to ensure you are making the most of your membership.

\*Terms and conditions apply to this membership offer, <u>click here</u> for more information

# **ACCCN Grants and Funding**

**NSW/ACT Member Professional Development Grant Applications Extended** 

# NSW/ACT MEMBERS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT

APPLICATIONS EXTENDED UNTIL FRIDAY 5 MAY 2023

APPLY NOW

The application closing date for the NSW/ACT Member Professional Development Grant has been extended to Friday 5, May 2023.

Would you like financial assistance to attend a conference or educational/professional development activity in the field of critical care? You can apply for funds for travel, registration, or accommodation to attend or present at any educational conference, short course or meeting relevant to critical care nursing.

CLICK HERE for MORE INFORMATION or to SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

Applications Close: Friday 5 May 2023

### National Education Grant Recipients 2022 - Event Summaries

**Ms Alysia Coventry** is a member of the Victoria Committee and was awarded the National Education Grant in 2022. Here is Alysia's report following her attendance at the ANZICS/ACCCN Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) last month.

The ASM was held at the Adelaide Convention Centre from 29-31 March 2023 and is the principal critical care conference in Australasia for the calendar year. The face-to-face format and diverse program provided a platform for clinicians, researchers and academics to network, meaningfully engage, discuss research, innovations in research and practice and potential future collaborations. Chairing the session on 'Communication and end of life' allowed me to meet and engage with leading experts in my field of research, an opportunity not otherwise possible in an online format.

I am passionate about improving how end-of-life care is delivered to families of patients who die in the ICU, in particular how families are prepared for death and dying in the ICU. My PhD studies are uniquely focused on developing an evidence-based stakeholder informed intervention to improve how families are prepared for death in the ICU and foster their psychological wellbeing during bereavement. The ANZICS/ACCCN ASM provided me a platform to meaningfully engage with experts in the field and disseminate findings from my first study, 'Interventions to support families at the end of life in the adult intensive care: A scoping review'. Knowledge gained from this engagement as well as listening to presentations in this area of research will inform my PhD write-up, and potential future work that I hope to undertake in this important research field.

I would like to thank ACCCN for making this funding available to members and for planning and executing such a fantastic return to face-to-face conferences.

Ms Alysia Coventry Member – ACCCN End-of-Life Advisory Panel

**Dr Stephen McKeever** is a member of the Victoria Committee and was also an award recipient of the National Education Grant in 2022. Here is a brief summary following his attendance at the ANZICS ACCCN ASM in Adelaide.

As a National Education Grant award recipient, it funded my ANZICS/ACCCN Annual Scientific Meeting registration to be an invited speaker. Attending this year's ASM was fabulous to meet up with lots of people who I had only previously met on the other end of a Teams / Zoom screen. This real-life connection is so important for networking and hearing about up-to-date science. Thank you to all those that came by ACCCN's stand. Especially those we met during our Paediatric Advisory Panel meet and greet.

Dr Stephen McKeever Chair – ACCCN Paediatric Advisory Panel Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Child Health Care

# **ACCCN** Awards

### ACCCN WA Brach - Post Graduate Critical Care Course Awards

Dux (Excellence in Critical Care) - Jessica Highlands

The 'Excellence in Critical Care Nursing' Award, commonly referred to as Dux, goes to a participant who has received outstanding results academically, a high level of commitment to postgraduate studies, and excellence in linking theory to practice enabling positive outcomes for patients. There were 2 nominees: Sarah Serpis and Jessica Highlands, both who completed their Course with a high distinction average and consistently strived for excellence. The Award winner is described in the nominations as practicing to an excellent level of clinical practice, demonstrated to an exceptional level throughout the Course. They possess excellent communication skills and are an avid patient advocate. They work well within the team, and have an awareness of the acuity around her allowing her to support others and be proactive in her approach. Congratulations, Jessica Highlands.



### The President's Award - Carla Sabatini

The President's Award is for the participant who demonstrates a high level of commitment to postgraduate studies, displays a desire to learn and improve, and continual motivation to challenge themselves. This year, there were 3 nominees: Jesse Brown, Carla Sabatini and Shelby Kiddle. The Award winner is described in the nominations as consistently working to a high standard, a highly valued team member, and a great professional role model to their peers. They were consistently prepared for bedside testing and applied critical thinking to their patient care using the knowledge gained over the course of the year. Congratulations Carla Sabatini.



### **ASM ACCCN Membership Prize**

Winners are grinners! Those joining as a ACCCN member during the ASM Conference went into the draw to win one of three prizes. Congratulations to our winners below.



### **ASM ACCCN Guess the Number Prize**

It was great to see so many people trying their luck at the Guess the Number competition. No one guessed the exact number of 60, but some were very close.



### **Best Nursing and Allied Health Awards**

ACCCN would like to congratulate the winners of the Best Nursing and Allied Health awards presented at the ASM.

**Best Nursing Scholarship Paper**: Mrs Jessica Ingleman *(pictured top right) was* awarded \$5,000.

Associations between body morphology, skin microclimate and pressure injury risk assessment during a critical illness; a prospective observational study.

**Best Nursing Paper**: Dr Ashleigh Butler (*pictured bottom right*) was awarded \$3,000.

Impact of COVID-19 on bereavement support in Australian Intensive Care Units

**Best Nursing Poster**: Mrs Mary **Corkery** (not in attendance at the Closing Plenary) was awarded **\$1,000**.

Comparison of Trendcare and the nursing activities score to measure critical care nursing workload: A cross-sectional correlation design.







**Best Allied Health Paper**: A/Prof Kimberley Haines (*pictured above*) was awarded \$3,000.

Co-designed Peer Support to Improve Critical Care Recovery: icuRESOLVE Pilot Randomised Controlled Trial.



**Best Allied Health Poster**: Ms Michelle Paton (*pictured above*) was awarded \$1,000.

Investigation of variables affecting the safe application of early active mobilisation for critically ill adults: A systematic review and meta-analysis.

# **Upcoming ACCCN Events, Courses and Conferences**





# **SAVE THE DATE**

**BACK ON TRACK** 

Annual Education Meeting 2023

19 - 20 October 2023 • Melbourne Crown Promenade Conference Centre

The Australian College of Critical Care Nurses (ACCCN) invites you to **SAVE THE DATE** for the Annual Education Meeting (AEM) to be held 19-20 October 2023, at the Crown Promenade Conference Centre in Melbourne.

The challenges of critical care nursing require a sound knowledge of contemporary professional issues and evidence-based practise. Critical care nurses have exceeded expectations meeting these challenges in the last few years. As we turn our gaze towards the future, the lens for AEM 2023 is person centredness. The theme "Back on Track" frames a refreshing opportunity to embrace a proactive approach, with personcentred outcomes at the forefront of critical care. Participants will be invited to consider whether we are back on track, and if not, what can be done to regain momentum.

The program and social events will allow you to connect with people from across the industry, providing opportunities to strengthen existing relationships and create new ones. A broad range of topics is planned, including management of the deteriorating patient, neuro, cardiac, ventilation and respiratory care, workforce, and education of specialist nurses. A hallmark of the AEM is the opportunity for delegates to participate in a variety of workshops and a strong workshop program is offered at this year's Meeting. Following the success of the 2022 AEM there will again be a paediatric stream included on Day 1.

Registrations and abstracts will be opening soon, so keep an eye on the ACCCN website for the latest information.

The organising committee is looking forward with great anticipation to welcoming you to the 2023 AEM in Melbourne. See you there!

Rose Jaspers Convenor ACCCN AEM 2023 KEYNOTE SPEAKERS Professor Brendan McCormack – Head of The Susan Wakil School of Nursing and Midwifery, University of Sydney Adjunct Professor Alison McMillan – Commonwealth Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer



# ACCCN Advanced Life Support (ALS) Program

ALS AN ACCON **ACCCN Adult ALS Courses are approved for CPD** with these organisations: The Royal Australian Australian Australian and The Royal College of Australian New Zealand College of College of Australasian College of Intensive Rural & Remote Emergency College of College of **Care Medicine** General Medicine Medicine Anaesthetists Physicians Practitioners

<u>ACCCN Advanced Life Support (ALS) Program</u> offers a comprehensive range of Instructor, Adult, and Paediatric ALS courses. They are suitable for all healthcare professionals (nursing, medical, defence force) to attend, but are specifically aimed at nurses and medical staff working in a critical care environment, or with critically ill patients. Standards used throughout the course reflect the Australian Resuscitation Council Statements on Basic and Advanced Life Support; and current ANZCOR and ILCOR guidelines.

Annual re-certification is recommended for the Adult and Paediatric programs. Biennial re-certification is recommended for the Instructor program.

Courses are run nationally – Find an ALS Course near you!

**REGISTER NOW** 

# **ACCCN Event Reviews**

### ANZICS/ACCCN Annual Scientific Meeting on Intensive Care in Adelaide 29-31 March 2023

The theme for this year's ASM was "ICU on the Edge". With the variety of speakers invited and abstracts submitted, the topic was approached from myriad different directions. There were contributions ranging from ICU on the edge of space, on the edge of starvation, on the cutting edge of technology, to the thinnest edge of resources, on the edge of sustainability, on the edge of life. For me, it was a smorgasbord of ideas and a total privilege to sit in on any session available, to have all facets of ICU presented side by side. As paediatric nursing convenor, I was particularly pleased with seeing the paediatric sessions enmeshed in the whole program. While there was a dedicated paediatric stream with a pleasingly large number of attendees, there was much sharing of information across all sessions of both paediatric and adult ICU.

I believe the success of any conference is not measured in numbers, or smiles or even hangovers, but in what translates back into clinical practice post conference. It is that last parameter which I am particularly proud of. I look forward to next year's ASM and wish the organising committee every success.

Susan Schulz, ASM Paediatric Nursing Convenor





With only 11 months between the 2022 Sydney ASM and the 2023 Adelaide ASM, the 2023 ASM Organising Committee did an amazing job pulling together a program that was contemporary, thought-provoking and "edgy". Opening Plenary Keynote Speaker, Professor Peter Doherty (pictured above), gave an engaging and somewhat irreverent presentation on how we can prepare for the next pandemic as only someone of his stature and reputation can. Several delegates were overheard saying they could have listened to him all day. The program then "launched" into the medicine behind colonising space presented by Associate Professor Gordon Cable (pictured right). It was inspiring to realise yet again how the pursuit of scientific discovery in one area often leads to widespread benefits for humanity and how self-sufficient and inventive the astronauts will need to be if complex medical care is required. Needless to say, the colonisation of space will not depend on the availability of intensive care services.

From the Opening Plenary to the outstanding Closing Plenary, there was a definite buzz throughout the fantastic Adelaide Convention



Centre as delegates flowed from one meeting room to another seeking the topics and speakers of their choice. The free paper and poster presentations were a wonderful representation of the varied research and project work being undertaken across the country and in New Zealand.







The tradition of legendary social events was upheld at the ASM 2023 Party Night at East End Cellars on the Thursday evening. Many delegates caught the free trams up North Terrace, then it was a short walk to the venue. Vardon Avenue was segmented off for the exclusive use of ASM delegates. The weather gods smiled on us and the twinkling of party lights in the trees made for a starry night. Food was plentiful and the Watermelon Daiquiris from El Cheeky Flamingo were a hit. The fire twirler captured everyone's attention and when the party night ended in the street, the karaoke took off.

The Australian College of Critical Care Nurses would like to acknowledge and thank the 2023 Organising Committee and particularly the nursing team who volunteered their time and energy in preparing the ASM program and associated social activities.

- Adult Nursing Convenor Mandy Kocher
- Paediatric Nursing Convenor Susan Schultz
- ACCCN Organising Committee Members Tapaswi Shrestha, Katina Skylas and Rose Jaspers

Jane-Louise Cook ACCCN Events Coordinator

# Thank you to our 2023 ASM Sponsors

We could not present a conference of this size and significance without the support of our sponsors and exhibitors. We appreciate their involvement and look forward to partnering with them again at future ASMs.



### **ASM 2024 Organising Committee**

Meet our 2024 ASM Organising Committee who have generously volunteered their time and expertise to ensure our next ASM is just as successful as this year's ASM.

- Adult Nursing Convenor Melissa Bloomer
- Adult Medical Convenor Mahesh Ramanan
- Paediatric Nursing Convenor Jessica Shults
- Paediatric Medical Convenor Mikaela Waak
- New Committee Members Samantha Keogh (Nursing), Debbie Long (Nursing), Kristen Gibbons (Medical), Elissa Milford (Medical), Sanaith Raman (Medical), Marc Nickels (Allied Health) and Sarah Wright (Allied Health)
- Continuing Committee Members: Katina Skylas (Nursing) and Antony Attokaran (Medical)

### TAS Hot Topic Evening – Nutrition in Critical Care

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of March ACCCN Tasmania held a hot topic evening "Nutrition in Critical Care" with support from Cardinal Health. The evening was a great success with a fantastic presentation from Kevin Holliday at Cardinal Health focussed on the mechanics of nasogastric tubes and feeding. This was followed up with an engaging and informative presentation from ICU dietician Nathalia Krelling on what and how much we should feed patients. Nathalia showed those present the new indirect calorimetry machine now in use at the Royal Hobart Hospital, helping our dieticians appropriately target patients' nutritional needs and participants even had the chance to try it themselves!

Meredith Eberle, ACCCN Tasmania Committee Member



# **INDUSTRY UPDATES**

**Every Nurses' Business** 



**Every Nurses' Business** is a **free online CPD programme** which aims to build registered nurses' capacity to provide quality care for people with intellectual disability and/or autism. It offers foundational, intermediate, and advanced levels of learning and opportunities to claim CPD hours throughout. It includes interactive content, videos, quizzes, and interviews with experts. Additionally, the advanced level offers synchronous learning sessions, and opportunities to become a champion of change within the workplace. Completion of the entire programme is equivalent to one unit of AQF Level 8 Postgraduate study and can be utilised to claim a micro credential that can be used to apply for advanced standing.

Watch Every Nurse's Business promotional video, <u>CLICK HERE</u> Start your learning journey today: <u>CLICK HERE</u>

The Australian & New Zealand Intensive Care Foundation 2023 Grant Programme Expressions of Interest Close 19 May



# **Research Participation Opportunities**

# An exploration of intensive care nurses' oral care practices in non-ventilated patients in Australian ICUs

Auxillia Madhuva, from Monash University is seeking ICU nurses for a qualitative study exploring intensive care nurses' oral care practises and beliefs in non-ventilated patients. The results of this project will contribute to development of a questionnaire in the future. It may also act as a quality improvement initiative in ICU. For more information or if you would like to participate in a 30-45 minute interview via Zoom, please see visit the link below link.

### CLICK HERE to find out more or register your interest

### Investigating Information Usage for Decision-Making in Intensive Care Units – a Qualitative Study

A project undertaken by **Tamara Orth** from QUT Centre for Data Science is looking for *nurses and doctors to be interviewed about their experience with information and technology*. The aim of the study is to gain a deeper understanding of what you, nurses and doctors, need regarding information and technology to provide intensive care. This will facilitate, harmonise, bridge the communication between the ICU environment and the Data Science environment. In order to gain insights into where people and technology meet, it is crucial to understand the intensive care environment and your thoughts first. Conversations would be anything between 5-60 minutes, depending on the amount of time you have available, at your place of preference (remote or in person).

### CLICK HERE for more information or to register your interest

### The motivations of critical care nurses and the challenges they encounter in their roles

Our research project aims to explore the motivations and challenges encountered by critical care nurses in their roles. We are interested to find out what motivates nurses to work in critical care. Also, we wish to understand the challenges that critical care nurses experience in their role. We aim to recruit Registered Nurses who are currently working in critical care to be interviewed for their perspectives and about their experiences (a Zoom based interview for approximately 30-60 minutes).

Findings from this study will assist understanding in relation to the needs and interests of critical care nurses.

### **CLICK HERE for more information or to register your interest**

Are you looking for research participant's?

### The ACCCN encourages research participation and can promote your research project.

All ACCCN members currently involved in research projects relevant to critical care nursing are eligible to promote their project through the ACCCN website, newsletter and social channels.

For more information or to submit a Research Project CLICK HERE.

# **Employment Opportunities**

### Mersey Community Hospital (TAS) Associate Nurse Unit Managers – Close Observation Unit

The Associate Nurse Unit Manager is an experienced nurse who, within the defined area of practice:

- Works in partnership with the Nurse Unit Manager (NUM) and other senior staff, to ensure the efficient and effective provision of care based on best practice principles within a collaborative and multidisciplinary framework.
- Assists the NUM with the planning and management of staff and resources and provides
  operational leadership through the coordination of the day-to-day patient care activities, including
  patient flow.

The Close Observation Unit (COU) at the Mersey Community Hospital is a 6 bed Level 2 COU, providing high acuity/acute care services to the Northwest region of Tasmania.

The general case mix of patients may include: sepsis and single organ failure, DKA, gastro/general/ENT post-operative patients, unstable angina/AMI, cardiac failure / APO / arrythmia management, respiratory failure, non-invasive ventilation – BIPAP/CPAP and metabolic and respiratory acidosis management.

Permanent, Full and Part Time, shift work positions, working up to 76 hours per fortnight commencing ASAP.

Closing date: 3 May 2023

### CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO APPLY NOW

### Alfred Health (VIC) Critical Care Nurse - Intensive Care Unit

Alfred ICU is a university-attached quaternary referral centre, providing State Service for heart and lung transplantation (including paediatric lung transplantation), artificial heart



technology, extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO), burns and hyperbaric medicine. It also provides Victoria's Adult Cystic Fibrosis and Pulmonary Hyperextension Services. The Intensive Care Unit is a state-of-the-art facility with 45 beds, admitting more than 3,000 patients a year.

Internationally renowned, The Alfred ICU provides specialist career pathways and endless career opportunities. Join Alfred Health and take your career to the next level through our shared commitment to providing clinical excellence.

Permanent Part-Time and Full-Time positions available Work-Life Balance: 12 or 8-hour shift patterns Classification: RN Grade 2 (YP2-11) Salary: \$55,209.77 – \$92,601.60 per annum Onsite Crèche, Parking and Salary Packaging

### Closing date: 4 May 2023

### CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO APPLY NOW



the**Alfred** 

### Victorian Heart Hospital (VIC) Critical Care Registered Nurse - Intensive Care Unit

New Critical Care Registered Nurses positions at Australia's first cardiac ICU.

Newly built state-of-the-art 16 bed service to deliver a modern model of excellence in care to complex cardiac patients supported by a team of critical care nurses and multidisciplinary cardiac team.

As a Critical Care Registered Nurse, you will bring a critical care certificate with opportunity to further upskill, and access to undertake an ECMO course to gain competency. You are a respected and valued member of an inspiring

leadership team where you'll be welcomed by a talented multidisciplinary team. You'll also be fully supported to expand your clinical expertise whether it be writing research papers or pursuing education pathways via Transition to Specialty Practice (TSP) or Postgraduate studies. Opportunities for growth are endless including career progression, nurse practitioner and research. You'll thrive in a dynamic, bigger, new space and a valued member committed to improve patient outcomes and enhance the patient experience.

New Full and Part Time positions available.

Closing date: 5 May 2023

# CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO APPLY NOW

### Royal Hobart Hospital (TAS) Registered Nurse – Intensive Care Unit

Would you like to work in beautiful Tasmania?

The Department of Health is seeking interest from suitable qualified applicants for a Registered Nurse (517824) vacancy.

Tasmania offers an envious lifestyle with some of the most amazing natural attractions, a wide range of opportunities, quality education systems, short commutes, exceptional food, wine and local beer.

Hobart is a beautiful city which is easily accessible from other major cities in Australia. If moving interstate, we recognise this can be a big decision and the right candidate may be eligible for relocation support.

Vacancy: Multiple positions. Permanent, Full-Time and Part-Time, shift work, working up to 76 hours per fortnight, commencing as soon as possible.

Salary: \$69,835 to \$96,428 pro rata, per annum

To find out more about this exciting opportunity, please contact Cindy Weatherburn Acting Nurse Unit Manager – Intensive Care on (03) 6166 8212 or via email cindy.weatherburn@ths.tas.gov.au

Closing date: 7 May 2023

**CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO APPLY NOW** 





### Royal Darwin and Palmerston Hospital (NT) Experienced ICU Nurses - Intensive Care Unit

Royal Darwin and Palmerston Hospital (RDPH) has the only ICU in the Top End of the Northern Territory. Servicing a population of 200,000 in an area of more than 500,000 km<sup>2</sup> with 6,200 km of coastline, from East Arnhem to the Kimberley. RDPH is the forward receiving hospital for Northern Australia and plays a major role in disaster management in the region through the National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre. RDPH ICU is a mixed Adult/Paediatric Level 3 ICU with 18 beds. There are 1,200 admissions annually and the patient demographic is unusual in that it includes 50 per cent Indigenous Australians and 5-8 per cent high acuity paediatric ICU patients.



If you are an experienced intensive care nurse with skills in advanced ventilation this is an opportunity not to be missed.

The role is for a Nurse 2 (N2), Remuneration Package Range \$80,157 – \$106,050 (Comprising salary \$71,670 – \$94,821, superannuation, leave loading and the value of 2 weeks extra recreation leave) In addition to above Package Range, incentives include:

- Flexible contracts
- Relocation incentives

Not only an opportunity to work, live and explore the magnificent Top End but you will also gain;

- excellent education and career opportunities
- amazing work/life balance

Closing date: 30 June 2023

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