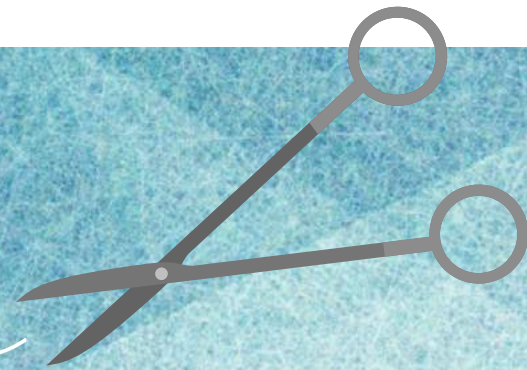




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President's Report

What a fabulous year for VPNG!

In October we held our Strategic Planning meeting and met face to face with the current VPNG Committee members, as well as 6 new Committee Members. Welcome to Jennifer Gamble, Mauricio Yanez, Sue Campigli, Naomi Mahon, Elyse Coffey and Eva Burton. The VPNG Committee continues to consist of a mix of regional and metropolitan Melbourne perioperative nurses, with members from as far West as Warrnambool and Stawell, to Echuca up North and Sale out East. This provides the Committee with valuable information about the perioperative educational requirements across Victoria.

At the meeting we reviewed the objectives from the previous 12 months and some of the VPNG Committee's very successful achievements were:

- an increase in VPNG membership in the last 12 months
- the production of four great editions of Snippets newsletter in the new online format
- the use of the online registration platform for all VPNG education events
- the introduction of VPNG rolling online membership fees
- a successful Country Conference in Echuca
- the provision of scholarships for postgraduate studies in perioperative nursing and management, and an Education Grant supported by Medtronic to assist with conference attendance
- the award of VPNG-ACORN Conference scholarships to three VPNG members
- two very successful Introduction to Perioperative Nursing Courses for novice perioperative nurses, which have received great feedback with a waitlist for subsequent courses
- a very successful Metro Study Day, with 250 delegates attending, which included a breakfast education session hosted by Medtronic.
- co hosting a Nurse Excellence Application Training (NEAT) course in collaboration with Johnson & Johnson
- hosting a very successful Management Seminar which will continue as a biennial event
- re-invigorating our Hospital Representatives program. Please contact the VPNG office at enquiries@vpng.org.au if you would like to be your Hospital Representative.
- an increase in VPNG social media platform to promote VPNG and ACORN education events, networking opportunities, continuing professional development, seminars, webinars and Standards.

None of these successes could be achieved without the tireless efforts of the fourteen volunteer perioperative nurses and Administration Officer, who make up the VPNG Committee. It has been a pleasure to work alongside you all this year.



We did farewell a longstanding Committee Member Dee Lahn-Opie, who retired from the Committee after coordinating the very successful Management Seminar in November. Thank you Dee, for all your time and effort on the Education Subcommittee over the last 5 years.

Plans are well under way for 2019 with a number of VPNG education events already scheduled.

- **FRIDAY 22ND AND SATURDAY 23RD FEBRUARY**
VPNG will hold its first regional Introduction to Perioperative Nursing Course. The course will be run by VPNG Committee Members and Nurse Educators from North East Hume Region in Wangaratta.
- **SATURDAY 16TH MARCH**
Regional Study Day at Latrobe Regional Hospital in Traralgon.
- **SATURDAY 11TH MAY**
Matrix Surgical and VPNG will co-host the first of the Specialist Education Series with a Bariatric Surgery Education Seminar.
- **FRIDAY 16TH AND SATURDAY 17TH AUGUST**
VPNG State Conference at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre. Further information and registration details for events are via our website www.vpng.org.au

On behalf of VPNG I wish you a very happy and safe Christmas and New Year and I look forward to seeing you all at some stage throughout 2019.

Thank you for your support of, and commitment to, perioperative nursing and VPNG.

Jane Thomas

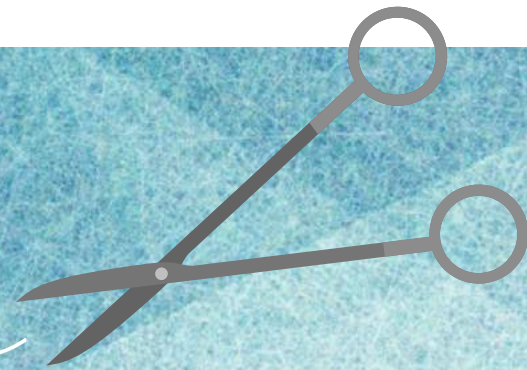
Jane Thomas - VPNG President



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BEING A STUDENT IN AN OPERATING THEATRE

Perioperative nurses throughout Victoria are in demand, and with an aging perioperative workforce we need to create a supportive learning environment for nursing students to encourage them to 'try' perioperative nursing during their graduate year. It is so important to be accommodating of students and try our best in such a high-pressure environment to give them a great experience as they are potentially the nurses of the future. It is often this experience that sways them to consider perioperative nursing.

A nursing student at Echuca Regional Hospital recently summarised her experience.

On my first day I was very nervous. I had no idea what a student would do in the perioperative unit on placement. My first thought was that the operating theatre didn't really sound anything like what I wanted to do, but I would give it a go and try my best.

First things first was to scrub up, which I thought made me look very professional. On my first day I spent a lot of time going through admissions, learning the process, and taking vital signs on admission. Gradually I was able to watch a few surgical procedures. The nurses continually said to me "Just leave at any time, do you feel

sick? Are you okay?" But I felt fine. I was very interested. I loved the rush in the room and watching everyone going about their job and getting it done. While watching the nurses count numerous instruments I thought would never be used during surgery. The surgeon washed his or her hands for what seemed like hours, and the patient being asked their name, date of birth over and over again, so much was going on.

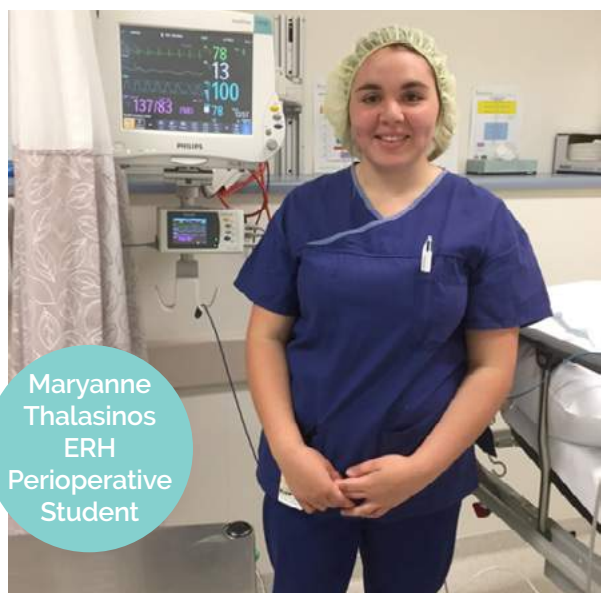
Something I will never forget is on the last day the nurses and surgeons asked me if I wanted to scrub up and help with the procedure. I thought they were joking but they weren't. I washed my hands, thinking



Eliza Kervin
ERH
Perioperative
Student

that it was enough and then did it again. I kept thinking in my head repeatedly "Don't break the sterile field, don't break the sterile field". Helping and being involved was by far the best experience. The nurses and staff at Echuca were so friendly and patient, taking their time to explain processes to me and making me feel welcome.

Placement in operating theatre opened a door for me that I never would have considered by myself. Something I never would have pictured myself doing, and now it is something I am striving for when I graduate.



Maryanne
Thalasinios
ERH
Perioperative
Student

My placement in the operating theatre suite at Echuca Regional Health was such a great experience. I was given the opportunity to observe many different types of surgical procedures, including two caesarean sections. This a dream come true as I am interested in working in midwifery.

I had placement in the operating theatre for three weeks. Some may say it is a bit of an overkill and that I would not be able to practice the skills I have learnt at university; however, it was the complete opposite. On this placement I was given the opportunity to be involved in several different clinical activities that I had not completed on previous placements. These included priming an intravenous line and handing over a patient, which I was able to do on several occasions during my placement. I was also given the opportunity to scrub and assist the surgeon during a surgical procedure, as well as give patient medications, provide jaw support, remove an LMA and much more. I was given the opportunity to work in all areas of the operating suite and be involved in all the processes, from admitting a patient to discharging to the ward. As this was in real situations,

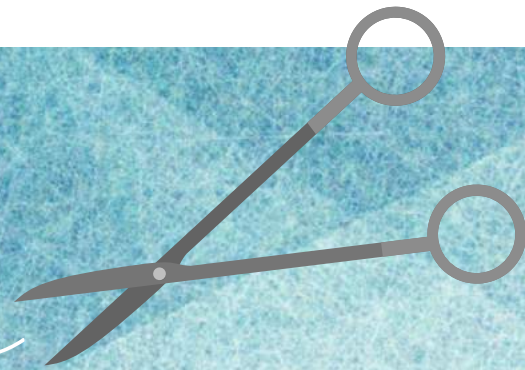
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where my skills were put to the test, and support and feedback was provided, my confidence has greatly increased, and I can see myself being part of a team like this in future. The type of work is very interesting, and I saw up close a different side of patient care where knowledge, speed, accuracy, precision and team work are vital during every step of the patient's journey.

All the staff in the operating theatre were extremely nice and gave me every opportunity to enhance my skills and knowledge. I felt so much more confident and comfortable due to the staff I was working with, who were very welcoming and knowledgeable.

This experience has encouraged me to further my education or steer my career direction towards perioperative nursing.

Thank you all so much for making my placement a very enjoyable and educational experience.

Introducing

NAOMI MAHON

I am a Specialist Anaesthetic and PACU Nurse, with 20 years' experience and a passion for education. I am thrilled to be joining the VPNG Committee, which I believe will provide me with an opportunity to have an increased impact on perioperative nursing education, and the provision of quality patient care.



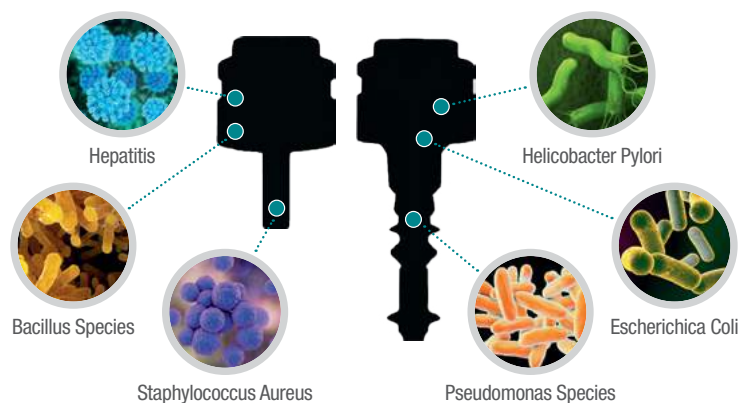
I have eclectic experiences having travelled around Australia, and have worked in most Australian States and Territories in rural, remote and metropolitan health care facilities, as well as overseas on voluntary missions to Papua New Guinea and Bangladesh.

I have postgraduate qualifications in perioperative nursing and nursing education and work as a Teaching Scholar with Deakin University and clinically at the Western Hospital. Thank you to the VPNG Committee for accepting my nomination and I look forward to frolicking at an event near you soon!

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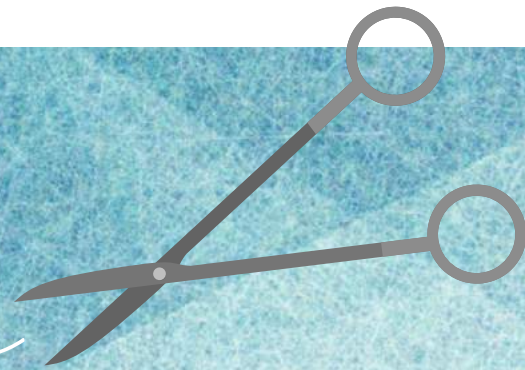
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STUDY DAY DELEGATE REGISTRATION

SATURDAY 16TH MARCH 2019
Latrobe Regional Hospital, Traralgon

STUDY DAY ENQUIRIES:

VPNG via 1300 721 169 or enquiries@vpng.org.au
Office hours are Tuesday and Thursday, 9:00am - 5:00pm

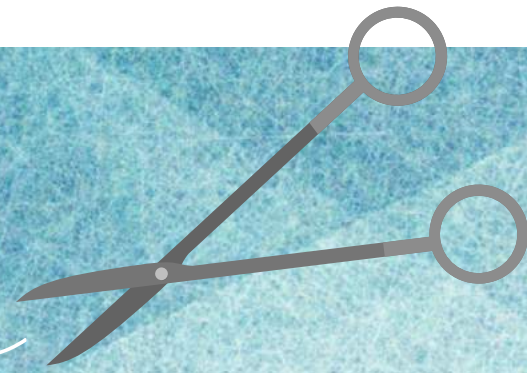
www.vpng.org.au

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0900-0930 REGISTRATION

0930-1000 Malignant Hyperthermia - Are you prepared?

Dr Reg Edwards

Anaesthetist
Latrobe Regional Hospital

1000-1030 Endoscopy- Where to from here?

Dr Julian Rong

Gastroenterologist
Latrobe Regional Hospital

1030 - 1100 MORNING TEA

1100-1130 CICO - Circling the Vortex

Dr Watson Gomez

Anaesthetist
Latrobe Regional Hospital

1130-1215 Paediatric Anaesthesia

Dr Andrew Green

Anaesthetist
Latrobe Regional Hospital

1215-1300 Caring for the Paediatric Patient in PACU

Astrid Hill

Registered Nurse
Latrobe Regional Hospital

1300-1345 LUNCH

1345- 1415 Principles of Laparoscopic Surgery

Mr Midhat Ghali

General Surgeon
Latrobe Regional Hospital

1415- 1445 Enhanced Recovery After Surgery - Improving Patient Outcomes

Mr Neil Jayasuriya

General Surgeon
Latrobe Regional Hospital

1445-1515 Orthopaedic Trauma in a Regional Operating Theatre

Mr Ben Brooker

Orthopaedic Surgeon
Latrobe Regional Hospital

1515-1545 Advances in Pain Management

Aileen Marino

Registered Nurse
Latrobe Regional Hospital

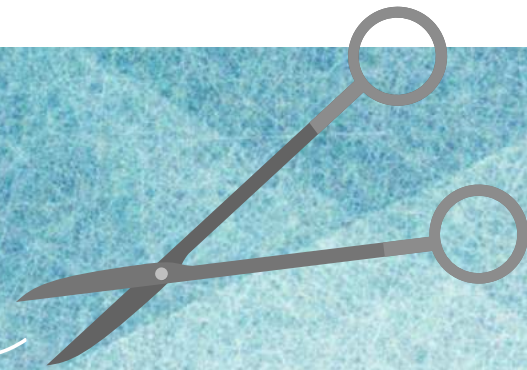
1545-1600 CLOSING





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REGISTRATION DETAILS:

Online registration can be completed at www.vpng.org.au/pages/events-and-conferences

Registration Fee

Regional Study Day

Member

\$75 (inc gst)

Non Member

\$125 (inc gst)

Registrations close midnight Friday 8th March 2019.

Cancellation Policy

All registrants who cancel their registration must do so in writing to VPNG to enquiries@vpng.org.au or to PO Box 106 East Melbourne VIC 8002

Registration fees will be refunded as follows:

- On or before 28th February 2019, 100% of fees less administration costs.
- Refunds for cancellations after 28th February 2019 are possible only under exceptional circumstances and will be at the discretion of the VPNG Committee.

Privacy Act Statement

Your name has been collected for registration purposes. Photos will be taken at the event for promotional reasons. Please contact enquiries@vpng.org.au if you do not give permission for your photo to be taken.

GETTING THERE:

Travelling by car from Melbourne: The quickest way to get to Traralgon from Melbourne by car is to travel south-east along the Monash Freeway and then take the M1 (Princes Freeway) through Warragul.

Alternatively, take the South Gippsland Highway which runs closer to the coast through Korumburra, Leongatha and Foster before joining the Princes Highway at Sale.

Public transport options: The region is accessible by public transport from Melbourne via the V/Line train service, which operates every day to Traralgon.

ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS:

Century Inn - 444 metres from Latrobe Regional Hospital

BIG4 Traralgon Park Lane Holiday Park - 777 metres from Latrobe Regional Hospital

Comfort Inn & Suites Latrobe - 3.2 kms from Latrobe Regional Hospital

Mid Valley Motel - 3.57 kms from Latrobe Regional Hospital

IN AND AROUND TRARALGON:

Amble along the wide tree-lined streets, beautiful gardens and spacious parklands of Gippsland's largest city. Located in the Latrobe Valley, on the Princes Highway, Traralgon lies at the intersection of many a Gippsland adventure. As the region's entertainment capital, Traralgon has an ever-expanding choice of top-notch dining options and a thriving pub and club scene.

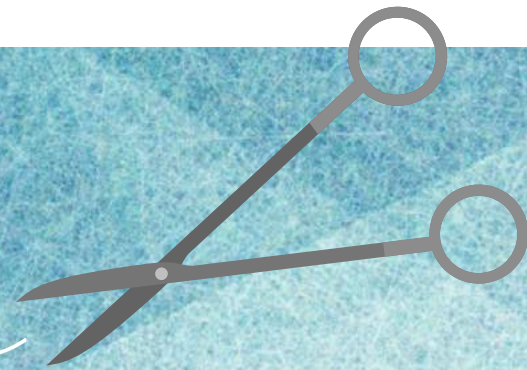
Visit Gippsland and enjoy an inspiring getaway at some of Victoria's most spectacular national parks, lakes and waterways. Walk, ride, swim or ski across changing landscapes, wander through coastal villages and check out artworks in country galleries. Indulge in regional delicacies, sample local brews and fine wines, and delve into the region's rich history and ancient Indigenous heritage.



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2019 SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

Are you a Registered or Enrolled Nurse wanting to attend a conference, get involved in research or project work, or enrolling in postgraduate study? We may have a Scholarship or Grant to assist you in undertaking professional development activities.



VPNG are excited to announce the new VPNG Conference Grant - designed to support VPNG members requiring assistance to attend the biennial VPNG State Conference. The State Conference will be held at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre on the 16th and 17th August 2019.

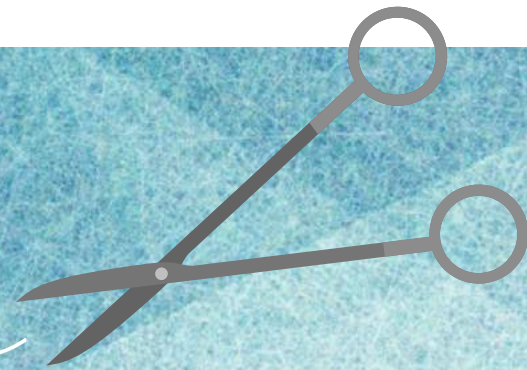
Please check out all the details (including selection criteria and closing dates), and download an application form from the VPNG website (www.vpng.org.au). If you have any questions contact us at enquiries@vpng.org.au or phone 1300 721 169.



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2019 VPNG SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

The Victorian Perioperative Nurses Group is passionate about promoting and supporting educational and research activities and aims to raise the professional standard of perioperative nursing care and improve patient outcomes. In 2019 we have a number of Scholarships and Grants on offer to assist Victorian perioperative nurses meet the financial costs of undertaking postgraduate education, attending a conference or getting involved in research or project work. Our scholarships are named in recognition of Honorary and Life Members of VPNG for their achievements in the development of the perioperative nursing profession.

The 2019 Scholarships and Grants open in January 2019 and applications are due in February 2019. Visit our website www.vpng.org.au for all the details including eligibility requirements and selection criteria by downloading an application form.

VPNG are also very excited to announce the new VPNG Conference Grant, designed to support VPNG members requiring assistance to attend the biennial VPNG State Conference. The State Conference will be held at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre on the 16th and 17th August 2019 with the theme "Creating Connections". If you have never attended one of our State Conferences and visited a trade show then we encourage you to apply and join in on the inspiring learning, the hands-on trade experiences, and create connections while meeting and networking with other passionate perioperative nurses.

The Education Subcommittee would like to acknowledge and thank Dee Lahn-Opie, a passionate perioperative nurse, for her dedication to VPNG and for her time and effort she spent on processing scholarships and grants and her involvement in conferences and the Introduction to Perioperative courses. Dee was also involved in organising successful events such as the recent Management Seminar where we said our farewell and thanks to Dee, presenting her with some flowers. We wish her all the very best in her next adventures.

Recently we welcomed three new members to the Education Subcommittee, Naomi Mahon, Elyse Coffey and Sue Campigli, and look forward to them bringing some fresh ideas to the team as they join Mele'ana Kaitu'u, Trish Flood and Kerry Schroder. We have some exciting events planned for 2019 including some trade workshops, more Introduction to Perioperative courses and a new Perioperative Educators Seminar.

Education Subcommittee
Victorian Perioperative Nurses Group

ARE YOU LOOKING TO JOIN OR RENEW YOUR VPNG MEMBERSHIP?

Online membership* is now available, visit the VPNG website or click on this button

MEMBERSHIP

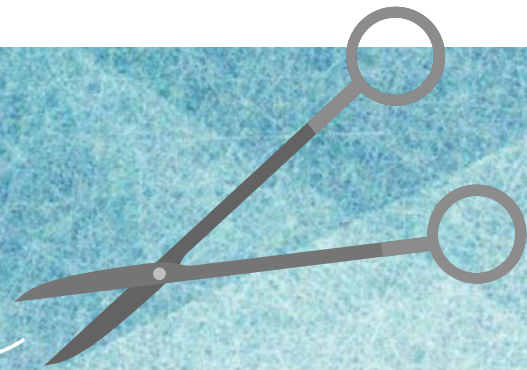
to renew or join today.....



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SURGICAL MORTALITY: Who Is Listening?

BY REBECCA DONALD (VSCC 2018)

Have you ever wondered what happens with the information detailed in an incident report and who reviews it once the incident has been closed? Have you thought about why the Nurse Unit Manager (NUM) and other managers insist on documenting all incidents? Well the good news is that incidents are reviewed at the local level (ward, hospital, Organisation) but also potentially escalated to the Department of Health; particularly where an incident has resulted in poor patient outcomes, including death, the process for investigation is very robust.

Following the commissioning of the Targeting Zero review of hospital safety and quality assurance in Victoria, the Victorian State Government established a number of new organisations to simplify the Health system, and better respond to the needs of patients and healthcare workers. Safer Care Victoria is one of these key organisations. This organisation works with patients, families and carers, clinicians and health services to monitor and improve the quality and safety of care across the public health system. The mission is simple: Outstanding healthcare for all Victorians. Always.

Safer Care Victoria is structured with 5 operational branches and 4 Chief Clinical Officers all working towards providing better outcomes and safer care for patients in Victoria.

Of these 5 operational branches, Stewardship and Support partners with the Victorian Agency for Health Information, to review data to track quality and safety improvements in the health system, identify issues and provide advice to the sector. In order to do this work effectively, this branch engages three ministerial appointed consultative councils that report on highly specialised areas of healthcare to help reduce mortality and morbidity. The councils:

- collect, analyse and report data relating to mortality and morbidity cases identify avoidable or contributing factors
- provide advice and recommendations to inform priority areas for research, quality and safety improvements and policy development.



These 6 consultative councils are;

- Consultative Council on Obstetric and Paediatric Mortality and Morbidity (CCOPMM)
- Victorian Consultative Council on Anaesthetic Mortality and Morbidity (VCCAMM)
- Victorian Clinical Council
- Safer Care Patient and Family Council
- Voluntary Assisted Dying Review Board
- Victorian Surgical Consultative Council (VSCC)

The VSCC, established in 2001, review causes of avoidable causes of mortality and morbidity associated with surgery and provide feedback to the medical profession on any systemic issues that is identified. Surgeons and clinicians are encouraged to report significant injuries that occur as a result of, or in association with, an operative procedure. The council reports publicly on the quality and safety of surgical services in Victoria, providing advice, recommendation and practical strategies to improve.

So, next time you are involved in a significant surgical incident resulting in a poor outcome, surgical death or morbidity incident, remember, the information you provide will assist all Victorians to receive better, safer care.

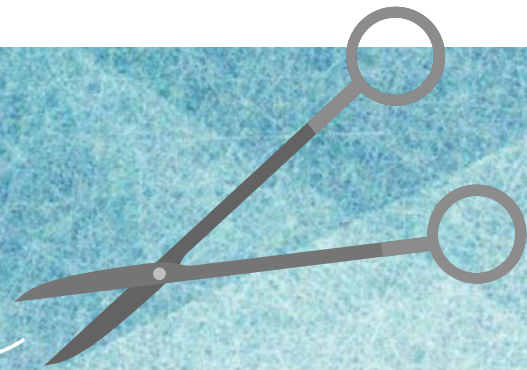
More information is available at Safer Care Victoria via the website and annual audit reports.



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Delegates report on the VPNG MANAGEMENT SEMINAR

BY SUE CAMPLIGLI

On Saturday 3rd of November VPNG hosted a Management Seminar for Perioperative Nurse Unit Managers, Associate Nurse Unit Managers and Clinical Nurse Specialists. The event was fittingly held at Nurses Memorial Centre which celebrates and supports best practice in the nursing profession and honours nurses who have contributed to the Australian people. So instead of heading to Flemington (Derby Day), approximately 40 nurses attended the Management Seminar and were treated to some wonderful insights, practical tips and very honest experiences of what management and leadership can be.

Anna Hinz warmly welcomed all to the event and launched into the program with "Finance Basics: Numbers Don't Have to Be Boring!" discussing the importance of knowing your business and the importance of no surprises when reporting to your manager. Anna's take home messages were to understand demand and any change in the business, the importance of building a budget and understanding the budget that reflects as much as possible activity, labour and operational expenses – numbers are certainly not boring!

"What Managers Need to Know" was delivered by Anne Hardy, CSSD NUM at Knox Private Hospital. Anne's presentation delivered great insights into the importance of the management of CSSD. The impact of the updated AS/NZS: 4187, 2014 and the requirements of this standard has on us. Anne's passion and experience for risk management,



Speaker - Anna Hinz

infection control, logistics, education and staff was admirable.

Mauricio Yandez shared with the group a very candid reflection on "How to Survive the First Year in Management" at Central Gippsland Health. Mauricio's take home message was

that managers are facilitators of people. With the clever use of an acrostic poem, Mauricio used the word facilitator and his first-hand experience to share what he had learnt from being a manager in a new hospital, new town and the impact of this on him, his family and his team.



Speaker - Anne Hardy

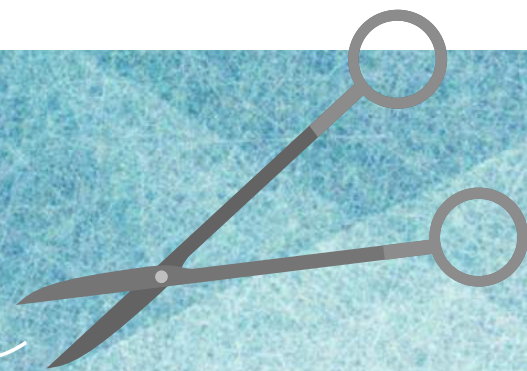
Next up we were privy to the experiences gained by Rebecca Donald, Perioperative Services Manager at Box Hill in "Managing and Implementing Change" with the introduction of Electronic Medical Records and opening of a brand new operating suite. This presentation provided those present with more of an understanding of the challenges and how to deal with these when introducing major change.



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Speaker - Mauricio Yanez



Speaker -
Rebecca
Donald



Kerry Schroder & Dee Lahn-Opie



For our next session Laura O'Connor was inspirational in her discussion about "Communication in Teams- Are you listening?" We were out of our comfy chairs, broken up into two large groups and solving a problem with no communication. We all achieved this of course with the take home message of the importance of communication. As managers and potential managers, the questions raised by Laura were around how to review our current communication with our teams and gave us plenty to think about. These included; How are we communicating – is the message being delivered, are we using technology to our advantage, are we asking how our staff want to receive communication, What communication is being delivered so that staff can be alert to the important information, When is communication being conveyed, What is being communicated and why, is it relevant to all, When are you communicating the information, is it timely? Laura inspired us to think outside the square, be innovative and use technology.

"Knowing what to do when the job you get isn't the one you ordered" was delivered by Anna Hinz who provided some very practical advice on what to ask at your next job interview to assist you in ensuring that you are getting what you are looking for.

Last session presented by Lauren Bell was on Clinical EFT; to be really honest I was thinking that this session was going to be about numbers. Wrong! This was a session to remind us of the need to take time out and use tools to care for ourselves. EFT stands for Emotional Freedom Technique (who doesn't want that?). Lauren introduced us into "tapping" and the feedback on the day was that we could feel ourselves relax following this experience. Lauren was passionate about balance and that as nurses we care for everyone else and no so much for ourselves.

In summary, the day was excellent with presenters sharing honest and heart-warming experiences of some of the difficult times as

managers and how to overcome these. That being a manager is rewarding, whilst acknowledging the need to care for ourselves as well as those surrounding us. It's about reaching out and sharing with our future leaders and supporting one another. Although we didn't go to Flemington, I believe we all backed a winner!

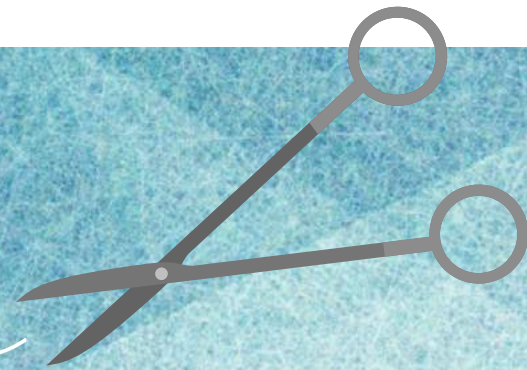
Finally, we presented flowers to Dee who coordinated the event, in a fond farewell and recognition of her significant contributions to the VPNG Committee during her tenure.



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2019 STATE CONFERENCE

Friday 16th and Saturday 17th August 2019
Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The VPNG Conference Committee is seeking abstracts that demonstrate examples of current and future initiatives which highlight best practice or innovative solutions to the challenges of providing nursing care in the perioperative environment.

Presentations should focus on the following themes:

- Implementing best practice and safe patient care
- Personal wellbeing and working in a supportive environment
- Patient advocacy
- Legal aspects of care and adherence to ACORN Standards

Presentation Length

Presentations will be contained to 25 minutes with a 5 minute question time.

Abstract Format

- **Word Count:** 250 words (maximum) including key words.
- **Font:** Times New Roman 12 point.
- **Spacing:** Single spacing with double spaced paragraphs.
- **Paging:** A4, single sided.

- **Headings:** Title, presenter's name, team members position title, employer, contact details. Include a short personal profile of 150 words (max).

Only 2 presenters will be accepted to present.

Selection

- We encourage novice presenters and VPNG will offer a 'mentor' to guide you through the process.
- Abstracts will be assessed against the following criteria: **Overall importance, quality, innovation, originality and content.**
- All applicants will be notified of the Conference Committee's decision in writing.

Please note: The successful applicants will have complimentary registration for the Study Day.

Submission

Email your abstract as an attachment, saved as Microsoft Word to: enquiries@vpng.org.au

**CLOSING DATE
FOR ABSTRACT
SUBMISSION IS
28TH FEBRUARY
2019**

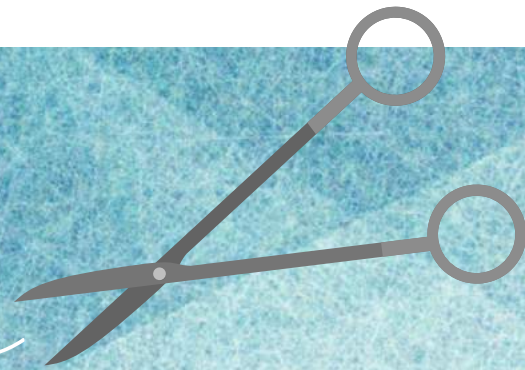
If you have any queries submitting an abstract, please contact the VPNG Office during working hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Telephone **1300 721 169**



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REPORT:

Introduction to Perioperative Nursing Course November 2018

On 16th and 17th November 2018 VPNG held another very successful Introduction to Perioperative Nursing Course. The course was run at capacity with 30 nurses attending, presented with topics on instrument and circulation nursing, as well as anaesthetic and PACU nursing over the two days. The sessions included theoretical and practical workshops across the specialty areas.

The next VPNG Introduction to Perioperative Nursing Course will be held in Wangaratta on Friday 22nd and Saturday 23rd February and is targeted at nurses planning to enter the perioperative specialty as well as nurses new to the area wishing to consolidate and expand their knowledge. We are looking forward to running this course in a regional area for the first time and are well supported by local perioperative staff in the area. We have already had a great deal of interest so if you are wanting to attend be sure to confirm your place at this event via www.vpng.org.au

Naomi Mahon
Education Subcommittee

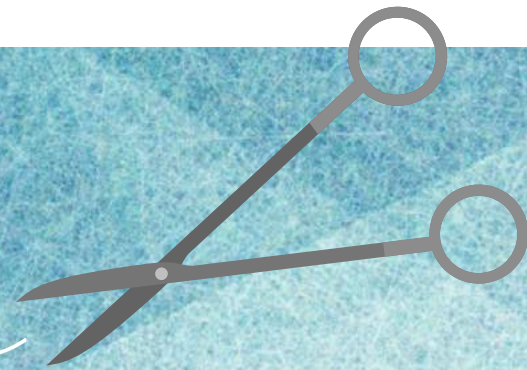




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REPORT DECEMBER 2018

The ACORN board spent time in Perth as the next stop buttressing with the Local Associations (states), whilst hosting our Board Meetings. We were honoured to be invited to ACORN WA's 50th Annual Conference, where the diverse program displayed the talent and dedication of perioperative personnel in WA. Along with the educational commitment of ACORN WA, which is replicated across the different states. Participating in a Q & A session with the delegates also demonstrated that similar hurdles are faced in our profession nationwide, though their conference program touched on research initiatives such as multi-disciplinary communication which may begin to address some of the shared concerns.

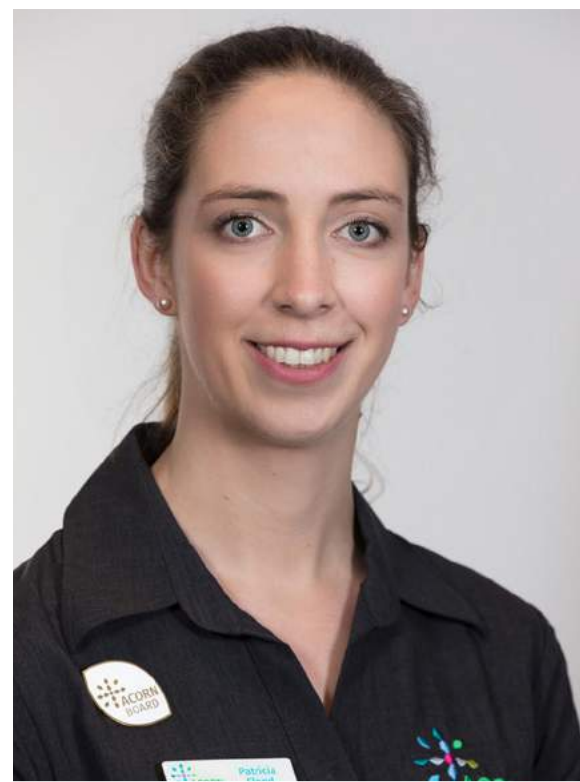
The Q & A session also raised discussion of member benefits such as professional indemnity insurance discount (with Guild Insurance) and the grant available to assist perioperative nurses volunteering and teaching internationally. Many of the grants, awards and scholarship will open early 2019, so now is a great time to consider your plan for next year.

During ACORN WA's Conference we were also able to hold a General Meeting, passing an amendment to our Constitution to update official name changes from some states (Tasmania, Queensland and Western Australia) and also to appoint a Company Auditor. The minutes will become available on the ACORN website.

I recently attended the webinar during Perioperative Nurse's Week, where we had 5 minutes with nurses in different stages of their careers from around Australia. This provided an invigorating platform to see some of the different career options (such as manager, educator and nurse practitioner) and hear how people achieved their role. I look forward to the future webinars, particularly as the Research Committee are planning to deliver a few based around encouraging and bringing together research nurses from the budding to the experienced researcher. Keep your eye out for more details regarding these and other topics in 2019.

Along similar lines to the webinar, the Education Committee have been developing a resource for perioperative career pathways, which has been mentioned during the last couple of state visits. This will provide a fantastic resource and is one of the many initiatives the Board have been working on within each Committee. Another is to remember some save the dates- as diligent preparation continues for the Perioperative Leadership Summit to be held in Canberra on the 6-7th September 2019 and the ACORN Conference in Sydney 28-30th May 2020.

I would also like to take the opportunity to warmly invite those who have been pursuing research or projects this year to consider submitting their manuscript to the Journal of Perioperative Nursing, the diversity of research



across Australia is part of what makes our journal such interesting reading.

Have you been following ACORN on social media as we have been expanding our presence particularly on Instagram though you can also interact with us on Facebook and Twitter. You may also have noticed the promotion of the different states educational events as we acknowledge the great work nationally for our professional development, many of which may make a fantastic weekend away to attend. The next one the ACORN board is invited to is a study day in Launceston, Tasmania in February. Check out ACORN TAS for further details.

Patricia Flood

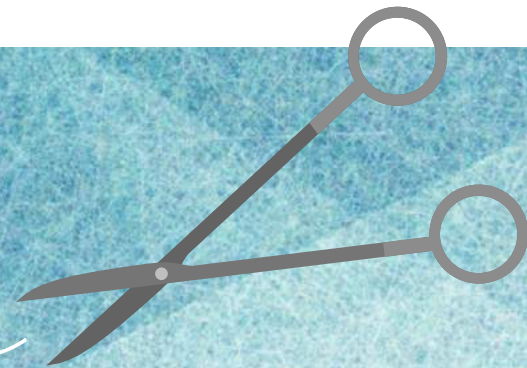
Patricia Flood
ACORN Director
Chair of Journal and Research Committees



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SUMMER 2018



UPCOMING EVENTS

2019

Ausmed Education
www.ausmed.com.au
Preventing Surgical Complications Conference
Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th February 2019
Oaks On Collins, 480 Collins St, Melbourne

Ausmend CPD Events
Night Duty Nursing Conference
Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th February 2019
Oaks On Collins, 480 Collins St, Melbourne

VPNG Regional Study Day
Saturday 16th March 2019
Traralgon

Preventing Surgical Complications Conference
Thursday 14th and Friday 15th March 2019
Oaks On Collins, 480 Collins St, Melbourne

AORN Surgical Conference & Expo – Nashville
Saturday 6th – Wednesday 10th April 2019

ANMF Health and Environmental Sustainability
and Wellness conferences
Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd May 2019
Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre,
1 Convention Centre Place, South Wharf

ACORN QLD Inaugural State Conference
Thursday 2nd – Saturday 4th May 2019
The Ville Resort-Casino
Sir Leslie Thiess Drive, Townsville, QLD

SAVE THE DATE
VPNG / Matrix Surgical Bariatric Surgery
Education Seminar
Saturday 11th May 2019

EORNA Congress
Thursday 16th – Sunday 19th May 2019
The Hague, Netherlands

Anaes Assist
www.anaes-assist.com.au
Anaesthetic Emergencies For Scrub Nurses
Saturday 1st June 2019
Rydges St Kilda3
35-37 Fitzroy Street, St Kilda, VIC 3182

Day Surgery Nursing and Minor Procedures Seminar
11 Hours | 45 Mins
Monday 17th and Tuesday 18th June 2019
Oaks On Collins, 480 Collins St, Melbourne

VPNG State Conference
Friday 16th August and Saturday 17th August 2019
Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre
1 Convention Centre Place
South Wharf, Melbourne

SAVE THE DATE
Recovery @ The Rock - Uluru
Saturday 31st August 2019

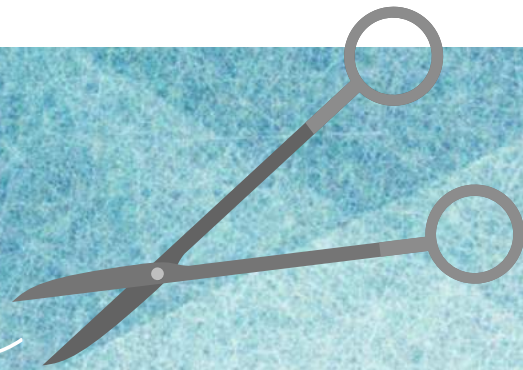




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VPNG

victorian perioperative
nurses group

INTRODUCTION TO PERIOPERATIVE NURSING COURSE

This course has been designed to provide exposure to the perioperative environment for Registered and Enrolled Nurses who have limited or no experience and are interested in moving into this specialty area of nursing

THE AIMS OF THE PROGRAM INCLUDE:

- ◆ Provide an overview of the roles and responsibilities of the Perioperative Nurse
- ◆ Facilitating the development of a basic understanding of the principles and practice of perioperative nursing
- ◆ Encouraging participants to further develop their knowledge, skills and understanding of perioperative nursing on completion of the course

TOPICS INCLUDE:

- ◆ Roles of the Perioperative Nurse
- ◆ Principles of perioperative nursing
- ◆ Preoperative care of the perioperative patient
- ◆ Overview of anaesthesia
- ◆ Perioperative pharmacology
- ◆ Principles of airway monitoring
- ◆ Patient assessment and care of the unconscious patient
- ◆ Pain management
- ◆ Infection control principles
- ◆ Legal and safety issues relevant to perioperative nursing
- ◆ Role of the Perioperative Nurse as patient advocate

FRI 22ND AND SAT 23RD FEBRUARY 2019
FROM 9AM TO 5PM

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE LEARNING & TEACHING CENTRE
NORTHEAST HEALTH WANGARATTA

COURSE FEES: \$150 FOR BOTH DAYS
(LIMITED TO 30 DELEGATES)

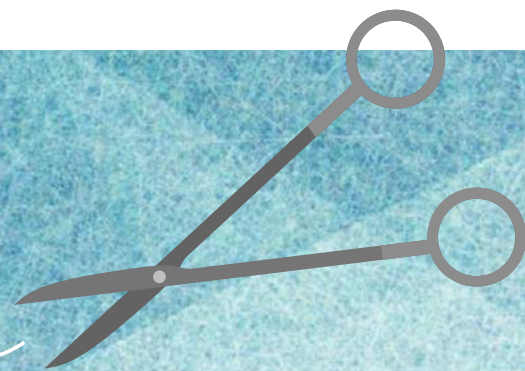
TO REGISTER FOR THIS COURSE VISIT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.VPNG.ORG.AU



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Award-Winning Patient Positioning for MIS & Robotic Surgery

The ONLY Trendelenburg Patient Positioning System without a single report of patient sliding.

TrenGuard™

Trendelenburg Patient Positioning System



No sliding.

Patented "Speed Bump" bolster prevents patients from sliding when in steep Trendelenburg



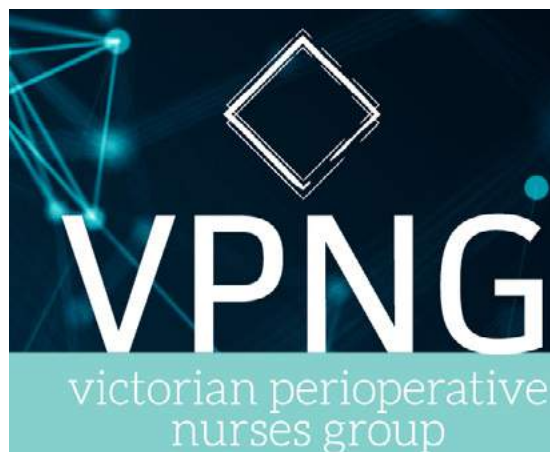
No shoulder braces.

Soft, non-structural lateral stabilizing pillows control patient body mass shift.

Supplied by:
 **marlinmedical**
hooked on healthcare



Contact Marlin Medical for more info on 1300 664 642 info@marlinmedical.com.au



2019 STATE CONFERENCE

Friday 16th and Saturday 17th August 2019
Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

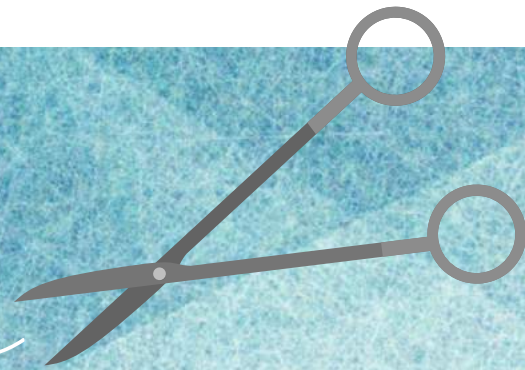
'Creating Connections' www.vpng.org.au



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SUMMER 2018



SAVE THE DATE

The VPNG / Matrix Surgical
Bariatric Surgery Education
Seminar will be held on
Saturday 11th May 2019



WHY USE AN IN PENDANT SMOKE EVACUATION SYSTEM?

SILENCE

Surgeon and Staff work in peace. Motor turbine located in plant room.

STAFF SAFETY

Smoke plume is an OH&S health hazard. The ACORN standard requires the removal of surgical smoke.

SIMPLE TO USE

Easy to use for all theatre staff.



SMOKE FREE

Clear the air in theatre. Ensure surgeon visibility. Remove dangerous gases, viruses and bacteria.

SAVE

Cost effective. Low power usage. Economical filter system.

AUSTRALIAN

Designed and Manufactured

Our focus is staff and patient safety

Endovision

ADVOCATES
FOR PATIENT
SAFETY AND
QUALITY
EQUIPMENT

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