

CoNNO Meeting – Tuesday 1 May 2012
Agenda item 12 - Member Reports

List of member reports:

Audiometry Nurses Association of Australia
Australasian Sexual Health and HIV Nurses Association
Australian Association of Stomal Therapy Nurses
Australian College for Infection Prevention & Control (formerly Australian Infection Control Association)
Australian College of Critical Care Nurses
Australian College of Operating Room Nurses
Australian Nurse Teachers' Society
Australian Women's Health Nurse Association
Australian Wound Management Association
Gastroenterological Nurses College of Australia
Nursing Informatics Australia
Otorhinolaryngology, Head & Neck Nurses Group Inc

Representing the national interests of nurses in all sectors of the health profession

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Audiometry Nurses Association of Australia Inc

What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

- Change of name from Community Nurse Audiometrists Association Inc to the **Audiometry Nurses Association of Australia Inc**. This name better reflects the diversity of practice within audiometry nursing. Audiometry nurses typically practice within community health settings, and primarily in NSW with an increasing membership from all States and Territories. With increased diversification in the nursing workforce, we also have members who work in general practice and ENT practice settings across all States and Territories of Australia.
- Associated change of web address to: www.anaa.asn.au
- Successful 3 day annual conference held at Greenmount Beach, Coolangatta Qld on 19-21st October 2011 which provided opportunities for participation in clinical workshops on otoscopy, paediatric screening, 'masking' as part of the audiometric assessment, and communications for hearing impaired people. The conference also provided some thought provoking education and insight into such topics as:
 - the psychology of acquired hearing loss
 - the social wellbeing of children with hearing loss and ear disorders
 - itinerant support teachers role in supporting school aged children with hearing loss in the education setting
 - identification and management of auditory processing disorders
 - newborn hearing screening programs, where to from here?
 - congenital cytomegalovirus and hearing loss
 - student perspective on the audiometry nursing course offered through the College of Nursing
 - cholesteatoma – identification and management
 - diagnostic audiology
 - support services for hearing impaired children
- Reviewed Clinical Practice Standards for Audiometry Nurses and distributed to membership
- Reviewed Clinical Competency Standards for Audiometry Nurses

What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

- Further discussion re practicalities of introducing credentialing
- Assistance with marketing annual conferences.

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

- Lobbying for funding from State and Territory Health Departments for provision of public hearing clinics (other than services which receive Commonwealth funding such as Australian Hearing). Hearing loss is becoming an increasing issue of concern amongst the Australian population, in part due to the ageing population - one in six people have a hearing loss. Publicly funded hearing services are sparse, particularly in rural and remote areas, and there is little awareness of education and training opportunities for nurses in the field of hearing health, particularly outside of NSW.

Jan Wright

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Australasian Sexual Health and HIV Nurses Assn Inc.

What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

ASHHNA is a member of a new Australasian (ASHA) Sexual Health Alliance that commenced in September 2011. The purpose of ASHA is to acknowledge and build on the specific expertise of sector partners in our common aims of improving national and local responses to sexual health in Australasia and in supporting and collaborating with close neighbouring countries to achieve these objectives. ASHHNA is proud to be one of the founding partner organisations of ASHA, which includes:

1. The Australian Society for HIV Medicine (ASHM)
2. The Australian Society for Sexual Educators, Researchers & Therapists (ASSERT)
3. The New Zealand Sexual Health society (NZSAS); The Sexual Health Society of Queensland Inc. (SHSQ Inc)
4. The Sexual Health Society of Victoria (SHSoV)
5. Sexual Health and Family Planning Australia
6. New Zealand Sexual Health Society
7. Sexual Health Society Queensland
8. RACGP Special Interest Group
9. RACP Australasian Chapter of Sexual Health Medicine

ASHHNA was on the working group for the development of a cardiovascular health resource for people living with HIV. The project was developed by the Heart Foundation. The resource is in the final draft stage

ASHHNA has nominated nursing representatives to the organising committees for the in the Australasian Sexual Health and HIV Conferences to be held in Melbourne in October 2012. The 2012 sexual health conference will be joined with the International Union against Sexually Transmitted Infections conference.

The Carol Martin Professional Development Scholarship for sexual and reproductive health and HIV nurses for 2012 has opened for applications.

A successful planning day was held in February setting the annual goals and activities for the association.

What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Jo Perks
ASHHNA Inc

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Australian Association of Stomal therapy Nurses Inc. (AASTN)

What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

The AASTN has been very actively involved in providing educational opportunities to Stomal therapy Nurses and the wider Nursing community. A joint international conference with the AASTN and the Colorectal Surgical society last year in Cairns Qld, provided an exciting educational forum that certainly promotes the concept of teamwork and multidisciplinary patient focused care. Continuing on from this Adelaide hosted the World Council of Enterostomal Therapists (WCET) conference in April this year. The WCET is the only Global organisation representing Ostomy, Wound and Continence Nurses and this conference allows the sharing of knowledge and networking with peers worldwide.

The major sponsors, exhibitors and WCET executive board has stated this was the best congress they have ever attended because of the diverse scientific program, social program, excellent convention facilities and the collaboration evident between the Stomal therapy Nurses, Vascular nurses and Continence nurses. 900 delegates attended from 47 countries.

The (AASTN) Professional development and education sub committee have developed clinical guidelines to support the practice of Stomal therapy. As a professional group we are very committed to excellence in the provision of care and are actively engaged in assisting AASTN members to develop research skills and embark upon research activities. These guidelines will be launched at the WCET conference.

The AASTN has provided the opportunity of credentialing for many years now to all members. Each year we have members take up this opportunity and many who are also undertaking re credentialing. This certainly recognises advanced practice in the workplace but also should enhance self esteem and satisfaction for individuals undertaking this process.

The previous 6 months have provided many educational opportunities to Nurses and this will continue next year when we meet at our conference in Tasmania. As the role of the Stomal therapy Nurse is very varied and encompasses wound, ostomy and continence, education is vital to supporting this diverse speciality.

The AASTN will be having a focus on promotion of our speciality in the next 12 months to increase awareness of the stomal therapy nurse role and all it encompasses as we work with the various centres that provide stomal therapy nursing education programs to ensure a minimum level of content on ostomy, wound and continence is provided.

What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

We as nurses must promote our speciality to health professional in the community as well as private and public health care centres. Perhaps CoNNO could assist in developing a basic promotional marketing package nursing organisations could adapt to suit their needs to ensure good communication of services available reaches all. Many G.P's are unaware of what stomal therapy nurse do and how to find them. We are sure this would be the same for other nursing associations.

Wendy Sansom

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Australasian College for Infection Prevention & Control (formerly AICA)

What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

The new College was established on the 1st January this year and replaces the previous organisation - the Australian Infection Control Association - and the local State and Territory infection control Associations. The College is registered under ASIC and has been granted Not for Profit (NFP) and Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status under the ATO. The States and Territories are currently in the process of winding-up which will be completed by 1 July 2012.

The ACIPC, which will be governed by an Executive Council (EC), that consists initially of seven representatives from each State and Territory, a President, Immediate Past President and President Elect. The new structure will also see the introduction of four committees which will be the:

- Credentialling and Professional Standards committee
- Education and Research committee
- Policy and Publications committee
- Special Interest Group Advisory committee

Recognition of the credentialling process for the membership

What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

We have been using the CoNNO guidance documents to assist us with the establishment of the College governance framework.

Communication of our establishment as the College and the replacement of the previous peak bodies for infection control in Australia would be helpful. We will keep CoNNO informed of our activities.

Our website is still in development so access remains at: <http://www.aica.org.au/default.asp>

We would also appreciate your communication of our peer reviewed journal *Healthcare Infection* which publishes articles on all issues related to healthcare infection. Access to journal articles can be achieved through CINAHL or via the website above.

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

We are in the process of setting-up all our Committees, one of which is the Education & Research Committee, chaired by Professor Anne Gardner from ACU in Canberra, whom is well-known to CoNNO members. One of the key first roles for the Committee will be to establish a National Research agenda for Infection Prevention and Control in Australasia.

Promotion of our national conference which will be held in Sydney 8-11th October. Details of the conference can be found at: www.acipconference.com.au/

Recognition of the credentialling process for the membership remains a challenge. How are other organisations with established credentialing processes in place managing this?

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Australian College of Critical Care Nurses

What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

- In response to the need for high quality Advanced Life Support (ALS) education programs ACCCN has commenced licensing its ALS program to external bodies. This enables them to run the ACCCN program using ACCCN accredited ALS trainers. ACCCN maintains quality control and distributes ALS certificates to successful participants. Current licensing agreements have been finalised with individual hospitals, groups of hospitals, universities and independent providers.
- The College in association with medical intensive care colleagues had a successful scientific conference in Brisbane late last year with over a thousand delegates. It is now 36 years since the inception of this combined conference.
- The new ACCCN Board's new executive positions include:
 - President – Professor Paul Fulbrook
 - Vice President – Ms Dianne Chamberlain
 - Secretary – Dr Hugh Davies
 - Treasurer – Associate Professor Marion Mitchell
- ACCCN is currently updating two of its Position Statements:
 1. Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation: the roles of critical care nurses and the critical care units and the provision of critical care education. This is in consultation with the Organ and Tissue Authority.
 2. Intensive Care Nursing Staffing
- The organisation has committed funds to updating 2002 Competency Standards.

What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

ACCCN Board is interested if other organisations are trying to progress specialty nurse practice preparation, accreditation and regulatory interest to ensure the public are cared for by suitably educated specialist nurses?

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Nil at present.

Marion Mitchell
National Treasurer



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Reporting Template for CoNNO Members

This reporting template has been developed to assist sharing of information between CoNNO members and to identify particular issues of importance to nursing organisations.

Please provide a written report of no more than 500 words outlining relevant activity for reporting at CoNNO meeting.

Name of organisation:

Australian College of Operating Room Nurses (ACORN)

What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

- Working towards our Biennial ACORN Conference being conducted in Darwin 23-26 May 2012
- Involvement with the National Medication Labelling initiative and how it will be implemented into the perioperative environment within Australia
- Development of the 2012 ACORN Standards for Perioperative Nurses, due for release in May at the ACORN Conference

What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

- Seeking advice if any CoNNO member organisations allow for the replay of their training videos within a learning /content management system (e.g. BlackBoard) to be viewed via the internet. Please note we are concerned with content that member organisation holds the copyright for. Do they charge a 'one off fee' or a 'per user fee'?

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

- No

Robert (Rob) McCann
Hon Treasurer & ACORN Director – SA

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Australian Nurse Teachers' Society

What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

Moving to online business e.g. memberships, financial arrangements

Planning to open a Tasmanian Branch

Successful 14th National Nurse Education Conference in Perth WA in April, 2012

Opening negotiations with NZ colleagues

ANTS has joined the Alliance for Sharps Safety and Needlestick Injury Prevention in Healthcare

What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

Nil at the moment

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Alliance for Sharps Safety and Needlestick Injury Prevention in Healthcare would like to speak to CoNNO on encouraging the government to insist on having safety engineered medical devices in health care facilities.

Sandra Campbell

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Australian Women's Health Nurses Association Inc

What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

- Invitation to Celebrate 20 Years of the Australian Womens Health Network in Canberra at Government House with the Governor General
- AWHNA Inc Womens Health Education and Assessment Module first draft reconfigured and completed by ANF Jodie Davis as an Online Education Session
- AWHNA Inc Annual Womens Health Update August 2012 at Rydges Hotel in Canberra
- 7th Australian Womens Health Conference 2013-AWHNA Inc looking at providing Sponsorship , Presenting and offering services on working party

What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

Ongoing support generally but especially Governance and Policy

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

As above

Linda Oliver

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Australian Wound Management Association

What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

Our nationalisation continues to progress with our new National Secretariat commencing in July. As noted above our logo has now been nationalised with each state/territory individualising the branding. October 2011 was the inaugural Pan Pacific forum which was well attended and saw the launch of the **Australian and NZ CPG for Prevention and Management of Venous Leg Ulcers**.

<http://www.awma.com.au/publications/publications.php#vlug>. In March 2012 our National conference was held in Sydney with over 700 delegates attending for a pre conference workshop, 3 day conference, International Wound Infection Institute AGM and the launch of the **Pan Pacific CPG for the Prevention and Management of Pressure Injury**.

http://www.awma.com.au/publications/2011_awma_pan_pacific_pressure_injury_guidelines.pdf.

Our wound awareness campaign for 2012 continues with a concentrated effort each March. GPs have been sent educational information about the AWMA guidelines. Compression therapy for venous and lymphatic dysfunction is our emphasis this year.

Australia will be significantly represented at the World Union of Wound Healing Societies to be held in Japan this September, with Australians as keynote speakers, invited guests and curriculum organisers. We have put in a bid to host the 2016 conference in Brisbane. Our next AWMA national conference will be in 2014 on the Gold Coast.

What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

Ongoing support with dissemination and implementation of the National guidelines on Pressure injury and Venous Leg ulcers and on-line petition. www.awma.com.au/pages/wac.php

You are invited to respond to an on-line consultation on minimal content of **undergraduate programmes leading to registration as a health care profession in any discipline** in relation to the lymphatic system and lymphoedema. Consultation is being carried out on behalf of the International Lymphoedema Framework Organisation, a charity that works with key organisations, including the World Health Organisation to improve the management of lymphoedema and related disorders world-wide. Further details may be found a www.lympho.org. If you have difficulty accessing the link please copy and paste it into your browser. **The deadline is 7th May 2012.**

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Members of the AWMA committee are very concerned about **Aseptic Non Touch Technique (ANTT)** that is being implemented in Australia.

Terry Swanson

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Gastroenterology Nurses College of Australia (GENCA)

What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

- Development of Project committee to develop National Guideline & e-learning module on Care and Maintenance of Percutaneous Gastrostomy tubes and Enteral feeding tubes.
- Review of "Fundamentals in Endoscopy Reprocessing" Course in alignment with change in practices following release Infection control in Endoscopy guidelines.
- Review of Endoscopy Assessment documentation. Call for Expression of Interest to attract, and teach new Assessors.
- SWOT analysis of current board members and development of learning plan.
- Encourage members to become Credentialed this year.

What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

Clues on how to market to members the benefits of being Credentialed.

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

No

Debbie-Ann McQueen
President GENCA

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NURSING INFORMATICS AUSTRALIA (NIA)

Joanne Foster April 2012

What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

1. NeHTA
 - Clinical Terminology & Information Reference Group (CTIRG)
 - Joanne Foster is now a Co Chair of this group
 1. A lot of work being undertaken in this space
 - a. Personally Controlled Electronic Health Record (PCEHR)
 - b. Clinical Knowledge Manager (CKM)
 - c. Detailed Clinical Models (DCM)
2. HISA – Joanne Foster involved in development of Certification for Health Informatics. This is due for launch later in the year
3. Joanne Foster attended Health Workforce Australia meeting on the Future Needs of Health Informatics workforce
4. Attendance at the NeHTA Super Summit for E Health on 12th & 13th April. 3 NIA members attended
5. An NIA representative is now on the HISA Board

What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

1. NIA Conference is on July 31st in Sydney. Could Call for Papers be sent out to each groups membership please.

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

1. Any involvement in Health/Nursing Informatics and EHealth to keep nursing at the forefront of these national developments

CHECK OUT



The Model Healthcare Community Roadshow Truck is coming to you. Please see the following for information or if you would like to organise the truck to visit your health care agency:

<http://www.nehta.gov.au/media-centre/nehta-news/956-the-model-healthcare-community-roadshow-is-coming-to-you>

and

<http://www.ehealthinfo.gov.au/model-healthcare-community>

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Otorhinolaryngology Head & Neck Nurses Group (OHNNG)

What have been the significant activities of your organisation in the last six months?

Years come and go and seem to remain so busy. This past year has been extremely busy for the SA state team as we planned for our 16th National conference in ADELAIDE. This meeting was a huge success and we managed to deliver one of the most diverse and I think innovative programs to date. With 18 international and 20 national speakers it was a program with something for everyone.

Each year I believe we are offering more and more to our members. Especially as our new state coordinators are finding their feet they are starting to offer much more in their home states, not only in the cities but rurally in the state. Correspondence from members, chapters, other nurses, surgeons, hospitals and medical companies remain incredibly constant.

Our great website continues to get better and better. It is becoming the best way for the group to communicate.

One of the things we did this year was to be able to have a mid year face to face committee meeting this was held in Adelaide and we were able to discuss and make some pretty definite plans and directions for the group. Hopefully we can continue this in the coming year and improve what we can offer our members. This year we are able to have a dedicate education role within the group which will now focus on education and re-establishing our newsletter

Currently are membership is at 417

What are the issues that CoNNO members may be able to assist your organisation with?

Not currently

Are there any particular issues you wish CoNNO to consider?

Not currently

Tracey Nicholls
President OHNNG

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