

Critical Comment

New Zealand College of Critical Care Nurses



Message from the Chair

Welcome to the summer edition of Critical Comment for 2019. Happy New Year and hope you all have managed to have some form of break and had an enjoyable and festive Christmas and New Year. It is important to look after ourselves and our colleges during this increasingly busy environment we work in. I refer to it as an environment now instead of a period because it seems that there is not real downtime or let up anymore. We need to recognise this as a group and shift our thinking to how we manage and care for all of the staff in Critical Care both short term during crisis and stressful situations and during the long haul of a career in this challenging and stressful environment that we love. With this in mind I am looking forward to the next ANZICS conference on the North Shore, as this will be one of the many focuses. Please take a moment to look at the advert later in this newsletter and also look at the website for further information. Put the date of 4th April 2019 in your diary for our General Meeting. It would be good to have as many of you there as possible.

The committee remain committed to the development of the knowledge and skills framework and are developing a working party for this work to be taken forward nationally. The work is progressing slowly but we are confident that we will make progress and a difference with this, leading to clarity and transferability for all staff in Critical Care. We are also reviewing and updating the *Definition of a Critical Care Nurse* document. Keep an eye on your emails and the website for updates on these. We would like to become a more member driven college and would encourage you all to become involved in this Newsletter with information and articles of interest. We want our email account to be used more and to that end have made it a major focus to be more responsive to all emails and enquiries.

I look forward to hearing from you all.

Steve Kirby
Chairperson NZCCCN

Letter from the Editor

Hard to believe that 2018 is already over!

The committee have a very busy time ahead getting ready for workshops in the North, which has been confirmed for March 2019. The South Island workshop is slowly taking shape with the date still to be confirmed, more information will be posted as the dates and timetables are confirmed.

Thanks to the team from the critical care unit in Auckland City Hospital for the article on organ and tissue donation, a vital subject that often isn't talked about, thank you for spreading the word and giving your time for the cause.

In April 2019 the next nominations for the committee will be open, there is currently an open position in the southern region, and one about to open in the mid-south region, if this is something you are considering, talk to your colleagues about nominating you, it's an incredibly rewarding and interesting role to be involved in.

The next Critical Comment will be out later in 2019 so please write an article or comment for that issue and e-mail it to Sharyne Gordon at SharyneG@nzno.org.nz. Thank you in advance for your contributions.

Carrie McAlicie
Critical comment editor NZCCCN

2019 NZCCCN national committee members			
Position	Name	Term	Region
Chair	Steve Kirby	3 rd	Northern
Vice Chair	Rachel Young	1 st	Northern
Secretary	Sarah Rogers	2 nd	Midlands
Treasurer	Erin Williams	2 nd	Midlands
Consultation Documents	Lara Millar	1 st	Central
Committee Member	Tania Mitchell	1 st	Central
Website/Newsletter	Carrie McAlicie	1 st	Mid-South
Pending nomination			Southern
NZNO Liaison	Margaret Cain		

Promoting Organ & Tissue donation
 Ride Forever NZ Motorcycle Show
 Auckland



In November, a number of intensive care nurses were part of a team from the Critical Care Unit, Auckland City Hospital at the *Ride Forever Motorcycle Show* promoting organ and tissue donation.

Our aim was to promote donation by encouraging people to 'have the conversation' with their family / whānau, friends or people close to them about their wishes when they died.



We have good responses from those who attended the show. A number were surprised to learn that having 'donor' on their drivers' licence did not ensure their donation wishes were carried out.

Other responses ranged from 'this needs to be talked about more often' to 'this is a sombre topic'.

Of course, we had the opportunity to see the other motorbikes such as the motorbike from the Captain America movie.

My thanks to the crew who manned the stall, especially to Alex and Elaine van Heerden.

Vivienne Walker, Donation Link Nurse
 30 November 2018



I See You, Nurse
Remind me, why do I do this?
Why I chase the rush
of chaos, of drama
of resus & trauma
Why I've held distraught mothers
Cared for fathers
and leant by the bedside to explain to brothers,
why their sister simply won't wake up after
I switch off infusions
and call out after her.
On the surface I'll hold steady,
dry and stern
but I crack on the underground home.
I hold thankless floodgates in my hands
Staying strong for
another shift,
another patient,
another family looking to be shown
Improvement in those lines and trends that I'll struggle to decipher to a devastated mother, who wants her baby home.
But we'll still push and still go
Stretching resources, and ourselves.
I'm doubled with patients,
double strength pressors,
double pumping,
double shot espresso for that fourth night in a row.
And then the ward round comes
and I ask myself
have I done enough?
are these lines labelled, is my bedside straight?
but can we be too tough,
on one another
and ourselves?
They call nurses "Angels",
but my wings are long singed
from holding too tight to Dear Nightingale's lamp,
but I carry on because I will it,
and because i can,
Because I've seen eyes open after weeks without sedation,
while family rallies behind a young man with such determination
as he takes his first steps for the second time in his life.
We are not Saints
We are not Angels
I will never cause miracles at handover
But I'll give them my mind,
my hands,
my words
until my best is enough, no more.



3 – 5 April 2019

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2019 ANZICS NEW ZEALAND REGIONAL ASM

Spencer On Byron Hotel, Takapuna, Auckland, New Zealand www.anzics2019.nz

Conference Management Committee

- Convenor: Dr Jonathan Casement, Waitemata DHB
- Janet Liang, Waitemata DHB
- Joanne Shirtcliffe, Waitemata DHB
- Chrissie Evans Wilson, Waitemata DHB

Deadlines

Call for Abstracts Opens:

Monday 27 August 2018

Registration Opens:

Monday 24 September 2018

Call for Abstracts Closes:

Monday 11 February 2019

Abstract Notification:

Wednesday 13 February 2019

Close of Early Registration:

Monday 18 February 2019

Conference

3-5 April 2019




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- ✓ Join a large community of likeminded nurses
- ✓ Scholarships available for courses and education
- ✓ Discounted registration to ANZICS conferences
 - ✓ Critical Comment Newsletter
- ✓ Support education and safe staffing standards



For more information or to join, visit our website:
www.nzno.org.nz/groups/colleges_sections/colleges/new_zealand_college_of_critical_care_nurses

or



New Zealand College of Critical Care Nurses



http://www.nzno.org.nz/groups/colleges/new_zealand_college_of_critical_care_nurses/newsletter

Update your NZNO or NZCCCN Membership

If you move address, change your name, change your job/position, or no longer want to be a member of a college of section please update your details with NZNO. You can do this by emailing Sharyne Gordon: SharyneG@nzno.org.nz with NZNO number and a simple request to alter your details or remove you from the membership database.