

## Professional Nursing Advisor Report – Julia Anderson NZNO, College of Gastroenterology Nurses AGM November 2020

Tena koutou katoa/ greetings to you all.

I would like to start the NZNO report with an acknowledgement and nod of appreciation to all nurses, in this 2020 Year of the Nurse. Thank you for the work that you do, and for your professionalism in the delivery of the healthcare you are involved in. It has been a hectic and somewhat stressful two years with the current health environment been immensely challenging. NZNO greatly appreciates the time and effort from all nurses across Aotearoa.

This year the WHO declared 2020 as the Year of the Nurse and Midwife as part of their three-year global campaign to improve health by raising the status and profile of nursing. The international experience of the Covid-19 pandemic emphasised the significant role of nurses. It was with sadness we stood in silence on 12 May 2020 (during our national lockdown) remembering nurses across the world who died as a result of exposure to covid-19 either from the workplace or from community transmission. Many nurses across the world faced significant employment disruption and poor access to PPE. The response by nurses has been hugely significant to halting the spread of the disease and protecting the health of those in their care, their families and the wider community in NZ. Thank you for the roles that each of you played in that response.

Covid-19 exposed many inequities in health care delivery and more than ever the words from WHO DG demonstrated the importance of a strong nursing workforce.

Ghebreyesus said: *“It was important nurses and midwives got the education, training, jobs, conditions, opportunities, dignity and respect they deserve. But our cause is not about celebrating nursing, it is about recognising the power of nursing to achieve our vision of universal health coverage by 2030, which will ensure a healthier, safer and fairer world for everyone.”*

NZNO's annual report 2019/20 is available on the website with your member login. See [https://www.nzno.org.nz/get\\_involved/conference\\_and\\_agm/member\\_information](https://www.nzno.org.nz/get_involved/conference_and_agm/member_information)

Key achievements include

- the visibility of influencing nursing by submissions to government agencies, presentations to select committees, engagement with external stakeholders, leading forums, and providing professional advice and medico- legal and industrial representation.
- The medico-legal forum topic for 2020 was Scopes of practice – growing understanding and implications for practice. Forums were hosted in six regions across Aotearoa NZ and attended by 775 nurses.
- Over 2000 NZNO members attended PNA forums on a variety of topics relating to professional practice frameworks.
- Care Capacity Demand Management (CCDM) - The programme goals are 1) quality patient care, 2) quality work environment, and 3) best use of health resources. <https://www.ccdm.health.nz/> NZNO PNAs are engaged with CCDM in all DHBs,

alongside organisers and member delegates working in partnership on the ACCORD Safe Staffing agreement.

- Significant work is on-going around our NZNO/DHB Pay Equity claim including Work assessment, remuneration analyses and establishing undervaluation.
- Fundamental to the work NZNO staff do on a day to day basis is responding to individual nurses who call to discuss issues of employment or practice, often both. PNAs and organisers continue to respond to member issues/concerns and requests ensuring timely contact within 48 hours of receiving the call.
- MECA bargaining for both primary health and district health board nurses have been progressing throughout 2020. Bargaining has been challenging for primary care nurses with industrial action occurring across the country. DHB bargaining is underway with new dates for bargaining approaching in 2 weeks time.

To finish I wish to acknowledge and thank the College committee. Under the steady leadership of Karen Clarke, the committee came together to work collaboratively in promoting excellence in Gastroenterology nursing and advancing the professional wisdom within the specialty. NZNO, a member lead organisation relies on the huge commitment and the mahi undertaken by national colleges and sections, in addition to the many other personal and professional commitments you all have. A well-functioning participatory committee is crucial to the continued and ongoing success of our colleges. The committee worked to improve the visibility of the college, established sub specialty groups under the auspice of the College, advocated for client groups and have kept abreast of regional and national issues for the specialty made visible for members within journal publications.

I wish you all the very best for the Christmas season. I look forward to my future work with the Gastroenterology committee and wish the college every success for the coming year.

Hapaitia te ara tika pumau ai te rangatiratanga mo ngā uri whakatipu  
*Foster the pathway of knowledge to strength, independence and growth for future generations*

Ngā mihi