

Panui

Welcome to your very
first NZgNC Panui!

NZgNC
NZNO GASTROENTEROLOGY
NURSES' COLLEGE

March 2023

We hope you will enjoy this new publication to keep you in the loop with the goings on in the committee work projects, education opportunities, and news from around the country- in little snippets for you to share with your teams. Share it, print it for your tea rooms, let us know if you have anything we can include in it to share. *It's for everyone.*



Update from the Chairperson

This year the committee has a new member- Justin Augustine from the beautiful west coast of the south island. I believe that Justin is our very first male on the committee, so I'm thrilled to have him on board.

Alongside Holly Weale (*Secretary*), Kirsten Arnold (*Treasurer*), Marian O'Connor (*IBD group*), Jessica Southall (*Hepatology group*), Karen Kempin (*Nurse Endoscopists Group*), Kiran Joseph (*Committee member*), we are looking forward to working on some exciting initiatives to support you as our membership.

I encourage you to get in touch with us to tell us your ideas and initiatives, and to let us know where and how we can support you best. Whether it may be with specific education ideas, ways of connecting and learning from each other around the country, changes in practice that you want to know how to do or implement in your workplace.

This year you will notice a reduction in Tube magazines to 2 editions over the year-These will have reduced advertising in them, and more articles and reports from our nursing workforce. Our valued sponsors remain an important part of our education and will continue to support our publications, as well as support for our nurses prizes at The Gastroenterology Annual Scientific Meeting. The new Tube will have a focus topic each edition which will hone in on a topic of interest from within our specialty. This could be about gastrostomy feeding tubes, ERCP, ESD/EMR, sustainability in endoscopy, IPC.....the list is endless. So, if you hear a great presentation, or have created a learning package in your department, please let us know, we would love to include these in our magazine.

In addition to the Tube, you will receive a Panui newsletter which will, in brief, keep you up to date with educational opportunities, news and updates from our subspecialty groups, and important links to resources.

To contact us, you can email us at secretaryofnznznc@gmail.com - we would love to hear from you. 😊

Merrilee Williams
Your Chairperson
NZgNC

Dates for your calendar

GENCA 2023 National Conference:
9-21 May 2023 Perth <http://www.genca.org/education/2023-national-conference/>

Gastroenterology Annual Scientific Meeting 2023: 6-8th December 2023 in Rotorua. Let your managers know that you'd like to come so you can explore funding avenues. Or better still- prepare a poster, or presentation to share with your nursing peers and you could win one of four nurse's prizes! Don't forget we have a nurse's education fund you can also apply for to get funding for conferences too. [NZgNC Funding application form](#)

NZgNC Education Fund: The NZgNC have an education fund to support those who are wanting to attend a conference, or post grad study in areas relevant to our specialty. We have a set amount each year that we budget towards this fund, so please make use of it. In all cases, all we ask in return is that you share your learnings with the membership through an article in the Tube magazine. Sharing of knowledge is so valuable, and great for your professional development. Here is the link to the application fund, complete with the criteria, and the Tube writing guidelines. https://www.nzno.org.nz/groups/colleges_sections/colleges/nzno_gastroenterology_nurses_college/conferences_events



Challenging times for IBD Nurses in Aotearoa/New Zealand



A recent audit of Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) nursing practice in New Zealand revealed a severe shortage of nurses' country wide, with 100% of the IBD nurses working in part-time positions (typically 0.4 – 0.6 FTE*) and 70% had other clinical responsibilities such as liver care, endoscopy, and general gastroenterology. As a result of this audit, the NZIBDNG committee wrote a 'Call to Action' which highlighted the issue and the recent resignations of 6 nurses nationwide and sent this to CCNZ & NZSG (New Zealand society of Gastroenterology) in May 2022, requesting for their support to address this issue and highlight it to the district health boards nationwide.

NZSG president Dr Zoe Raos, was sympathetic to our 'Call to Action' and we collaborated with NZgNC (NZ Gastroenterology Nurses college) to write a letter to the Minister of Health, Andrew Little in order to highlight this issue

which was delivered last month (Nov 2022). Within this letter, we outlined the importance of the role of IBD Nurses in the care of patients with IBD nationwide and highlighted the current workforce challenges. We identified that the total nationwide workforce is 10.25 FTE IBD Nurses in Aotearoa/New Zealand which is extremely low in comparison to other countries. With an estimated 20,000 patients with IBD in Aotearoa/New Zealand and using the nurse to patient ratio of 500 patient to 1 IBD Nurse, we fall short by 23 IBD Nurses nationwide.

The audit also showed that IBD nurses nationwide have limited access to education and therefore as a committee we have prioritised an annual focused IBD Nurse education day. We are very grateful to NZgNC, Pharmaco & Janssen whom have supported us with educational grants to be able to host this day for our nurses.

Our IBD Nurses educational meeting was a success held at the Cordis Hotel in Auckland, on Tuesday the 22nd of November 2022, prior to the start of the NZSG conference. This meeting was postponed from March 2022 and was the 2nd annual meeting we have held with the last being in Christchurch in 2020. The meeting provided teaching sessions from fellow IBD Nurses & surgical colleagues on various aspects of IBD care including managing complications related to rectal disease (*proctitis, haemorrhoids & perianal disease*), pouch management, vaccinations and case presentations. The meeting was a great success and the evaluation forms are in the progress of being analysed for content for next years meeting (*details TBC for 2023*). Above is a photo of the day...

Written by Marian O'Connor
On behalf of the **NZIBDNG Committee**

FTE = Full time equivalent

Congrats to winners from the conference

- 1 Naomi Santos & Amaina Basco
– Best First-time Presenters (sponsored by Insight)
- Vanessa Mathieson
– Best Article in The Tube (sponsored by Boston Scientific)
- 2 Cara Rowe
– Best Nurse Poster Presentation (sponsored by NZgNC)
- Andrea Dixon
– Best Nurse Presentation (sponsored by Obex)

