

# The DISSECTOR



## 3 EDITORIAL

Change is in the Wind: Chief Editor Bron Taylor discusses changes to Scope of Practice for Anaesthetic Technicians — and our digital future...

## 6 TABLE TALK

Perioperative Nurses College Chair Cass Raj looks at Webinars, anaesthetic technicians, and the digital age...

## 7 NEWS & INDUSTRY NEWS

Details on the 2024 PNC Conference in Wellington; Cubro releases new theatre table.

## 8 PROFESSIONAL

PNC Chair Cassandra Raj outlines the position of the Perioperative Nurses College of the New Zealand Nurses Organisation (PNC NZNO) to changes to the scope of practice for anaesthetic technicians (ATs), proposed by the Medical Sciences Council (MSC) of New Zealand

## 10 RESEARCH REPORT

Post-discharge nausea and vomiting (PDNV) is often not reported or widely studied. Helen Loader and Rachael Parke describe a study which aims to determine the incidence and severity of PDNV in patients undergoing day-stay head and neck surgery at a central Auckland public hospital.

## 16 MEDICAL IMAGING

Liyang Duan reviews the pathophysiology and management of the vasovagal reflex with the intent of developing a staff education package.

## 19 CLINICAL

Eby Eapen-Mathew looks into the concept of postoperative delirium and introduces some of the screening tools and the recommendations of the relevant bodies.

## 23 CLINICAL

Bron Taylor reports that acute episodes of delirium are more likely to occur in older patients with a degree of cognitive impairment and discusses how routine cognitive screening of all patients over 75 years of age is included in the anaesthetic pre-assessment at Te Toka Tumai Auckland to identify 'at risk' patients.

## INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

Business Cards directory.....	21
CUBRO: Skytron Aurora Four.....	5
Keyport: Sim.MOVE 800 OR table.....	2
Keyport: Simeon Surgical Lights.....	24
Terumo Needles for Filling and Filtering.....	13
Te Whata Ora Northland .....	9

## Touching Base

### EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

**BRONWYN TAYLOR** RN, BN, MN (Hons)  
Associate Nurse Director-Workforce  
Development, Education and Training  
Perioperative Services, Auckland DHB.  
dissector.editor@gmail.com or  
btaylor@adhb.govt.nz

**SHONA MATTHEWS** RN, BN, MHsc (Hons)  
Nurse co-ordinator Radiology, Green Lane  
Clinical Centre. shonamat@adhb.govt.nz

**CATHERINE FREEBAIRN** RN, BN, PG Cert.  
Radiology Nurse, Radiology Dept., Hawkes Bay.  
catherine.freebairn@airnet.co.nz

**REBECCA PORTON-WHITWORTH** RN, MNurs,  
Clinical Nurse Specialist Cardiothoracic  
Operating Theatres RNFSA, Operating Theatre,  
Christchurch DHB.  
Rebecca.Porton-Whitworth@cdhb.health.nz

**OLIVIA BRADSHAW** RN, BN, PG Cert.,  
Cardiovascular Dept., Christchurch Hospital.  
Olivia.taly@gmail.com

### EBY EAPEN MATHEW

Charge Nurse Manager, Patient Management  
Services, Te Toka Tumai | Auckland  
EbyM@adhb.govt.nz

**GILLIAN MARTIN** RN, PG Dip, VA-BC. (Nat  
Ctte. Rep.) Clinical Nurse Specialist, Radiology,  
Auckland City Hospital.  
gillian.martin@adhb.govt.nz

### NATIONAL COMMITTEE

**Chairperson** Cassandra Raj - cassraj@gmail.com

**Secretary** Leanne Scott - pnc.sec@xtra.co.nz;

**Treasurer** Rob McHawk - rob.hawker@me.com

### REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Auckland-Northland – Gillian Martin

Central North Island – Cassandra Raj;

Ruahine-Egmont - Karen Prendiville;

Hawkes Bay – Jan-Marie Wilson;

Wellington – Amber Cox;

Canterbury-West Coast-Nelson-Marlborough –  
Nadine Harrison-Smith;

Otago – April-Lily Sule

Southland – Sandy Smith

### AUTHOR GUIDELINES

The Editorial Committee of *The Dissector* welcomes articles, reports, book reviews, letters to the editor, exemplars, case study experiences, research papers/projects, theatre regional news etc. Please send your ideas to: dissector.editor@gmail.com