

The DISSECTOR



4 EDITORIAL

Chief Editor Shona Matthews provides an overview of the infection control topics covered in the June issue.

6 TABLE TALK

PNC Chair Johanna McCamish to explore the topic of best clinical practice.

8-9 NEWS

2019 PNC Conference registration opens and new keynote speaker announced.

9 OBITUARY

Judith Anne Miles: 1936-2019.

10 INFECTION CONTROL

The documented history of surgery dates back over five thousand years. Its evolution as a specialty has faced enormous challenges, not the least of which is the prevention and management of infection. Elsie Truter delves into the history and concludes that operating room practice will need to adapt to the emerging microbial threats of the present and future.

16 INFECTION CONTROL

Hand hygiene in the operating rooms has traditionally been considered in relation to surgical scrubbing and little has been defined regarding expectations for other staff members in the room who remain un-scrubbed. Tracey Lee explores the topic.

18 INFECTION CONTROL

Pathogens survive in the patient environment, including privacy curtains, for a significant period of time and pose a risk of disease transmission. Shona Matthews & Kendyl Carikas find that disposable antimicrobial, sporicidal privacy curtains offer an infection prevention strategy in combating the transmission of multi-drug-resistance organisms between patients

23 INFECTION CONTROL

Ultrasound guidance is widely used for interventional radiology and intra-operative procedures. Gillian Martin reports that the appropriate cleaning, sterilisation and disinfection of ultrasound probes is critical for patient safety in preventing the transmission of pathogens.

27 CLINICAL

Medication safety is the responsibility of everyone involved in patient care and no one is infallible. Tina Dellabarca finds that organisational culture focused on error impacts patient safety.

34 CLINICAL

Yvonne Morgan describes the process and stages of surgical wound healing, along with the multiple local and systemic factors that impact on the normal progression of repair.

Touching Base

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

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

FENG SHIH RN, BN PG Dip. (Advanced
Nursing Practice). Theatre RN. Auckland City
Hospital. Email: chinfengshih@xtra.co.nz;

TRACEY LEE RN, MN (Hons), Nurse
Consultant, Perioperative Associate Nurse
Director-Workforce Development, Education
& Training, Auckland DHB. Email: TLee@adhb.
govt.nz or tracey.lee@xtra.co.nz

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

DEVIKA COOK RN, BN, Dip Mgmt. Charge
Nurse, PACU, Auckland DHB. Email: devikac@
adhab.govt.nz

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

SARAH WINSHIP RN, MN, Perioperative
Nurse Educator, Whakatane Hospital. Email:
Sarah.Winship@bopdhb.govt.nz

NATIONAL COMMITTEE

Chairperson – Johanna McCamish – whosnz@
hotmail.com. **Secretary** – Berice Beach- pnc.
sec@xtra.co.nz; **Treasurer** – Rob McHawk -
rob.hawker@me.com

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