

- **4 EDITORIAL** "Research is a great opportunity" says Chief Editor Shona Matthews.
- **TABLE TALK** PNC Chair Johanna McCamish details the Strategic Plan that the Perioperative Nurses College of the New Zealand Nurses Organisation is working on.
- **NEWS** 45th PNC Conference update preparing for a great event; REM Sytems is PNC Conference Partner; Tongariro Cardiothoracic meeting set for Napier.
- **10 INDUSTRY NEWS** Mölnlycke helps find the balance; Johnson & Johnson trains orthopaedic surgeons using virtual reality.

12 REGIONAL REPORTS

Christchurch-West Coast have a packed programme; Wellington struggles...

14 PROFESSIONAL

Bullying in the healthcare environment historically has been tolerated, and in many cases expected. The Health and Safety at Work Act (2015) has provided the necessary legislation to stimulate a move toward addressing the bullying culture within New Zealand hospitals. Sandra Millis takes a reflective look at how speaking up about bullying, although difficult, is important in order to change work place culture.

18 CONFERENCE REPORT

Coming of Age – Tracey Lee reports from the combined ACORN-ASIONRNA Conference at the Adelaide Convention Centre.

20 AUDIT & LITERATURE REVIEW

Electrosurgical smoke (ESS)/plume exposure is a serious health hazard and a major quality issue facing patients and staff in the operating theatre (OT). Assunta Rodrigues describes a series of audits conducted to measure staff compliance with local policy and the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) Recommended Practices for Electrosurgery. She also details other research-based literature to identify an aspect of practice for a quality improvement project.

25 MEDICAL IMAGING

Rising obesity rates are a major health concern that account for nine per cent of all illness and premature death Catherine Freebairn reports. Obesity is an obstacle to accessing anatomical structures, including veins, and creates difficulties for medical imaging and image-guided procedures. She uses a case study to illustrate the development of an alternative approach to Peripherally Inserted Central Catheters (PICC) for the bariatric patient and the establishment of a safe efficient service.

28 EDUCATION

The expanded practice role of The Registered Nurse First Surgical Assistant (RNFSA) has been shown to improve patient care whilst providing advanced academic pathways and career opportunities for nurses in New Zealand. Yvonne Morgan and Lesley Doughty examine the evolution of the RNFSA role and in particular the impact of postgraduate education and pathways available to the nurse pursuing this course of practice, along with some of the challenges faced.

32 CASE STUDY

Orthopaedic surgery carries a high risk of pulmonary emboli (PE). Annelies Lindsay describes the pathophysiology, diagnosis, clinical manifestation and management of this complication using a case study approach.

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Touching Base

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

SHONA MATTHEWS RN, BN MHsc (Hons). Nurse co-ordinator Radiology, Green Lane Clinical Centre, Auckland DHB. Email: editor@ dissector.co.nz or shona1046@orcon.net.nz or shonamat@adhb.govt.nz

SANDRA MILLIS RN, BN, PG Cert. HSc (Advanced Nursing), RNFSA Perioperative orthopaedic nurse, Mercy Hospital, Dunedin. Email: s.millis67@gmail.com

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

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

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

DEVIKA COOK RN,BN, Dip Mgmt. Charge Nurse, PACU, Level 8, Auckland City Hospital, Auckland DHB. Email: devikac@adhb.govt.nz

NATIONAL COMMITTEE

Chairperson Johanna McCamish;
Secretary Sue Claridge
pnc.sec@xtra.co.nz;
Treasurer Johanna McCamish

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

whosnz@hotmail.com

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Southland - TBA.

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