



In This issue:

- 2025 State Conference Wrap-up
- New life member
- 2025 Judith Berry Perioperative Nurse Excellence Award Winner
- New member referral incentive
- ACORN director registration of interest
- ACORN clinical Standards survey links
- Perioperative Nurses Week
- SAPNA study evening
- ACORN conference
- Ccricet free online seminar
- ACPAN conference
- Seasons Greetings!

2025 State Conference Wrap-Up



Thank you to all members who joined us for our biannual State Conference at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre. Once again, the venue staff provided an

outstanding setting to celebrate and showcase the incredible work of our Perioperative teams from across South Australia.

Following a warm welcome from our President, **Nikki Rowlands**, the conference was officially opened by **The Hon. Chris Picton**, Minister for Health and Wellbeing. From there, attendees enjoyed a full and engaging program featuring a range of insightful and inspiring speakers.

A particular highlight was keynote speaker **Dr Bill Griggs**, who shared his powerful account of responding to the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami in Banda Aceh. His honest reflections on post-traumatic stress and recovery deeply resonated with the audience, underscoring the critical importance of self-care and support within the healthcare profession.

We had some many wonderful speakers here are just a few of them:

Sarah Ripley discussed the perioperative perspective on sustainable healthcare.



ANUM Beth Jennings stepped us through the Critical incident stress management program at SALHN.



Dr Michelle Perugini was our keynote speaker on day 2 who discussed how we can work with Artificial Intelligence, and not against it.

Trade Partners

We were delighted to welcome **36 health trade partners** to the Exhibition Hall, each showcasing an impressive range of products and innovations. A special thank you goes to all the company representatives who dedicated two days to sharing their expertise and demonstrating the latest medical devices. We hope attendees discovered something new and valuable to take back to their hospitals and teams.





This year's Conference Dinner in the **Starlight Room** was a wonderful evening filled with laughter and connection — and a fun twist! Instead of the usual format, guests took part in a lively **General Knowledge Quiz**, hosted by **Nikki**



and Katie. The competition was friendly but fierce, with the winning table proudly claiming their well-earned bottles of wine as prizes.

The **SAPNA Committee** would like to thank everyone for making the conference such an enjoyable and successful event. We truly valued the opportunity to connect, share ideas, and celebrate the work of our perioperative community. Many members told us how much they appreciated the chance to network with colleagues from other hospitals and explore new approaches to practice.

We've carefully reviewed the feedback received and will discuss your suggestions at our annual planning meeting in December. Your input is invaluable in helping us shape future events and educational opportunities. If you have any further ideas or topics you'd like us to consider, please get in touch at secretary@sapna.org.au — we'd love to hear from you!

Reminder that you can download your CPD certificate by logging into your account at Sapna.org.au and clicking on "CPD".

New SAPNA life member

We are delighted to celebrate our newest **Life Member – Allyson Mulraney!** Allyson has been a dedicated and continuous member of SAPNA for an incredible **40 years**, and this well-deserved recognition honours her outstanding commitment and contribution to our perioperative community. Congratulations, Allyson!



Judith Berry Perioperative Nurse Excellence Award

Every year the Judith Berry Award is awarded to a Nurse who has demonstrated excellence in Perioperative Nursing in relation to Care, Vision and Excellence. The Award is a \$500 monetary prize to be used in furtherance of the winner's perioperative career, professional development, study or research including travel costs and personal expenses related to supporting these activities. This year the prize was doubled to \$1000 and the deserving winner was Mimma Ceravolo from the Burnside Hospital. Mimma was nominated for her outstanding leadership, compassion, and commitment to excellence in perioperative nursing. As Clinical Nurse of the Post-Operative Care Unit, she not only ensures safe, high-quality care for patients but also fosters a supportive and collaborative environment for her team. Her flexibility, clear communication, and dedication to work-life balance exemplify her care for colleagues. A strong advocate for patient safety, Mimma has led significant improvements in transfusion practices and education. She is a calm and capable leader in critical situations, a role model for students and graduates, and a driving force behind cross-site collaboration and practice alignment at Burnside Hospital.



New Member Referral Incentive

We're excited to introduce a new way to grow our SAPNA community — and reward you for it! If you refer a new member to join SAPNA, **you'll receive a \$50 gift card** as a thank you for helping us strengthen our professional network. We will commence this trial for the period 1st November to 30th June.

It's simple: encourage a colleague or friend in perioperative nursing to become a member, make sure they include your name on their application, and once their membership is confirmed — the gift card is yours!

Together, we can continue to build a vibrant and supportive community for all perioperative professionals.



Seeking expression of interest from members to fill the position of ACORN Director

We are pleased to invite expressions of interest from passionate and committed members who wish to be considered for nomination to the position of ACORN Director.

This is a unique opportunity to contribute to the strategic direction of our national body and advocate for excellence in perioperative nursing across Australia. As an ACORN Director, you will represent SAPNA at the national level, collaborate with fellow Directors, and help shape the future of our profession.

Key attributes for nominees include:

- Demonstrated leadership within the perioperative nursing community
- Strong communication and collaboration skills
- Commitment to advancing ACORN's mission and strategic goals
- Ability to represent SAPNA members with integrity and professionalism

If you are interested in nominating or would like to learn more about the role, please reply to this email with a brief expression of interest by 20th November 2025. We encourage all eligible members to consider this opportunity to make a meaningful impact.

[Download information file here](#)

[Download application form here](#)

ACORN Clinical Standards

We are excited to announce that drafts of ACORN's clinical standards are now open for public comment!

Each standard will be available for feedback for a period of six weeks, and we strongly encourage all perioperative stakeholders to contribute their insights. Your feedback is crucial to ensuring the standards are relevant, accurate and practical, ultimately enhancing patient safety in the perioperative environment across Australia. To provide your feedback, simply download the draft document of the standard you wish to review, then follow the link to the survey provided beneath the document. The survey should take approximately seven minutes to complete.

Now open:

Electrosurgical safety

Feedback survey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q8ZVBSM>

Feedback open 24 September – 4 November 2025

Sharps and preventing sharps-related injury

Feedback survey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5JZLZ6J>

Feedback open 29 September – 9 November 2025



Perioperative Nurses Week

9-15
November
2025



Perioperative S★T★A★R★S

Sunday	Welcome to PNW 2025	A message from the ACORN President
Monday	Scrub/Scout	Scrub/scout nurses: the only people who can hand you exactly what you need... even though you asked for something else. Celebrate your scrub/scout nurses and the amazing work that they do.
Tuesday	Technicians	Theatre techs and sterilising techs: the true magicians—making equipment disappear and reappear, sparkling clean and working again when no one else can. ✨ Take the day to recognise the operating theatre and sterilising technicians and the important role they play.
Wednesday	Anaesthetics	Anaesthetic nurses: turning chaos into calm, one airway at a time! Appreciate your anaesthetic nurses for keeping patients safe and comfortable.
Thursday	Recovery	Recovery nurses: fluent in pain, nausea and answering the same questions over, and over, and over again. Shine a light on the incredible patience of our PACU nurses.
Friday	Support	Support staff: the unsung heroes who actually keep the department running. Appreciate all the support staff—administration, educators, managers, cleaners—who keep theatres running smoothly.
Saturday	Awards	Daily award winners and GLUE Award winners announced.



We would love to see your photos from your team activities throughout Perioperative Nurses week! Please send through to secretary@sapna.org.au to be featured in the next newsletter.

EDUCATION EVENT

"Cutting Edge Care"



Wednesday November 5th, 5-8pm

Royal Adelaide Hospital 8D271 Lecture Theatre

RAH front entrance – use D lift to level 8

1645	Registration	
1700	Welcome and open	
1710	Skin Antisepsis Workshop	Meg Sheldon National Sales Manager, Surgical Specialties, BD
1800	Code Stroke: Anaesthetic Nursing in Emergency EVT procedures	Jeremy Navarro RN Anaesthetics / Recovery, Royal Adelaide Hospital
1830	Supper break	
1900	Intraoperative Cell Salvage Services at the RAH	Parisa Pazvash, Intraoperative Cell Salvage Clinical Lead, Royal Adelaide Hospital
1930	Cell Salvage – practical learning and quality improvements	Kim White, ANUM & Jade Whelan CN, Anaesthetics, Lyell McEwin Hospital

- Register [here](#) or scan the QR code
- Free for members
- Non-members \$135, includes 12 months membership
- Certificate for 3.5 hours of CPD
- Refreshments provided

Kindly sponsored by BD Chloraprep





[Home](#) ▾ [Key Dates](#) [Destination](#) ▾ [Program](#) [Gala Dinner](#) [Registration - Coming Soon](#) [Call for Abstracts - Closed](#)

ACORN 2026

OCTOBER 2025
Registration opens
Online registration opens for all delegates

NOVEMBER 2025
Draft program
Preliminary draft program released

Key Dates



19 SEPTEMBER 2025
Call for abstracts closes
Final date for abstract submissions



31 OCTOBER 2025
Authors notified
Authors informed of the result of abstract review



31 MARCH 2026
Early registration closes
Early registration closes and standard registration begins



14-16 MAY 2026
ACORN 2026
Brisbane, Australia



FREE ONLINE SEMINAR

CCRiCET

CRITICAL CARE RESEARCH
IN COLLABORATION &
EVIDENCE TRANSLATION

Registration link:
<https://ccricet.org/events/>

**Wednesday
November
19th**

11-1230PM

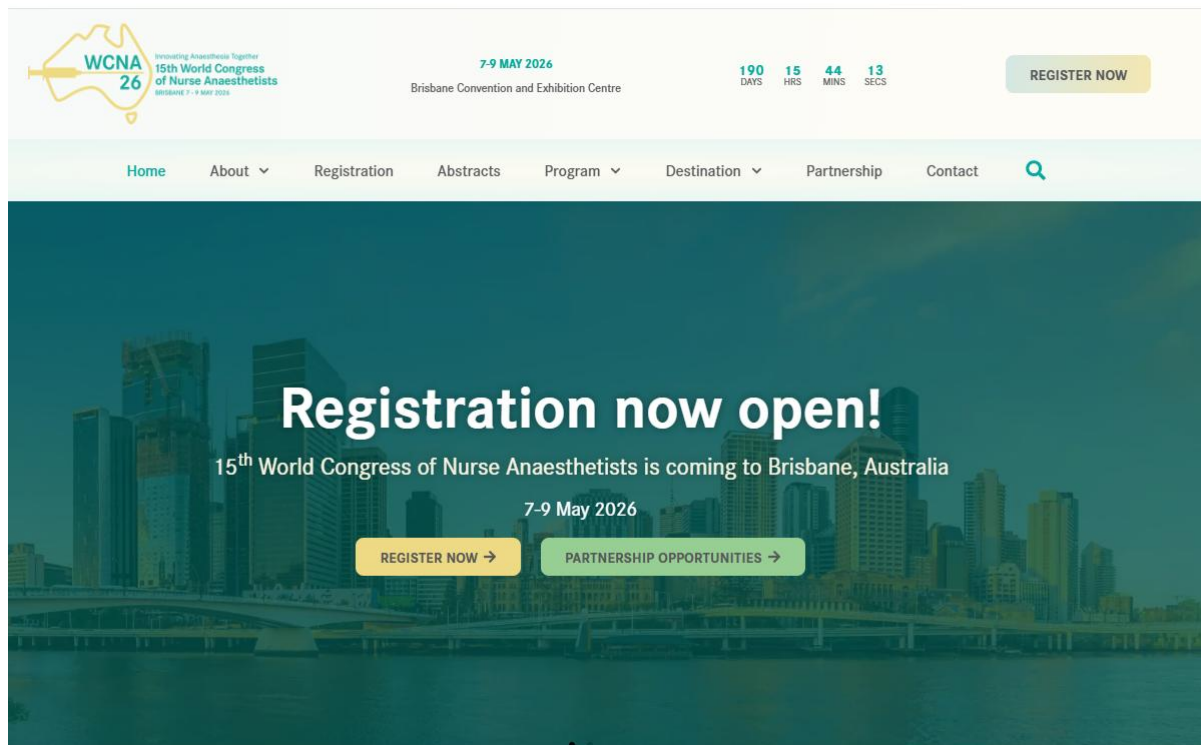
ccricet.org

WESTERN SYDNEY
UNIVERSITY



Health

ACPAN Conference 2026



The image shows the top portion of a website for the 15th World Congress of Nurse Anaesthetists (WCNA 26). The header is light yellow and contains the event logo on the left, which includes a map of Australia and the text 'WCNA 26', 'Innovating Anaesthesia Together', '15th World Congress of Nurse Anaesthetists', and 'BRISBANE 7-9 MAY 2026'. In the center of the header, it says '7-9 MAY 2026' and 'Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre'. On the right, there is a countdown timer showing '190 DAYS 15 HRS 44 MINS 13 SECS' and a yellow 'REGISTER NOW' button.

Below the header is a light green navigation bar with links: 'Home', 'About', 'Registration', 'Abstracts', 'Program', 'Destination', 'Partnership', 'Contact', and a search icon.

The main hero section has a dark teal background with a cityscape of Brisbane. It features the text 'Registration now open!' in large white letters, followed by '15th World Congress of Nurse Anaesthetists is coming to Brisbane, Australia' and '7-9 May 2026'. At the bottom of the hero section are two buttons: a yellow 'REGISTER NOW →' button and a green 'PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES →' button.



As this is our final newsletter for the year, the SAPNA Committee would like to thank all our members for your ongoing support and involvement throughout 2025. We wish you and your families a **safe, happy, and restful Christmas and New Year.**

The Committee will be meeting soon to plan next year's **education sessions and events**, and we look forward to another exciting year of learning, collaboration, and connection. We hope you'll be part of it!

12 DAYS OF *Nursing*

- 
- 12 CALL LIGHTS BLINKING
 - 11 PHONES ARE RINGING
 - 10 PSYCHES ARE LEAPING
 - 9 DOCTORS STRESSING
 - 8 PATIENTS POOPING
 - 7 DRESSING CHANGES
 - 6 C-DIFF STINKIGS
 - 5 BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS
 - 4 IV's RUNNING
 - 3 TRAUMAS
 - 2 FOLEY DRAININGS
and there's
 - 1 HOUR LEFT ON MY SHIFT