



Connect Autumn 2026

Message from the SAPNA Committee

As we settle into 2026, we want to thank every one of you for the dedication, professionalism, and compassion you bring to perioperative nursing across South Australia. Your work strengthens our community and ensures the highest standard of care for patients and families. This year is already shaping up to be one of growth, connection, and opportunity for SAPNA members.



Committee Update

We are pleased to welcome **Lisa Jones** from **Lyell McEwin Hospital** to the SAPNA Committee. Lisa brings deep perioperative experience and a passion for supporting nurses at every stage of their career. We're excited to have her on board.

We also extend our heartfelt thanks to **Katie Morgan and /Nicki Kerkemeyer**, who have retired from the committee. SAPNA would like to thank them both for their leadership, knowledge, and commitment to SAPNA.

✿ Join the SAPNA Committee in 2026

Are you passionate about perioperative nursing and ready to help shape the future of our profession in South Australia? SAPNA is inviting enthusiastic members to join the Committee.

This is a chance to:

- Contribute to education, advocacy, and member support
- Bring fresh ideas to our events and initiatives
- Build strong professional networks
- Help strengthen our perioperative community

If you're ready to make a meaningful impact, we'd love to hear from you. Your voice matters. Email SAPNA@SAPNA.org.au

We are also delighted to share some wonderful news with our SAPNA community.

Congratulations to SAPNA Committee Member and ACORN Director, Kylie Stopp, on being accepted as a Fellow of the Australian College of Perioperative Nurses (ACORN). This prestigious recognition reflects Kylie's outstanding contribution to perioperative nursing, her commitment to advancing clinical excellence, and her leadership within both SAPNA and ACORN. Becoming an ACORN Fellow is a significant professional honour, acknowledging individuals who demonstrate exceptional dedication, expertise, and service to the perioperative profession.

Kylie's passion for education, advocacy, and high-quality patient care continues to inspire colleagues across South Australia and nationally. We are incredibly proud to have her representing SAPNA at the highest levels of our profession.

Please join us in congratulating Kylie on this well-deserved achievement.



Professional Development & Opportunities

SAPNA/ACORN Scholarship

Congratulations to the 10 SAPNA members that received the **2026 SAPNA/ACORN Scholarship**, which provided **complimentary full registration** to the 2026 ACORN Conference.

This is a fantastic opportunity to learn, network, and bring new insights back to your workplace.

SAPNA is sure that they will have a great time.

SAPNA Saturday Education – 9th May 2026

Our next Saturday education session will be held the Lyell McEwin Hospital

[register online](#)



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN PERIOPERATIVE NURSES ASSOCIATION (SAPNA)

VASCULAR INJURIES

Saturday, May 9th 2026

08:30 – 09:00 Registration

09:00 – 09:40 'Vascular injury in General surgery: hints and tips' Anne Gray (CN) & Chani Kitto (CN), RAH

09:45 – 10:25 From Bleeding to Balance: Anaesthetic Nursing & ROTEM in Major Haemorrhage
Kim White (ANUM) & Jade Whelan (CN), LMH

10:30 – 11:00 Morning Tea - Sponsored by Baxter

11:00 – 11:45 Director of Vascular Surgery – Mr Conor Marron

VENUE: Lyell McEwin Hospital
Lecture Theatre – Level 2

SAPNA Members: Complimentary
Non-Members: \$135
(Includes 12-month SAPNA membership)

REGISTER: sapna.org.au/event

Baxter

SAPNA SOUTH AUSTRALIAN PERIOPERATIVE NURSES ASSOCIATION

Future 2026 Education Session Dates:

20th June

26th August

31st October

The 2026 ACORN Conference – Shaping the Future of Perioperative Nursing

The **2026 ACORN Conference** is fast approaching, and this year's program promises to be one of the most dynamic and forward-thinking yet. Bringing together perioperative nurses, educators, researchers, and industry partners from across Australia, the conference continues to be a cornerstone of professional growth and national collaboration.

What to Expect This Year

- **Inspiring Keynotes** exploring innovation, leadership, and the evolving landscape of perioperative care
- **Hands-On Workshops** focused on safety, technology, clinical skills, and emerging best practice
- **Research & Innovation Showcases** highlighting the latest evidence shaping perioperative nursing
- **Networking Opportunities** with colleagues and leaders from across the country
- **Exhibition Hall** featuring new technologies, equipment, and solutions for safer, more efficient perioperative environments

Why Attend?

The ACORN Conference is more than an educational event — it's a chance to step back from the day-to-day, reflect on your practice, and return to your workplace with renewed energy and fresh ideas. SAPNA is proud to support member participation through our annual scholarship, and we encourage all members to consider attending.



Member Referral Promotion – Earn a \$50 eGift Card

SAPNA would like to remind members about our **Member Referral Promotion**, designed to help grow our community and strengthen perioperative nursing across South Australia.

How It Works

When a current SAPNA member refers a colleague who joins as a **new financial member**, the referring member will receive a **\$50 eGift card** as a thank you for helping expand our network.

Why Refer?

- Support colleagues in accessing education, networking, and professional development
- Strengthen SAPNA's collective voice within the perioperative community
- Help build a vibrant, connected membership base
- Enjoy a small reward for contributing to SAPNA's growth

To participate, simply ensure your colleague includes your name in the referral section when completing their membership application.

Member Spotlight

Each quarter, we highlight the achievements and contributions of SAPNA members across the state.

If you or a colleague has a story to share—professional milestones, research, community involvement—we'd love to hear from you.

Useful Websites

[ACORN](#) is our national body and provides great resources and education opportunities for perioperative nurses.

[Ausmed](#) offers a free online CPD (Continuing Professional Development) service (courses and documentation) and this can be expanded to unlimited access with a subscription that is tax deductible. A great way to keep all your documented CPD in one place in case you get audited.

[Ansell](#) has 10 courses accredited by ACORN, available online.

[Medline University](#) has unlimited access to over 200 free continuing education courses for healthcare professionals.

[Fisher & Paykel Education Hub](#) your go to resource for humidified therapies

This newsletter contains images provided via Google images

Disclaimer: The content of this SAPNA publication is provided for information only, and while every effort is undertaken to ensure accuracy at the time of publication, no liability will be accepted for issues or losses arising from it.