Chairperson’s Letter

Dear Members

Welcome to the June 2018 issue of College Communiqué.

You will have recently received your invitation to renew your annual membership. Benefits for members include access to learning on demand (webcasts), discounts to Conference and State Chapter events, bi-monthly newsletters and funding opportunities among others. Please also invite your colleagues to join ACCYPN – there are two new categories of membership – overseas membership and student membership - New members who join between 1 April and 30 June will receive up to 15 months’ Membership for the 12 month fee.

Chapter Events for Members: We have active Chapters in Victoria, Western Australia, Queensland and South Australia. For Chapter Coordinator contacts and information on local events please check the website.

Conference: Registrations are now open for our bi-annual Conference on October 24th-26th at the new Perth Children’s Hospital, Western Australia. The program will showcase clinical practice, education, research and leadership in the care of the well and unwell child.

ACCYPN Strategic Plan: Members are invited to provide feedback on the draft ACCYPN Strategic Plan 2018-2021. Please check your email for your invitation to submit feedback.

Journal: I wish to advise members that the College of Child and Youth Nurses (New Zealand Nursing Organisation) have formally advised us that they are no longer able to partner with ACCYPN in the new Journal of Child and Youth Health. Unfortunately, we are in a position where we need financial support if we are to proceed. The Board of Directors continues to work on identifying potential partners and/or supporters.

Kind regards

Cathy Marron
Chairperson, Board of Directors - ACCYPN
Program Highlights


Register your Expression of Interest to receive Conference updates!

**Wednesday 24 October 2018**
- Master Classes – 2.30pm to 5.30pm
- Welcome Reception - 6.30pm to 8.00pm

**Thursday 25 October 2018**
- Conference Sessions – 8.00am to 5.00pm
- Annual General Meeting – 5.00pm to 5.30pm
- Conference Dinner – 7.00pm to 9.30pm (Additional Cost)
  - The Breakwater – Hillarys Boat Harbour

**Friday 26 October 2018**
- Conference Sessions – 8.30am to 3.00pm

*Times Subject to Change*

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**Conference Venue – Perth Children’s Hospital**

Perth Children’s Hospital, Western Australia is our Conference venue. [Visit PCH Website](http://www.pch.com.au)

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**Sponsorship & Exhibition Opportunities**

The Sponsorship & Exhibition Prospectus details the various opportunities available including opportunities for Not for Profit Organisation including Sponsorship, Table Top Displays and Post Board Displays. The number of opportunities is strictly limited due to space restrictions. [More Information](#)
ACCYPN Membership

ACCYPN Members Renewal Notices have been sent out via email. To avoid the $15.00 late fee membership renewals, need to be completed with payment by June 30, 2019.

Renewing members check your email for a renewal invitation.


Membership Benefits

ACCYPN members receive the following benefits:

- **Learning on Demand – Webcasts**
- **Member Discount to Events**
- **Bi-monthly newsletters (available in members only section of website)**
- **Access to the ACCYPN website containing the activities of the organisation**
- **Membership of an organisation that advocates for the needs of children, young people and their families within the broad health context**
- **Opportunity to nominate for National Executive¹**
- **Opportunity to participate in Committees and contribute to the development of policies**
- **Access to the speciality Standards relating to children and young people’s nursing and access to Credentialing for Nurses (c4n) [www.c4n.com.au](http://www.c4n.com.au)**
- **Access to Member only funding opportunities¹**

¹ Ordinary Members Only

### MEMBERSHIP FEES

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*NEW MEMBER SPECIAL*

Join between 1 April and 30 June pay full new member fees & receive up to 3 months’ free!

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^ Annual Membership Annual Membership Renewal Fees are due by 30 June. Renewal from 1 July will incur a $15.00 late fee.

^ Half Year Membership available to members joining in / after January.
WA Chapter

Our second Clinical Supper of the year was generously hosted by and conducted at the Telethon Speech and Hearing Centre in Wembley on Wednesday 18th April. Telethon Speech and Hearing (TSH) is the only place in WA that provides education, therapy and audiology services all in one location. As experts in the field, TSH excel in bringing together services to support children and families to speak, hear, connect and learn in ways that empower them to live fulfilling lives. The speakers at the supper were Ian Henderson, the Head of Hearing Services who spoke about children’s hearing from a cultural perspective and auditory processing disorder. The second speaker was Natalie Willacy, the Deputy Principle of Talkabout who focussed upon key speech and language delay milestones in children under five years of age. There were also tours of the Centre before and after the talks. The 39 attendees gave mixed feedback and scores on our satisfaction parameters.

We are extremely grateful to ENT Technologies who were our sponsor for the night. Without the continued support of sponsors, we could not facilitate our educational activities with refreshments at such reasonable costs. From all our members and guests, thank you to Telethon Speech and Hearing for generously hosting and to their staff for sharing their knowledge and expertise and again thank you to ENT Technologies.

We do need to provide a wide range of topics for our clinical events which would be appealing to members so thanks for the ideas for future talks; some of the suggestions are part of the essence of paediatrics and child health so may not be appealing to the wider audience but thank you and do keep the suggestions coming. The ideas included:

- Child development, milestones, gross motor development including tips to support parents
- FASD update and relevance to nursing practice. Epigenetics and Biological Imbedding
- Milestones and developmental assessment
- Lions Eye Institute Child psychology v psychiatry Adolescence in 2018
- Immunisation, infection prevention
- Autistic assessments, Autism, both sides of the spectrum

Our next clinical event was the annual dinner which was held on Tuesday June 19th at Kailis Bros Restaurant in Leederville. The speakers are from the ORIGINS Project; A Healthy Start for a Healthy Future.

We are holding another quiz / trivia night, which is planned for Thursday August 16th at the Leederville Sporting Club.

REMINDER: The ACCYPN Conference is on Wednesday to Friday; 24th – 26th October 2018. The Perth Children’s Hospital (PCH) is our Platinum Sponsor and will host the Conference at PCH. There have been many Abstracts submitted which is really pleasing as clearly, health care professionals want to share their innovations with fellow paediatric professionals from around Australia and our international colleagues.

The final clinical event will be a Clinical Breakfast on Saturday 17th November. The topic and venue will be confirmed later in the year.
As a reminder, if any member is interested in either joining the working party or wants to attend a meeting to see what we do, we would be happy to see you and get fresh input. The meetings are bi-monthly and as the PCH opens this month, we envisage our next working party meeting to be at the PCH. The remaining dates for 2018 are:

**WA Chapter Meetings**

- Tuesday 3 July 2018
- Tuesday 28 August 2018
- Tuesday 27 November 2018

**Queensland Chapter**

A Celebration of 100 Years of Community Child Health Services in Queensland.

**Presenter:** Linda Shields MD (Research), PhD, FACN, Centaur Fellow, MAICD, CCYPN  
**Presentation:** Water babies, climbing boys and pkinini: exploring child health nursing across time and places

**Presenter:** Professor John Pearn, Senior Paediatrician, Lady Cilento Children’s Hospital  
**Presentation:** Advocacy for the reduction of Infant Mortality in Queensland

**South Australian Chapter**

We wish to extend our congratulations to Lynn Sweeney (pictured below) who was the recipient of the ACCYPN South Australian Chapter prize for Academic Excellence within the College of Nursing and Health Sciences at Flinders University for 2018, receiving her award from Associate Professor Chris Brebner, Dean of Education within the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, Flinders University.
The ACCYPN South Australian Chapter prize for Academic Excellence is awarded annually to a nursing student completing the Graduate Certificate in Nursing (Child and Family Health Nursing) program. The prize is awarded for the highest grade point average across the following three topics; Health maintenance for infants, children and young people; Clinical practice for child and health nursing; and Introduction to working with infants, children and families.

Australian College of Children & Young People's Nurses South Australian Chapter Prize Academic Excellence within the School of Nursing and Midwifery at the Flinders University was Awarded to Lynn Sweeney

South Australian Chapter Survey

In March 2018 79 surveys were sent out to SA Chapter members both past and present, with a 29% response rate. Respondents were representative of community, hospital and education settings.

A key theme noted from analysis was the need for ongoing education opportunities and subsequent knowledge development, collaboration between paediatric service providers and networking opportunities. There was a vast array of preferences put forward for preferred meeting times, so we will consider this as we plan further events, including location to ensure we can reach a wide audience. We will also explore the potential for teleconference adaptability.

Ideas put forward for further sessions included; skin conditions relevant to the paediatric population; new process or innovations; evidence-based practice developments; recognising and responding to the deteriorating patient; developmental aspects of working with children; and general paediatric topics.

The feedback received will be very useful in planning upcoming events.

July Clinical Supper

We are delighted to welcome Professor Kerry Reid-Searl from CQUntiversity to present at the Women’s and Children’s Hospital for ACCYPN’s July Clinical Supper on Thursday 19th July her presentation; ‘MASK-Ed: An innovative and realistic simulation approach’. MASK-Ed is a high fidelity simulation technique informed by a teaching process and involves realistic body silicone props including masks, torsos, arms and legs, worn over the informed educator to mask them. Please refer to the event flier.
We will be sending promotional material out to venues shortly so please distribute these amongst your clinical areas, as we endeavour to expand awareness of our SA Chapter and boost membership.

Anita Minkus, & Amanda Nguyen  
SA Chapter Co-Ordinators

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**Board Member Profile – Tara Flemington**  
RN, MPhil, PhD

Tara completed her PhD in 2017 at the University of Sydney (Thesis: Improving the recognition and response to child abuse and neglect in a Vietnamese emergency department: A capacity building intervention for healthcare professionals).

Her PhD studies in Vietnam and Australia extend her previous research interest in improving outcomes for vulnerable families through targeted home-based child health programs. For her PhD, Tara designed, implemented and evaluated a clinical training intervention in a paediatric hospital in Vietnam to improve clinician knowledge and attitudes towards child abuse and neglect presentations in the ED. Tara completed a Master of Philosophy (Nursing) at the University of Sydney in 2012 with a thesis titled Maternal involvement in a nurse home visiting program to prevent child maltreatment. Her extensive experience as a clinical nurse in paediatrics at tertiary and regional centres is complemented with a passion for research in child and family health.

1. **Why did you choose nursing as a career?**
   
   My Mum was a midwife, and I knew that I wanted to help people from a very young age, and nursing of course was a natural fit for this. I also loved that a nursing degree is a launchpad for so many paths – if felt like by doing nursing I was choosing a career with endless opportunities. I have nursing friends who have worked all over the world, in rescue helicopters, and in academia.

2. **Why did you join the ACCYPN and how long have you been a member?**

   I joined the ACCYPN after attending a social/information evening while working at the Royal Children’s in Brisbane. It was great being around others who were so passionate about paediatric nursing, and it’s also nice to be able to contribute to the profession in a more formal way. I’m passionate about children’s health, and we need an organisation like the ACCYPN and its members to advocate for children who are unable to speak for themselves.

3. **What is your proudest accomplishment in your career?**

   I work both clinically and in research. My proudest academic/research accomplishment is easy – completing my PhD with three young children in tow and then winning a grant to conduct research in my area of interest. Happy days! Clinically…it’s harder to pin down one particular thing. Any shift I finish where I have provided safe and competent care for my patients as well as supporting others in the clinical team feels great. For example, on one of my most recent shifts a new mother was quite stressed and anxious – her bub had been admitted with an unclear diagnosis, and she had been through multiple stressors in the months leading up to the admission. We weren’t too busy on the ward, so I was able to spend time with her, listening to her concerns, providing reassurance, and making sure she was aware of avenues to access if she did have concerns that she felt were not being responded to (for example,
the NSW Health REACH program). We discussed bub’s vital signs, urine output, breastfeeding, overall behaviour... It has taken a lot of personal, clinical and academic experience to feel truly confident and useful in a situation like that, and when it all comes together – well, it makes me proud to be a paediatric nurse.

4. **What's your favourite part about your job?**

In my research work, I love that our work means discovering completely new knowledge. My current project is translational research, which is interventional work that tries to close the gap between evidence and practice. It’s very exciting. Clinically – I love just about all of it, really. I love caring for babies and children, as well as meeting parents and learning their stories. I love being challenged and learning new clinical skills, as well as being part of the nursing team.

5. **If you could change one thing in your profession, what would it be?**

 Increased recognition of paediatric nursing as its own specialty, with sufficient training.

6. **Describe yourself in three words**

Work in progress.

7. **Finish this sentence - My job fulfills me in the following ways ...**

I try to do work that will help others in a meaningful way. If done well, this happens in all parts of nursing care – from when we first meet families with a smile, to being diligent handwashers to prevent infection, to taking a baby’s temperature when they’re awake instead of when they’re asleep, to listening to parents when they are advocating on behalf of their child. In my research work, I focus on work that has meaning and potential for impact in the real world. At the moment, this involves trialling a child injury checklist in the Electronic Medical Record to help staff recognise and respond to child abuse presentations.

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**FaceMatch – Searching for a Diagnosis**

FaceMatch uses IMAGUS computer face-matching technology to match the faces of individuals with undiagnosed intellectual disability (ID).

Despite recent advances in genetic testing, up to 70% of children with a moderate to severe ID do not receive a diagnosis.

Parents describe the diagnostic odyssey - spending years searching for an answer.

Many people with ID have facial features which can provide a clue to diagnosis. By matching faces of people from around the world with similar facial features, we hope to help families find a diagnosis earlier and potentially discover new genes important in brain development.

Participation in the FaceMatch project can be initiated by either the parent or the doctor. Parents will be asked to nominate a doctor to enable the FaceMatch team to work in partnership with families and their own doctor.

Parents of children with a known genetic diagnosis will also be invited to participate.
More information about the project including confidentiality and privacy can be found at the website facematch.org.au

More information about our published data can be found at the following link. https://blogs.biomedcentral.com/bmcseriesblog/2018/01/05/how-cctv-software-can-help-diagnose-intellectual-disability/

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**Griffith University – School of Nursing & Midwifery**  
**Paediatric Nursing Research in Australia: A Descriptive Survey**

The Griffith University, School of Nursing and Midwifery are conducting an observational study to identify paediatric nursing researchers within Australia and describe their current research programs. The 10 minute survey is voluntary and your answers will be anonymous. This project has been granted ethics approval by Griffith University, Human Research Ethics Committee (2018/369).

If you would like to participate, please click on the link for the survey and additional information: https://prodsurvey.rcs.griffith.edu.au/PNRA

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Dr Amanda Ullman (Principal Investigator) via email - a.ullman@griffith.edu.au.

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**ACCYPN on Facebook and Twitter!**  
At the time of distribution, we have 968 Likes on Facebook...

Please continue to share this news within your networks so the good work of ACCYPN reaches right across the country. Our target audience for likes is Nurses involved in caring for children and young people.

www.facebook.com/ACCYPN  
ACCYPN
CLINICAL SUPPER

Professor Kerry Reid-Searl
CQUniversity Australia

“MASK-Ed: An innovative and realistic simulation approach”

Thursday 19th July 2018
5:30 pm for light supper
Presentation 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Venue: Women’s and Children’s Hospital
72 King William Road
North Adelaide

Samuel Way Building (Zone E)
Centre of Education
2nd Floor Room 202

Light refreshments will be served
All welcome

Members $5
Non-Members $10

Registration is required.
Registrations by Wednesday 18th July 2018
Please register through the ACCYPN website www.accynp.org.au
What is MASK-ED™ (KRS simulation)?

MASK-ED™ (KRS simulation) is a high fidelity simulation technique created by Professor Kerry Reid-Searl at CQU University Australia in 2010. The technique is informed by a teaching process and involves realistic body silicone props including masks, torsos, arms and legs, worn over the informed educator to mask them. The hidden educator then transforms into another identity, as a character/person with a history/story that is relevant to the learning experience. The character and their history become a platform for teaching. The technique involves a three-way interplay involving the educator, the character and the learner. The interplay allows the hidden educator to direct the learning process as they create a spontaneous and realistic simulation experience, informed by their knowledge as the expert, to the learner. The KRS component stands for knowledgeable, realistic and spontaneous simulation. The technique is about constructing realities for learners and provides them with practical experience in the realities of their discipline. It enables learners to make sense through reality, it promotes reflection on practice and serves as a strategy that caters to different learning styles. Whilst initially designed for undergraduate nursing students in the teaching of nursing skills, the technique has application in multiple disciplines.

About Professor Kerry Reid-Searl

Kerry Reid-Searl grew up in Tasmania. After high school, Kerry embarked on a nursing career while simultaneously attending art school. With her initial nursing qualification complete, she worked in the Torres Strait, in the hospital as well as medical-aid-post settings. Settling into nursing, Kerry completed midwifery in Townsville and worked in Indigenous communities in Queensland. After moving to central Queensland, she began her career in nursing education, gaining a masters degree and a PhD.

At the same time, she assumed a role as a paediatric nurse at Rockhampton Hospital. She continues to teach in the undergraduate nursing program at CQU University, finding a supportive environment that has allowed her to bring her passions for art, drama and storytelling together with the essence of caring found in nursing.
Communique

CoNNMO Member Meeting – Friday 4 May 2018

Office of the Commonwealth Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer

Karen Cook, Senior Nursing Advisor provided an update. The Department of Health has commissioned KPMG to conduct a cost-benefit analysis of nurse practitioner models to inform future workforce policy. Key stakeholder meetings have been held with ACNP, ANMF and RACGP. The project team will be visiting pilot sites to observe different NP models across the country to develop case studies. The report for this project will be provided to the Minister for Health at the end of the year. CoNNMO member organisations interested in participating in this project should contact Karen Cook. The MBS Review is nearing completion. Committees will be established for nurse practitioners and midwives with scheduled medicines endorsement as part of this review. The National Nursing and Midwifery Education Advisory Network (NNMEAN) has been meeting for two years. There have been sub groups looking at mental health nursing and enrolled nursing. This work has been finalised. The NNMEAN will be winding up in its current form and re-forming as a smaller group of nine organisations. The Commonwealth has taken the lead on developing a National Strategic Approach to Maternity Services (NSAMS). This project will continue until mid-2019. A Project Reference Group (PRG) of jurisdictional representatives and a Project Advisory Group (PAG) of clinicians have been established to oversee this work. Consultation workshops have commenced. There will be approximately 30 workshops held across the country. A public consultation paper has been released on-line. Submissions close Monday 18 June 2018. The consultation paper is available at: https://consultations.health.gov.au/office-of-the-chief-nursing-and-midwifery-officer/national-strategic-approach-to-maternity-services/

Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia

Tanya Vogt, Executive Officer provided an update. NMBA has just released the new Midwife standards for practice which will take effect from 1 October 2018. They are much more streamlined and contemporary. Thank you to all those that participated in the review of these standards. The NMBA now have standards for practice across all the nursing and midwifery titles the NMBA regulate. An advanced practice symposium was held in Canberra in March 2017. One of the agreed outcomes of the symposium was that the NMBA, together with the chief nursing and midwifery officers, would review the definition of advanced practice. The NMBA will be consulting on the revised definition of advanced practice in the next few months. It has now been 12 months since the Nurse and Midwife Support Program was established. The NMBA has received the 12 month report which demonstrates that the program has been a real success. The NMBA encourages CoNNMO members to promote the program to ensure that all nurses and midwives can benefit. The NMBA has commenced a review of the Decision Making Framework (DMF). A literature review is currently being undertaken. The Board conducted an online survey on registrants’ awareness and understanding of the DMF earlier in the year. The feedback indicated that the framework needs to be more contemporary and less wordy. The Board is undertaking a review of the re-entry to practice pathway. The review involves seeking feedback from participants and supervised practice venues to ensure the pathway is fit for purpose. Currently work is being undertaken on development of a new model for assessment of internationally qualified nurses and midwives. It is anticipated this model will be released mid-2019. The new model will still include an equivalence pathway. The significant change will be the assessment pathway, which currently involves using bridging programs. For further information, visit the NMBA website: www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au

Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council

Janine Mohamed, Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council (ANMAC) Board Member provided an update. ANMAC is currently reviewing the Registered Nurse Accreditation Standards. A collation of responses from the first round of consultation is now available on the ANMAC website. The second stage of consultation is scheduled to commence at the end of May 2018. ANMAC will be holding a forum in Melbourne as part of the second stage of consultation. It is anticipated the review of the standards will be finalised late 2018. ANMAC’s Report is available on the CoNNMO website. For further information, visit the ANMAC website: www.anmac.org.au

Australian Digital Health Agency

Angela Ryan, General Manager, Clinical Programs provided an update. The ADHA is progressing the opt-out expansion program. By the end of 2018, every Australian will have a My Health Record, unless they choose not to. Once the Health Minister announces the commencement date, there will be a 3 month opt-out period. More than 5.7 million consumers are already registered for the My Health Record and the number is growing. It is expected numbers will rise sharply by the end of the year. There is also a steady increase in the number of healthcare providers registered. The highest My Health Record usage relates to MBS and PBS. There will be communication from the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) in the next few weeks regarding the opt-out program of the My Health Record. It will target every registered health practitioner (660,000) and some non-regulated health professionals (total of 1 million). The ADHA has recently started to meet formally with nursing and midwifery organisations. The agency is looking to partner with stakeholders to provide leadership to the nursing and midwifery professions to increase awareness, education and adoption of the My Health Record. Initial target organisations have included: CoNNMO; the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF); the Australian College of Nurse Practitioners (ACNP); the Australian College of Nursing (ACN); and the Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association (APNA). The Agency is seeking to collaborate on the development of nursing specific toolkits. The Agency is aiming is to identify and engage clinical champions to support the peer to peer messaging and education of nurses nationally. These champions will sit within a broader pool of clinical champions, including already inducted nurses. For further information, visit the ADHA website: www.digitalhealth.gov.au
ANZCCNO / Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia – Prescribing

Tanya Vogt, NMBA Executive Officer and Petrina Halloran, NMBA Policy Manager presented on the NMBA’s proposed Registration Standard: Endorsement for scheduled medicines for registered nurses prescribing in partnership. On recommendation from the Health Workforce Principal Committee (HWPC), the NMBA has worked with the Australian and New Zealand Council of Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers (ANZCCNMO) to explore potential models of prescribing to determine a model for an endorsement to enable registered nurses (RNs) to prescribe scheduled medicines. The NMBA and ANZCCNMO have consulted with governments, key nursing stakeholders, nurses and consumers to formulate the basis for the new registration standard. The NMBA is proposing the Registration Standard: Endorsement for scheduled medicines for registered nurses prescribing in partnership, structured on Model 2 of the Australian Health Ministers Advisory Council’s (AHMAC) endorsed Health Professions Prescribing Pathway (HPPP) - Prescribing under designation/supervision. This model enables prescribing to occur where a prescriber undertakes prescribing, within their scope of practice, under the designation/supervision of another authorised health professional. Public consultation will commence in June 2018. The Board will hold public forums as part of this round of consultation. The Board will also be consulting on the guidelines to accompany the registration standard. These guidelines will articulate the partnership relationship, what constitutes safe and effect prescribing and set out the governance relationship.

CATSINaM / Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia – Cultural Safety

Janine Mohamed, Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives (CATSINaM) CEO and Tanya Vogt, NMBA Executive Officer presented on cultural safety in the context of the new NMBA Codes of conduct for nurses and midwives. The National Boards, AHPRA and Accreditation Authorities have committed to an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Strategy with a vision of ‘patient safety for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People’s as the norm’. To lead this work, an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health strategy group was established. This group, made up of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health sector leaders and representatives from Accreditation Authorities, National Boards and AHPRA, look at how to improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patient safety, improve health outcomes for all Australians, develop Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s participation in the health workforce, and contribute to closing the gap in health outcomes between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and other Australians. To work towards culturally safe practice, the NMBA has partnered with CATSINaM to embed cultural safety in the professional standards and codes of conduct for nurses and midwives. They have also developed a joint policy on racism. The new codes of conduct have attracted some media attention over recent months regarding the glossary definition of cultural safety. The review process for the new codes included a review of both the previous codes of conduct and the professional boundaries documents. The review was informed by research, the nursing and midwifery professions and the public. An extensive working group of key stakeholders provided oversight and specialist input for the codes review. The new codes were developed unopposed. Following the inaccurate claims in the media, the NMBA, along with CATSINaM, the ANMF, ACN and ACM, released a joint statement on cultural safety. CoNNMO members have been invited to lend their support by co-badging with the NMBA on the joint statement. Seventeen national nursing and midwifery organisations have signed on to the statement to date. Organisations that also wish to be involved can contact Tanya Vogt.

Aged Care Workforce Strategy Taskforce

Professor John Pollaers, Chairman of the Aged Care Workforce Strategy Taskforce provided an update on the work of the taskforce. The purpose of the taskforce is to develop a strategy for growing and sustaining the workforce providing aged care services and support for older people, to meet their care needs in a variety of settings across Australia. The taskforce’s role is to provide guidance on strategic direction, steer the process of developing a strategy and sponsor robust consultation and engagement. The taskforce has held two national summits, workshops and community consultation. They have engaged with over 400 providers and received 684 submissions from the public and organisations. John has spoken at over 70 forums. The taskforce has also established four specialist technical advisory groups. The three themes for transformational change include: shifting attitude, referring access and enhancing life with 15 strategic actions to be completed. The work of the taskforce is to be completed by 30 June 2018.

Australasian Society for HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Sexual Health Medicine

Melinda Hassall, Clinical Nurse Lead, Nursing Program, National Policy and Education provided an update. The Australasian Society for HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Sexual Health Medicine (ASHM) is a not-for-profit member based organisation. It supports health professionals working in HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Sexual Health Medicine. The ASHM Stigma and Discrimination Project is Commonwealth funded. It is a collaboration, across 8 interventions, with key stakeholders to address systemic barriers, stigma and discrimination experienced by people living with a blood borne virus (BBV) accessing the health system. The Nursing Working Group for Intervention 2 of this project was established at the beginning of 2017. A free on-line learning module for nurses is being developed to raise awareness of stigma and discrimination experienced by people living with BBVs. The module is nearing the final stages of development. Once completed, the module can be accessed through the ASHM website. For further information, visit the ASHM website: www.ashm.org.au

Council report by the CoNNMO Chair and Secretariat is available on the CoNNMO website www.connmo.org.au

Member reports and speaker presentations are available on the CoNNMO website www.connmo.org.au

Next CoNNMO member meeting will be held on Friday 5th October 2018, 9.30am - 4pm, NSW NMA, 50 O’Dea Avenue, Waterloo, NSW.