



## **Professional Nursing Adviser Report Infection Prevention and Control College (IPCNC), NZNO Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2022**

Firstly, I want to thank the IPCNC committee for their dedication to the Infection Prevention and Control College and the nursing profession in New Zealand. The last few years have been challenging for all nurses, is particularly true for nurses working in infection prevention and control. I am very thankful that members of the committee who were due to step down elected to stay to keep the committee running during this difficult time. I would like to thank the outgoing committee members for their hard work and relentless support. In particular Carolyn Clissold for staying on as the committee Chair, to hand over to Lisa Gilbert the incoming Chair. It takes a great deal of ongoing committee members to keep the IPCNC college functioning, and I am sure college members will join me in congratulating the committee for their hard work.

The committee has done significant work to ensure the new IPCNC website functions well and meets the needs to members.

They have also continued to support the running of the Infection Prevention and Control Fundamentals programme.

I would also like to thank the committee who organised the conference. The last three years proved challenging with venues changing and the conference being postponed twice. It is great to see the 2022 conference and AGM going ahead. The committee should be commended for their organising skill and commitment.

Changes occurring within the health care system will continue to impact NZNO members. The Pae Ora Act 2022 created two health authorities. Te Whatu Ora (Health New Zealand) and Te Aka Whai Ora (Māori Health Authority). Increasing health inequalities and delays in health services were experienced by communities and NZNO continues to support members through these changes.

NZNO's annual report [2021/ 22] is available on the website with your member login. See <https://www.nzno.org.nz/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=yYCBZTcQWg%3d&tabid=109&portalid=0&mid=4918>

NZNO's membership numbers have significantly increased – as at 31 March 2021 NZNO had 50,900 members. Membership as at 31 March 2022 was 55,202. This also shows a significant increase in Registered Nurses from 39,593 to 43,196.

This year NZNO received requests for medico-legal advice from 330 members, down by 74 requests in the previous year. Of these requests, some could not be assigned to medico-legal lawyers as the requester was not a member at the time of the incident in question, and therefore was not covered by the indemnity policy held by NZNO. It is imperative members keep up **their financial membership and indemnity coverage.**

Files were opened for 270 members in relation to:

- 82 Health and Disability Commissioner complaints by consumers
- 41 coronial matters – some of which will involve a full hearing inquest and others will be determined on the papers
- 39 Nursing Council Professional Conduct Committee investigations, regarding conduct or criminal convictions
- 39 Nursing Council Health Committee matters
- 24 criminal investigations by police requiring the member to provide a statement/give evidence as a witness or a victim
- 18 serious adverse event reviews or other employer led inquiries
- 11 Nursing Council assessments
- 4 Health Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal hearings (charges brought by a PCC of the Nursing Council or the Director of Proceedings)
- 2 Nursing Council full council meetings, regarding suspension of a practising certificate for competency issues
- 2 Human Rights Commission matters
- 2 criminal investigations by police of a member
- 2 ACC matters
- 2 witnesses in other types of court proceeding
- 1 Midwifery Council matter
- 1 District Inspector matter

Competency advisory referrals since August 2021 related to

- medication errors,
- failure to assess patients,
- adequate communication, and
- inadequate documentation

It was challenging providing support to members with the full competency review process over Zoom instead of face-to-face.

International Nurses Day 2022 launched the Maranga Mai! Campaign introduced by NZNO CEO Paul Goulter. 'Maranga Mai!' means 'Rise Up!' and this campaign is a call for all NZNO members, whatever sector they work in, to come together and take united action. We want to win the political and resourcing commitments needed to address the nursing shortage crisis permanently – and across the whole health sector. At the NZNO AGM, members came together to workshop critical components of the campaign. <https://maranga-mai.nzno.org.nz/>

NZ has the highest rate of internationally qualified nurses in the OECD. NZ is not retaining or increasing the nursing graduate workforce. In response to the 2020 Covid-19 and the International Supply of Nurses Report for the International Council of Nurses (ICN), the ICN recently called for more robust codes for ethical recruitment and investment in nursing education. In the 2022 report '*Sustain and Retain in 2022 and Beyond*,' Howard Catton, Professor James Buchan and Dr Franklin Shaffer revealed how the COVID-19 pandemic has made the fragile state of the global nursing workforce much worse and suggested up to 13,000,000 more nurses will be required over the next decade.

<https://www.icn.ch/system/files/202201/Sustain%20and%20Retain%20in%202022%20and%20Beyond-%20The%20global%20nursing%20workforce%20and%20the%20COVID-19%20pandemic.pdf>

ICN's position statement on international career mobility and ethical nurse recruitment "supports the rights of nurses to pursue professional achievement through career mobility and to better the circumstances in which they live and work" but "condemns the targeted recruitment of nurses from countries or areas within countries that are experiencing a chronic shortage of nurses and/ or a temporary health crisis in which nurses are needed" and "acknowledges the adverse effects that international migration of nurses and other health professionals may have on healthcare quality in countries seriously depleted. <https://www.icn.ch/news/icn-calls-stronger-codes-ethical-recruitment-nurses-and-investment-nursing-education>

I wish IPCNC members success for the forthcoming year and look forward to working with the college committee continuing to reach the goals of the college.

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(October 2022)  
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