



2017 PNAQ Biennial Conference

The Empire Theatre
Toowoomba
Thursday 18th – Saturday 20th May 2017

All enquiries regarding presentations to:

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ABSTRACT / POSTER SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The Perioperative Nurses Association of Queensland (PNAQ) invites the submission of abstracts for conference papers and posters that address the 2017 conference theme, *MAD: Making A Difference*. We are especially looking for abstracts related to all areas of perioperative practice and patient care that focus on the following:

- Evidence-based practice or research in perioperative settings
- Practice improvement or practice innovations
- Case studies or exemplars of perioperative nursing leadership
- Technological advancements
- Exploration and challenge the boundaries of practice

Each Abstract / Poster must be accompanied by a completed cover sheet. It is estimated that the majority of oral presentations will be in the 30-minute time limit including question time. Posters will be displayed for the duration of the conference and the author will be requested to be present during the allocated 'Meet the Author' session.

Abstract Acceptance: Abstract / poster submission is due **20th March 2017** to conferencecommittee@pnaq.net.au

All papers must be presented in English and by the listed principal author. It should be not more than 250 words typed single spaced in MS Word format using minimum 12-point font. A narrative biography is required at the time of the abstract submission. The bio should be a description of the author's educational and professional background. Receipt of abstracts will be acknowledged through email. All participants will be notified of the decision of the conference subcommittee by **27th March 2017**. The presenting author will be required to register for the Conference no later **28th March 2017**. Failure to register by that date may result in removal of the accepted abstract from the conference program. Abstracts will be rated on originality and relevance to the conference theme.

Awards

Poster Excellence Award: On-site at the Conference, volunteer members of PNAQ will judge the posters and give a Poster Excellence Award to several posters in each category (i.e. Research / Evidence-Based Practice or Practice Improvement / Practice Innovation). The total number of awards is determined each year based on the number of accepted posters in each category.

Best Paper Award: An award will be presented for the Best Paper at the conference. A panel appointed by the conference subcommittee will select the recipient of the Best Paper Award. It is anticipated that the Best Paper will be submitted for publication in the ACORN Journal.

Novice Presenter Award: A Novice Presenter is a person who has not previously presented a paper at a State or National Conference. PNAQ encourages and supports all perioperative nurses to share their experience, knowledge and research with colleagues.

GUIDELINES FOR RESEARCH ABSTRACT FORMAT:

The following information should be included in your abstract:

Title: Simple, but descriptive title.

Background: Include a brief explanation of the problem/issue that you researched and outline a primary aim or objective of the research (research question or hypothesis).

Methods: Include the setting of the research, the number and type of participants, brief details of any apparatus used (including interventions if used), brief details of methodology and the outcomes measured (including primary statistical analysis).

Results / Discussion: Clearly outline the results. For example, if a comparison between two groups (interventions) has been made, state the mean difference between the groups and either standard deviations or preferably 95% confidence intervals. P-values can be included, but don't just write that a test was 'significant' or just indicate the 'P-value' – a P-value does not provide the size of the difference. Attempt to make the information as intuitive as possible by using percentage change, proportions, relative risks, odds ratios etc., if relevant. Briefly discuss the meaning of these results if not obvious.

Conclusion: Write a succinct conclusion, which highlights the main (primary) result of the research. This should answer the aim or research question set out in the Background section. The clinical implication of this finding needs to be highlighted if not obvious. If the authors have any conflict of interest, this needs to be stated at the end of the abstract.

Key Clinical Points: Key clinical findings and implications to clinical practice must be listed in dot point or other summary form.

POSTER GUIDELINES

Posters are an effective method of communicating timely and original work in a public forum. They represent ideas in a graphical format, are interactive, and facilitate productive discussion between poster authors and interested colleagues in the perioperative profession. Posters displayed at the conference will share the actions and ideas that are successful in your facility with other perioperative nurses!

Practice Improvement / Practice Innovation posters should identify practice improvements and/or practice innovations that you and your colleagues have initiated. These can be related to clinical, management or education issues.

Research & Evidence Based practice posters contribute to the understanding of research projects and to our scientific knowledge. Posters accepted for display at the conference offer an opportunity for peers to review recent research studies and evaluate findings for applicability in their own perioperative settings.