



The Irish Association of Advanced Nurse Midwife Practitioners

DECEMBER 2024
NEWSLETTER



IN THIS ISSUE

Committee News

An update
from your
committee

Association News

What news
does the
association
have ?

Conference News

What
happened at
our national
annual
conference?

News from the Committee

By Melissa Hammond

Melissa Hammond – Chair person

Caroline Fraser – Vice chair

Dona Cromar – Secretary

Audrey Butler – Treasurer

The committee would like to welcome you all to our Christmas newsletter.

AGM 2024



IAANMP AGM this year was held online via zoom on the 5th of December 16, 2024. The recording for the AGM is available on the below link for our members to access:

[AGM Zoom 2024](#)

Passcode: !%77IU@C

Melissa Hammond chaired this year's AGM 2024.

The AGM discussed the past years themes and vision for next year under the headings of education, collaboration, engagement and promotion of advanced practice. There was a statement of accounts discussed by the treasurer, Audrey Butler. This was to show the accounts for audit at the AGM and an opportunity was made available for any member to query them before being signed off by the current committee.

Committee Roles

Committee members who will be retaining their position in the coming year are as follows:

Melissa Hammond is staying on as Chair and as a committee member representing Primary Care and General Practice.

Caroline Fraser will remain in the position as Vice Chair and representing acute care as an Emergency RANP.

Dona Cromar RANP in emergency to remain a committee member.

Gemma Smith cANP committee officer representing Learning Disability Nursing.

Kathleen Canavan RANP for surgery- robotics and cardiothoracics and also works in private practice.

Roisin Lennon RANP for our Midwife representative.

Susan Mc Kenna RANP is staying on and representing Diabetes and also works in private practice.

Fiona Colbert RANP in Cardiology RANP, lead on ionisation radiation and chair of INMO advance practice section.

Biographies for each committee member can be viewed here [The IAANMP Committee](#)

Outgoing committee members

We want to say a huge thank you to those officers that are leaving the committee this year: Audrey Butler, Trish Mc Keown, Deirdre Gleeson and Mary Gillespie. They each have spent many years and time on the IAANMP committee and we will miss them very much. They have been a great support and advisers to the newer members of the committee. Each of these members have taken on key roles and committed so much of their expertise and knowledge to the association in the interest of supporting and promoting advanced practice and we are sorry to see them go and we hope to keep in contact.

Call for new committee members

As we strive to advance the mission and goals of IAANMP in this our 20th year, we are excited to announce an opportunity for you to get involved and make a difference by joining our committee. We are a passionate team of Nurse and Midwife Practitioners aiming to promote, support and lead advance practice in Ireland.

Are you passionate about driving positive change in the nursing profession, and contributing to the success of IAANMP. If you are interested in contributing your time and expertise, drop an email with your CV to iaanmp@gmail.com. We look forward to welcoming new committee members.

We have our first committee meeting for 2025 planned for the first week in January 2025 where we will plan out roles for the year ahead.

Incoming committee members



Research role- Dr Emily Lockwood

To have strength in solidarity and numbers and as an association to have support and guidance to bridge the gap between academia and practice as nursing/midwifery leaders. We are delighted to welcome Dr Emily back on to the committee as a committee officer. She is a lecturer in general and advanced nursing practice at the South East Technological University SETU Ireland.

Dr Lockwood holds years of experience in clinical nursing, advanced nursing practice, education, project management and research, with a PhD by research which explored Self Determination Theory (mixed methods) to examine the impact of Advanced Nursing Practice Clinical Autonomy.

Emily has published widely on the topic area of advanced nursing practice, clinical autonomy and clinical decision-making in Advanced practice roles.

She is a Registered Advanced Nurse Practitioner in paediatric and adult emergency nursing for 20 years, and a registered nurse prescriber of medications & ionising & radiation & is a registered general Nurse. It is a great privilege for us to have her back on the committee as an officer and to help our members with research and academic advice.



Journal supplement and publishing expert – Dr Theresa Lowry-Lehnen

We are also delighted to have Dr Theresa Lowry-Lehnen join as a committee officer to our committee. She is GP employed and manages the nurse led medical centre at South East Technological University, Carlow campus.

She is qualified as an RGN, Coronary Care Nurse, Candidate ANP in General Practice Nursing, a Registered Nurse Prescriber and as a Teacher of Science and Nursing Studies. She holds a PhD, and is a registered Teacher with the Teaching Council of Ireland. Theresa qualified and worked in CCU/ITU for over 15 years, before moving to the primary care sector, where she specialized in General Practice Nursing and has continued to work for 25 years. She has authored 5 published nursing, health and psychology books and is a regular contributor to medical, nursing and pharmaceutical journals and newspapers, with over 300 clinical articles published in recent years. She will be a great addition to our committee team as a committee officer. It will be great to have Theresa expertise in journaling on our committee.

We look forward to a new and exciting year with the association and this diverse and passionate committee.

Engagement

We have links with the key stakeholders in policy and the board of registration, and international links with ICN AP network. We have regular meetings and engagements with the Nursing Board, and the Department of Health on an advisory level as the national association.

I'm delighted to let you know that Dona Cromar, our committee officer has been nominated and accepted to support the implementation of the Department of Health Expert Review Body Report Recommendations 24 and 25.

The Department of Health (2022) Expert Review Body Report on Nursing & Midwifery assigned responsibility to the HSE, the Higher Education Institutions and the Health Research Board to progress the implementation of recommendations 24 and 25, as outlined:

24	<p>The HSE, in partnership with the Higher Education Institutions and the Health Research Board to develop a nationally agreed clinical academic career framework* for nurses and midwives.</p> <p>*A formal clinical academic career framework allows nurses and midwives to continue in a clinical role while at the same time undertaking research to improve patient outcomes.</p>
25	<p>ONMSD, with the Higher Education Institutions, to further develop joint nursing and midwifery clinical-academic appointments across acute and community settings.</p>

Staying connected

Are you looking for more ways to stay connected? If so please engage with IAANMP on our social media platforms. Follow us on social media for the latest updates and news.

Stay in the loop and join the conversation by following us today. Feel free to like, comment and share any of our posts. Likewise please tag us on your posts.

Stay in the loop and join the conversation by following us today:

<https://x.com/iaanmp>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/irish-association-advanced-nurse-midwife-practitioners>





**Bord Altranais agus
Cnáimhseachais na hÉireann**
Nursing and Midwifery Board
of Ireland

NMBI update

The NMBI is running a pilot of the NMBI Competence Framework.

They are looking for IANMP members to take part in the pilot. The pilot scheme will run throughout 2025, this will then be audited in 2026 for full roll out in 2027.

Please see attached slides with more information.

1. PLAN Step 1 - **PLAN:** (Plan the learning activity)

1. Self-assess your competence for your professional practice
2. Develop a learning plan

- The NMBI Competence Framework which is based on the principles of the Code will support you to identify and reflect on your professional learning needs.
- It is advised that you record your professional goals for the coming year in a professional learning plan.
- You may choose to complete this plan with colleagues, mentors, or managers as they may help identify areas for your professional development.
- The professional learning plan should include the goals that you wish to achieve, details of how you plan to achieve them and the timeframe for achievement of these goals.

5

2. DO Step 2 - **DO:** (Carry out the plan)

1. Engage in continuing professional development (CPD)
2. Complete a minimum of:
 - a. 60 hours of CPD activities over the 3 previous years (average 20 hours per year)
 - b. 450 practice hours over a 3-year period (average of 150 hours per year)

- We do not specify the CPD that you must undertake. The type of learning activities selected should be broad and varied and should include examples of CPD from the following categories:
 - Work based learning
 - Professional Activity
 - Formal Education and
 - Self-directed learning
- Mandatory Training can be included if it is demonstrated to be relevant to your scope of practice and aligns to the Code.
- Your practice hours should reflect your current role

6

3. STUDY and REFLECT Step 3 - **STUDY** (Reflect and record what you learnt)

1. Using the Code as a guide, reflect on your learning activity and record how it relates to your professional competence.
2. Demonstrate that you have met the requirements of the Professional Competence Scheme (e.g. PDSA - CPD activity and practice hours)
3. Record the name and contact details of the person who will verify your practice hours.

- It is your responsibility to keep records of all completed CPD activities and practice hours.
- When you have completed your learning activity, reflect and record your learning, aligning to the principles of the Code. Please ensure that no identifiable information is recorded. (e.g., identity of service/colleague/healthcare providers).

7

4. ACT Step 4 **ACT** - (Act on the learning)

1. You must declare compliance with the Professional Competence Scheme requirements (PDSA, CPD and practice hours)

- Three months before the annual renewal of your registration, you will be asked to make a declaration that you are complying with the requirements of the Professional Competence Scheme.

8

If you want to get involved please contact us on iaanmp@gmail.com

News from the Association

By Melissa Hammond

Education



The IANMP provided clinical webinars this year which covered a wide spectrum of clinical and academic areas of ANP/AMP practice. In December we had a very interactive and innovative Spark Innovation Programme webinar. For anyone who missed it the recording is available on our website in the member's section. In January we are planning to have Michelle Acorn from Canada RANP to speak to our members on the journey for RANP in Canada, as we did not get enough time at the conference for her unfortunately. We feel it would be of huge benefit to our members to have a question and answer time with a Canadian perspective, they recently opened up the first Canadian Nurse led clinic.



Med café webinars

We are currently engaging with Med café and hopefully from the new year our members will have a member's section with them to access monthly webinars. We plan to launch something with med café from February. We ask our members to get in touch with ideas for topics of interest to cover which would be a great help in developing something that would suit all our members. Please email iaanmp@gmail.com so we can plan a rota tailored to our member's needs. Likewise, if you are interested in presenting a webinar on this platform also let us know and we can send your details to Medcafe. This is another great way of promoting your specialty and sharing expert knowledge.



For those who didn't get to meet Bill and his team at the conference, we would ask if you could set up a free Medafe account to be able to access the webinars on the website below:

[Medcafe](https://www.medcafe.ie)



Michelle Acorn

Launching our first Advanced Practice Supplement

The IANMP have agreed to partner up with Greencross Publishing limited. These are publishers that print 3 main magazines in healthcare “the Medical Independent”, “Nursing in Practice” and “Irish Pharmacist”. GreenCross Publishing is a healthcare publisher specialising in news gathering, clinical journals and educational websites aimed at Irish healthcare professionals.

We are planning from January to launch our first advanced practice magazine. This will replace our newsletters. The magazine, newly named “Nursing in Practice” from Greencross publications will publish the IANMP supplement in the middle of it. This is a fantastic addition to promoting us and publishing our knowledge and our work. We will have 6 editions per year for our members posted to your house/work. All members will have the opportunity to publish and write in the magazine and if selected will get paid for their work, fees vary from what magazine its published in but is a great opportunity for our members to get involved. We need all members to update their address for the delivery of the magazine on their members profile asap to be able to receive the magazines.

<https://www.greencrosspublishing.ie/>



Please update your profile asap so you don't miss out on the January edition. Just click on this link to bring to update your address and contact details and to provide us with consent to share your details to Greencross.

Details can be uploaded from the below link:

[my profile](#)



Also as discussed at the AGM, the IANMP committee are pleased of setting up a safe platform for our members so we can securely discuss, support and advise each other on clinical issues. GDPR and anonymity regulations will be advocated and members will have to consent to be added to the group. Siilo is a secure network that many healthcare professional are currently familiar with using. When updating your address for the Advanced Practice Supplement why not add your phone number too, with consent to Siilo should you want to be involved in this.

<https://www.silo.com/>

News from our conference

By Caroline Fraser



20 Years of IANMP – A Celebration

The Irish Association of Advanced Nurse and Midwife Practitioners (IAANMP) was established in 2004 to provide a support network to all those involved directly or indirectly in advanced nurse or midwifery practice. The aim of the association is to empower its members to advance quality healthcare through practice, education, advocacy, research, and leadership. To support this mission, the IANMP hosts a national conference for Advanced Nurse and Midwife Practitioners (ANMPs) every year, providing a platform for collaboration, learning, and inspiration to ensure these goals are achieved.

This year the conference was a celebration of the association's 20th anniversary. Over 200 people attended the conference representing many areas of advanced nursing and midwifery practice across Ireland both from acute and community settings.

The day commenced when Ms. Melissa Hammond (Chair IANMP) gave a welcome address highlighting the achievements of IANMP over the last year, which included a focus on been more visible as an association, providing more education and promoting advanced practice inclusion and collaboration. She also emphasized how the conference was an invaluable opportunity for networking with each other and the speakers who are very influential to advanced practice. It also provided the attendees with continuous professional development.



The opening address was from the Chief Nursing Officer (DOH) Ms Kelly Mofflin and President of the NMBI Louise McBride who both highlighted that advanced practitioners are increasingly recognised as pivotal to the future of the health service.



There was a trip down memory lane when Ms Valerie Small, the first ANP in Ireland spoke about how her journey started back in 1996 and how it evolved over the years. Following on from this, the three founding members of the association Ms Cora O'Connor, Ms Paula McBrearty and Ms Gabby Dunne focused on the past, present and future of the IANMP.

There were a number of inspiring clinical snapshots presented whereby advanced nurse practitioners working in the areas of obesity management (Ms. Claire Kearney), diabetes (Ms. Yvonne Moloney) and cardiology (Ms. Deirdre McGuone Kiely) shared their knowledge, skills and experiences and how their roles influence healthcare.



Clare Kearney



Deirdre Mc Guone Kiely



Yvonne Moloney

Mr Asim A. Sheikh (Barrister-at-Law) then gave an in-depth review on the legal aspects of record keeping which sparked many questions and debate amongst the conference attendees.

Finally, Dr Catrina Heffernan (Chair ICN NP/APN Practice network) chaired an expert panel discussion on “Modernizing healthcare using an advanced practice model”. Several notable guest speakers including Ms. Melissa Hammond (Chair IAAANMP), Ms. Emily Lockwood (Academia SETU), Dr Geraldine Shaw (OMNSD Director), Dr Louise McBride (NMBI President), Ms. Sandra McCarthy (DON Integrated Care) and Dr Michelle Acorn (FCAN, FAAN, CEO NPAO – Canada) were present.



Ms. Catrina Heffernan, Chair of the ICN NP/APN Practice Network, led an insightful expert panel on “Modernizing healthcare using an advanced practice model”. The panel featured distinguished speakers who brought diverse perspectives from academia, policy, leadership, and international practice:

- Ms. Melissa Hammond, Chair of IAAANMP
- Ms. Emily Lockwood, Academia SETU
- Dr. Geraldine Shaw, OMNSD Director
- Dr. Louise McBride, President of NMBI
- Ms. Sandra McCarthy, Director of Nursing, Integrated Care
- Dr. Michelle Acorn, CEO of NPAO Canada and a Fellow of both FCAN and FAAN

During the discussion, benefits of joining the IAAANMP were discussed and the importance of the association having links with the key stakeholders in policy and the board of registration and international links with the ICN AP Network in order to progress advanced practice in Ireland. Ms. Melissa Hammond also called for all advanced practice sub- committees to collaborate with the IAAANMP to have unity in numbers.

The conference concluded with the announcement and presentation of recognition awards and poster competition winners. Ms. Dona Cromar (Secretary IANMP) in her closing address thanked everyone for their participation, time and valuable contributions. She also delivered some key messages including our commitment as an association to maintaining transparency, collaboration and innovation as we work towards our collective goals. She acknowledged the leadership of Ms. Melissa Hammond (Chair IANMP) and Ms. Caroline Fraser (Vice Chair IANMP) and thanked the committee, partners and members for their on-going hard work and dedication. She reiterated that we are heading in the right direction but we needed to work together towards an even brighter future.

Overall, the conference was a huge success with very positive feedback received. There was a recurring theme throughout the day which highlighted the benefit and the importance of been a member of the IANMP and how fundamental advanced nurse and midwifery practitioners are to the future of healthcare in Ireland.



Dona Cromar

Feedback from the conference

On the 19th November, we emailed out a survey to all conference delegates looking for feedback. We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to those who shared their feedback.

Forty-four individuals undertook the survey, giving us a response rate of 20%. The insights gathered from this survey are highly valuable and will play a crucial role in shaping the planning process for next year's conference, which has already commenced.

I am pleased to report that the feedback from this year's conference was exceptionally positive. Attendees expressed appreciation for the seamless organisation of the event, the excellent venue facilities, the informative content, and the high calibre of speakers. Delegates also highlighted that the conference was beneficial in relation to their professional development and noted that there were ample opportunities to network with colleagues.

Furthermore, 96% of respondents indicated that they would attend the conference again in the future.

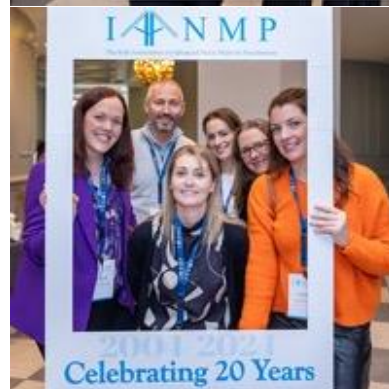
Areas for improvement identified by respondents included a suggestion to reduce the time spent introducing speakers. There was also a request for more opportunities for participant interaction.

Delegates also expressed interest in including topics such as change management, legal aspects, prescribing, and more clinical snapshots from ANMPs across various specialties. Additionally, there were requests for a stronger clinical focus, with the suggestion of potentially featuring an international speaker.

Some Pictures from the day









Final message from the committee

Hoping all the care and kindness you give to others always comes back to you. Wishing you a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year!



Merry Christmas, we hope you get to enjoy some time away from your hard work and down time to relax and spend time with family and friends...

The IANMP Committee