ASPAN
American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses

ASPAN's 44th National Conference Recorded Sessions

Sessions from Tuesday, April 29, 2025

#101 Pre-operative and Post-Surgical Priorities for the Patient Undergoing Spinal Surgery
This session will present various types of spinal surgery patients, perianesthesia care considerations, potential complications and post-surgical care. The use of a spinal pathway to guide quality outcomes will also be discussed.
1.25 contact hours

#201 Laryngospasm in Pediatric Patients: Practice Considerations for Training New PACU Staff
Laryngospasm in pediatric patients is a frightening experience in the PACU. This session will present strategies to teach laryngospasm recognition and management to newly onboarded staff, so they are competent and confident.
1.25 contact hours

#301 The Perianesthesia View from the Frontline
Perianesthesia orientation is developed and for the nurse new to the perianesthesia setting. This session will focus on the role that the preceptor/coach plays in ensuring a successful orientation.
1.25 contact hours

#401 Expect the Unexpected: Vigilant Perianesthesia Nursing Care
Perianesthesia nurses must be vigilant in their assessment and monitoring of patients to ensure patient safety throughout the perianesthesia care continuum. This session will provide a broad overview of the phases of perianesthesia nursing care from preoperative to discharge. Using a case study approach, examples of the impact of vigilant perianesthesia care on early identification and timely intervention of *unexpected* potential and actual anesthesia and surgical/procedural related complications are explored.
1.25 contact hours

#501 What Successful Phase II Nurses Know
Phase II Perianesthesia nursing is a specialty unto itself. Understanding the impact specific medications used during anesthesia have on patients during this phase of care and the unique needs of this patient population is essential to competent, compassionate patient care and safe discharge.
1.25 contact hours

#601 Continuous IV Ketamine Infusion in Conjunction with Ultra-low Naloxone Infusion to Decrease Narcotics in Phase I
This session will highlight how the introduction of the combination of continuous IV Ketamine infusion with the use of constant ultra-low-dose Naloxone infusion has significantly decreased the consumption of post-operative narcotics for neurosurgery patients while maintaining adequate pain control.
1.25 contact hours

#102 Game On! Leveling Up Your Perianesthesia Team with Easy Games!
Looking to level up your next staff meeting or engage your team in a creative way? Not sure where you can start or how you would create a game for your team? Come learn where to find easy tools to use, create a simple educational trivia with references, and join in on some games that you can use to build your team's clinical skills!
1.25 contact hours

#202 Common Pediatric Surgical Procedures Postoperative and Discharge Considerations
Review of some of the most common surgical procedures performed in children, post operative care and considerations. Discharge considerations and planning for pediatric patients.
1.25 contact hours

#302 Consequences of Human Error: More Than Malpractice at Stake
Healthcare providers dread malpractice claims and providers now have an added concern—facing criminal charges for injury to a patient.
1.25 contact hours

#402 Minimally Invasive but Not Minimal Risk: Impact of Laparoscopic Surgery in Perianesthesia
Technological advances in surgical approaches have rapidly expanded to laparoscopic and robot-assisted laparoscopic surgery across many specialties. While minimally invasive, this surgical approach is not without risk to the patient. Complications may include postoperative pulmonary complications, perforation, vascular injury or conversion to an open surgical approach. This session describes laparoscopic surgery and explores potential postoperative complications with associated assessment and management strategies.
1.25 contact hours

#502 Waste Anesthetic Gases: Update on Science
The negative health impact from occupational exposure to waste anesthetic gases is well documented. Patients who have received anesthetic gases exhale them 95% unmetabolized into the ambient air of the PACU, an area lacking regulations or engineering controls to mitigate exposure as well as lacking a rigorous air quality surveillance program. Waste Anesthetic Gases also contribute to climate change. This presentation will cover the most recent research findings and recommendations to protect nurses and the environment.
1.25 contact hours

#602 Implementation of a Virtual Recovery After Surgery Program in Perianesthesia
This session will highlight how introducing a Virtual Recovery After Surgery (VRAS) program has decreased the length of stay for postoperative patients in a hospital setting. This technology has increased patient satisfaction, decreased readmission rates and converted the admission route of some surgeries from surgical admitted patients to same-day discharge patients.
1.25 contact hours

#103 Building Trust Through Just Culture: Navigating Perianesthesia with Integrity and Accountability
Providing a deeper understanding of the concept of just culture within the Perianesthesia setting, participants will explore how to foster an environment where integrity and accountability are paramount. Examination of strategies for balancing patient safety with staff empowerment, ultimately promoting a culture of trust and continuous improvement in Perianesthesia care, is encouraged through case studies and best practice dialogue.
1.25 contact hours

#203 Details Matter in Preoperative Preparation for Pediatric Patients and Caregivers
Meeting the needs of the pediatric patient population can be quite challenging for the perianesthesia nurse, despite experience and exposure. This session addresses the importance of preoperative preparation and preoperative assessment for pediatric surgical patients and their caregivers.
1.25 contact hours

#303 Houston We Had a Problem...Enhancing Handoff Culture in the Perioperative Setting

This lecture will explore the evidence-based journey a team of nurses took to standardize a handoff tool and process, and ultimately improve the handoff culture. After identifying large variability in reporting and an informal approach to handoff, a foundation for reforming the current handoff structure was implemented. Ultimately, the final, and most challenging step was the process we took to make handoff a cultural priority in our institution to put patient safety in the forefront of handoff in the PACU.
1.25 contact hours

#403 Perianesthesia Healthy Environments Matter

Science, knowledge, and evidence advocate healthy environments for perianesthesia nurses. Healthy environments take positive energy, a committed team and collaborative commitments to make a difference for each other. Join this session and learn more to positively impact and grow within thriving teams at work, in our components, community and organization. Let's promote a healthy perianesthesia environment for everyone. Science of safety positively affects fostering healthy environments. Be the positive change for better outcomes!
1.25 contact hours *Connie*

#503 Perianesthesia Nursing Excellence Shining in a Magnet Hospital

Perianesthesia nurses thrive in Magnet hospitals. They play a major role in sustaining the Magnet culture. This lecture describes perianesthesia nurses' active participation and leadership support in achieving Magnet designations.
1.25 contact hours

#603 Patients with Mental Illness: Perianesthesia Considerations

One in five U.S. adults experience a mental health condition every year. Patients with mental illness have a higher risk of surgical complications. This presentation aims to discuss the role of the perioperative nurse in caring for patients with mental illness.
1.25 contact hours

#104 Care of the Perianesthesia Patient with a Substance Use Disorder

This session will present the perianesthesia care considerations of the patient with a substance use disorder. Physiological and psychological support for this patient along with potential challenges will be presented.
1.25 contact hours

#204 Uncomplicating Common Public Pediatric Postoperative Complications

Caring for the pediatric patient can be daunting, despite experience and exposure. Children have significant anatomical and physiological differences, which increases the risks of postoperative complications. This session addresses the importance of adequate preparation for pediatrics to avert respiratory adverse events (PRAEs) in the PACU.
1.25 contact hours

#304 More Legal Situations to Consider for the Perianesthesia Nurse

So often nurses are faced with a situation that could end up having legal consequences or expose them to being named as a co-defendant in a malpractice lawsuit. These situations could appear to be so simple and innocent, like witnessing a signature on a consent, to something more egregious like administering the wrong medication or treatment. Add to that the fast-paced atmosphere of the perianesthesia setting, and that could lead to legal disasters.
1.25 contact hours

#404 Outpatient Surgery: Optimization and Risk Mitigation
There has been an exponential increase in outpatient procedures, both surgical and interventional. This session explores the emerging landscape of ambulatory care and discusses opportunities for preoperative optimization. Patient selection, risk mitigation and outcome metrics are reviewed with a lens of process improvement.
1.25 contact hours *Maureen McLaughlin MS RN ACNS-BC CPAN CAPA FASPAN*

#504 From Burnout to the Fires of Incivility
Care delivery is dependent on collaboration and when this is challenged by incivility, a fire can ignite that destroys relationships that were meant to bring healing. Issues of incivility, its importance to perianesthesia nursing, strategies for creation of a healthy work environment, and practice application will be discussed.
1.25 contact hours

#604 TULSA! No, Not the Town in Oklahoma: Perianesthesia Care of Transurethral Ultrasound Ablation of the prostate
Transurethral Ultrasound Ablation, or TULSA, is a new, innovative, and minimally invasive approach for the treatment of prostate cancer and/or benign prostatic hyperplasia. Using storytelling and an actual case study, the perianesthesia nurse will follow the patient's journey over five years—from diagnosis, to treatment, and follow-up.
1.25 contact hours

#020 Charge Nurse's Role in PACU: It Goes Beyond Mere Traffic Control
This session will discuss the roles and responsibilities of charge nurse as not only in managing patient flow but also in providing clinical leadership and overseeing the coordination of care within the PACU environment. A systematic orientation for PACU charge nurses will be introduced and the competencies for charge nurses based on evidence-based practice will be presented.
1.0 contact hour

#021 Cardiac Conundrums in the Perianesthesia Setting
Thankfully most patients have a smooth and stable transition from pre-op, to OR, to PACU and beyond. Occasionally, however, a patient may have a cardiac arrhythmia or event that may require anything from a simple intervention to an immediate action and/ or treatment. This is when the bedside nurse must recollect ACLS arrhythmia algorithms and protocols, use critical thinking, and implement sound nursing actions and interventions.
1.0 contact hour

#022 Ethical Challenges Along the Perianesthesia Care Continuum
Inherent in our nursing care of patients is the adherence to an ingrained nursing code of ethical principles such as autonomy, beneficence and justice. Perianesthesia nurses frequently encounter ethically challenging cases such as patients with a do-not-resuscitate advanced directive or request for blood-free treatment. This session begins with a review of ethical principles and using a case study approach discusses the ethical challenges inherent in the perianesthesia environment. The session concludes with a discussion of strategies for the best outcome for the patient, family and care team.
1.0 contact hour

#023 Culturally Competent Perianesthesia Care: DEI in Practice
Providing culturally sensitive holistic peri anesthesia care is essential to excellent outcomes. Our patients are vulnerable and trust us to acknowledge their dignity and humanity across the spectrum of care. Sharpen your skills to be more culturally sensitive and integrate ethical principles of care with every patient interaction.
1.0 contact hour

#024 Is It Disseminated Intravascular Coagulation (DIC)?
Pathophysiology causes and clinical manifestations of DIC will be discussed. As well as differential diagnosis and treatment. Updated recommendations and guidelines will be incorporated.
1.0 contact hour

#025 How Can Perianesthesia Nurses Impact Medical Waste?
The substantial amount of medical waste generated in perianesthesia areas has a tremendous environmental impact. Exploring this issue allows perianesthesia nurses to identify ways we can generate a positive impact.
1.0 contact hour

Sessions from Wednesday, April 30, 2025

#105 Recipe for Successfully Orienting New Graduate Nurses to Perianesthesia
Join us as we share our novel Comprehensive Onboarding to Perianesthesia Program (CO2P), a four-month structured curriculum combining formal didactic education with clinical preceptorship and formal clinical mentorship in a cohort approach.
1.25 contact hours

#205 Synergizing Perianesthesia Care: Unleashing the Power of Interprofessional Collaboration
Explore the critical role of Interprofessional Collaborative Practices (ICP) in Perianesthesia Nursing and how they bridge knowledge gaps among diverse healthcare teams. This presentation will dissect the principles of ICP and demonstrate through successful case studies how comprehensive collaboration across disciplines—including surgery, anesthesiology, pharmacy, nursing informatics, and more—can enhance patient safety and improve outcomes in perioperative care.
1.25 contact hours

#305 Unintended Perioperative Hypothermia: Priorities for the Perianesthesia Nurse
Unintended hypothermia in the perianesthesia setting. An evidence-based review of pathophysiology, complications, prevention, and treatment.
1.25 contact hours

#405 I Can't Breathe: A Review of Perianesthesia Airway Complications
This presentation will review the signs & symptoms, causes, treatment/interventions, and capnography indications for many common airway complications seen in the Perianesthesia setting. Using a case study format, some of the complications discussed will include residual paralysis, pseudocholinesterase deficiency, aspiration, laryngospasm, pulmonary edema, and more.
1.25 contact hours

#505 Placenta Accrete Spectrum: What the Perianesthesia Nurse Needs to Know
The incidence of Placenta Accreta Spectrum (PAS) has continued to rise. Nurses in the Perianesthesia arena may have some, little, or no familiarity in caring for women with suspected or diagnosed PAS. This session will review risk factors, pre/post-anesthesia considerations in care, and trauma-informed care for the woman with PAS.
1.25 contact hours

#605 State of the Science: 2024 Perianesthesia Nursing Practice
This symposium will explore research findings from 2024 that have implications for Perianesthesia nursing practice. An analysis of the studies using the JBI critical appraisal tools will be presented.
1.25 contact hours

#106 Debriefing and Psychological Safety in the Perianesthesia Setting
This session will present key concepts of debriefing and psychological safety. Different models of debriefing will also be presented.
 1.25 contact hours

#206 Use of AI in Pre Admission Testing to Decrease Cancellations and Optimize Patient Care
A review of one hospital's achievements of the use of Artificial Intelligence to be able to screen and catch comorbidities in time enough to be treated or addressed for on time scheduled procedure.
1.25 contact hours

#306 Anesthesia Medication Review for the Perianesthesia Nurse
This lecture will review common anesthesia medications used in the perioperative setting. Correlate the post-anesthesia patient assessment with potential adverse reactions to various anesthetic medications and discuss anticipated treatment options.
1.25 contact hours

#406 GLP-1ra Deep Dive: What Perianesthesia Nurses Need to Know
GLP-1 receptor agonists are extremely popular medications with the potential to improve comorbidities in many individuals. However, these medications can be extremely dangerous in the Perianesthesia population. With 1.7% of the US population prescribed semaglutide alone, many patients are presenting for surgery while on these medications. Come attend the GLP-1ra Deep Dive to find out more in-depth information on this class of medications along with steps perianesthesia nurses need to take in the care of patients taking them.
1.25 contact hours

#506 Impact of Minute Ventilation Monitoring on PACU Discharge Policies
Non-invasive monitoring of minute ventilation in conjunction with standard respiratory monitoring provides both confidence of adequate ventilatory function and early identification of respiratory distress. Its application has enabled UC San Diego Health to decrease PACU length of stay and ensure appropriate discharge locations in high-risk patient post-surgically. Discharge policy protocols to include minute ventilation parameters have enabled safe discharge after recovery, decreasing cost to both patients and hospital systems, while increasing bed capacity and patient flow.
1.25 contact hours

#606 The Journal Club, From Start to Finish; What do the Statistics Mean in that Article?
This symposium will discuss the rationale for nursing journal clubs, and the steps to starting and conducting one. In addition, a basic primer on understanding statistics that are seen in many nursing clinical inquiry articles will be presented.
1.25 contact hours

#107 Simulation Strategies in the Perianesthesia Setting
This session will present available simulation strategies that can be implemented for education, competency assessment and research across the perianesthesia setting. Specific types of simulation, case development, implementation and evaluation will also be presented.
1.25 contact hours

#207 Forewarned is Forearmed: Preadmission Assessment for Successful Outcomes
This presentation reviews the current evidence-based recommendations for preanesthesia testing and screening to reduce the risk of surgical cancellations and delays. The presentation will include screening tools which can be applied in the preanesthesia testing and/or preop admission departments, review of ASA testing recommendations and the recognition of patients at-risk for complications.
1.25 contact hours

#307 Artificial Intelligence: Friend or Foe in Perianesthesia Nursing
Artificial intelligence is an emerging technology in healthcare. Perianesthesia nurses need a greater understanding of this technology to innovate, evaluate and incorporate into safe, efficient, effective perianesthesia nursing care.
1.25 contact hours

#407 Perianesthesia Nurses Need to Know About Diversion and Substance Use Disorders
This session will explain why the subject of substance use disorders is important to perianesthesia nursing so they may recognize that they are at high risk. This session will advocate for improved education, training, and support for perianesthesia nurses so they may see help before becoming impaired. How to develop the most progressive policies and return-to-duty programs for perianesthesia nurses who are experiencing challenges related to behavioral health/substance use will also be presented.
1.25 contact hours

#507 Essential Updates on the Prevention and Management of PONV
The incidence of postoperative nausea and vomiting (PONV) can be as high as 70-80% in high-risk patients. This session will explore the newest recommendations for risk identification, prophylaxis, and multimodal treatment as presented in the most recent literature.
1.25 contact hours

#607 Understanding Survey Results Research and Navigating the IRB
This session will discuss the basics of selecting a survey for use in a study, and the important things to consider will be covered. Tips for navigating the IRB for nurses submitting their research proposal for ethical review will also be discussed.
1.25 contact hours

#108 Perianesthesia Preceptorship: Wright's Competency Model and ASPAN Standards for Optimal Outcomes
This session will explore the development of a comprehensive preceptor training program that incorporates Donna Wright's Competency Model along with ASPAN's updated practice model and practical evaluation tools. Participants will learn to tailor educational strategies to diverse learning styles and enhance professional communication, while also establishing effective competency-based frameworks and evaluation tools for preceptor and orientee assessments, all aimed at elevating patient care standards and improving the training process for new hires in perianesthesia settings.
1.25 contact hours

#208 Anesthesia Agent 101: Associated Adverse Events
Receiving anesthesia agents poses risks. The perianesthesia nurse is required to have knowledge on anesthesia agents along with the associated risks related to these medications and potential complications.
1.25 contact hour

#308 Extending Hospital Wide Disaster Preparedness to Include Perianesthesia
Emergency preparedness drills, mastered and perfected in the emergency room setting, typically end with declaring, "Patient sent to the OR." This presentation discusses the extension of disaster preparedness into the perioperative departments, preparing nurses all the way through patient discharge to successfully manage a variety of disaster scenarios. Innovative learning techniques, including gamification, are employed to engage perioperative nurses in interactive, scenario-based training that enhances critical thinking, decision-making skills, and retention of disaster preparedness protocols.
1.25 contact hours

#408 PACU Nursing and PONV in the Pediatric Patient
This session will describe risk factors in Pediatric Patients for PONV and discuss different strategies to decrease PONV. Nursing and anesthesia interventions that can help decrease PONV will also be discussed. Medications and how they affect PONV will also be addressed.
1.25 contact hours

#508 Emergencies in the Perianesthesia Setting: A Simulation Experience
This session will provide opportunities to engage in simulating evidence-based general recovery and emergency skills within a theoretical clinical environment. The participants will be taken through three clinical simulations: cardiopulmonary shutdown, client recovery from local anesthetic systemic toxicity (LAST), and client recovery from malignant hyperthermia.
1.25 contact hours

#608 QI/EBP Implementation in the Perianesthesia Setting: Conquering Practice Change
This session will provide an overview of the nuances of implementing evidence-based practice change in the perianesthesia setting. A step-by-step overview of the implementation/deimplementation process will be provided, starting with an evaluation of the proposed practice change through implementation, evaluation, and sustainability.
1.25 contact hours