

2018 National Conference Award Report

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Proud to be an ASPAN Member!

I feel very blessed to have had the privilege to attend the 2018 ASPAN National Conference in Anaheim, CA. Thank you ASPAN for the scholarship, which helped make this possible. If you have never attended one, please give it some serious thought. The hardest part of going is reading over the list of classes and having to decide which ones you want to attend. You can download information from the ones you did not attend, thus being able to glean some information from them also.

I learned so much: about how I need to take care of myself, to take time to laugh, how to elevate my practice using the ASPAN standards, about Geriatric Delirium, better understanding on reversing neuromuscular blocks, about opioid problems and marijuana updates, to name a just a few items. The days go quickly because you are always learning something.

It is not all work. It starts out with component night, a great time to meet so many fellow perianesthesia nurses. There were 1700 of us there. So interesting to hear about the practice improvement and new evidence based projects others have done. After years we start to just take our work for granted, I came back with a new respect for what we do and motivated to strive to find ways to improve and to practice more safely for the patients and myself.

I learned a lot about what ASPAN does and what it is involved in. We belong to a very wonderful elite organization. They are there to teach, support, and listen to you. It is time for all of us to become more involved and active with them. They are a resource that is underused. Once again thank-you ASPAN for a great time. Hope to be back again some year.