

2021 All-Virtual ASPAN National Conference

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I want to thank ASPAN for the opportunity to attend the national conference virtually this spring. I was able to attend the live preconference on *Perianesthesia Clinical Priorities* for 8.5 contact hours. The information that I gleaned from the day was valuable and the speaker was excellent. The questions at the end of each session kept me on track and listening closely.

Next, I attended the *Vascular Access for the Perianesthesia Nurse*. I have often wondered what I don't know about this subject, and I am happy to say that I came away with a new system in starting IVs. The speaker was skilled in her field and communicated clearly.

Next came *Recommendations for Opioid Use in Acute Surgical Pain Management*. I was impressed with the speaker and learned a lot about different multimodal methods of treating pain.

Building Sandcastles Instead of Throwing Sand was a fun indirect care class that I was happy to attend. It was interesting to see the different types of people and what makes them tick. I was able to put this knowledge to work immediately.

The *Gold Standard of Perianesthesia Practice* covering the ASPAN Standards was a great review for me. I always love to learn from this speaker and there is always a "takeaway" for me to use at work. The standards are so valuable to us as perianesthesia nurses, and I was able to purchase a copy for my team.

The next session I attended was *Is it Compassion Satisfaction or Compassion Fatigue?* Despite the indirect care hours that I received, this was a riveting and enjoyable session. The speaker was easy to listen to and was very knowledgeable in the subject. I learned so much new information and am still thinking about Satisfaction vs Fatigue. I have shared some of this information with my coworkers and they too seem interested in the concept.

I listened to the Anesthetic Gases sessions one and two. I did find session number one a little difficult to listen to, especially the introduction which seemed to go on for many minutes. The research was quite interesting, and the photos of the gases being exhaled around the masks and out the ET tube were so amazing. I often smell the breath of my patients when standing at the bedside but didn't really know how much of the gas is being sent into my direction.

The final session that I attended was *PACU Challenges: Gynecological, Surgical and Postpartum Hemorrhaging*. This was interesting in some ways, but I was hoping for more information regarding "hidden" bleeding in the PACU and how to diagnose quickly and treat before the blood loss becomes critical. This scenario is a fear of mine and I would like to know more about meds I would be expected to hang, dosages, critical care of the GYN patient.

Thank you for providing a way for me to attend this conference remotely and for the scholarship to take advantage of the excellent offerings.