

2025 ICPAN Conference Scholarship Report: Dublin, Ireland

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ICPAN, International Conference of PeriAnaesthesia Nurses, was held in Dublin, Ireland, in September of this year. When I learned that it would be in Ireland, I decided that I was going to be attending this conference! One of my bucket list items was to go to Ireland, and it was also one of my mom's, but she passed away in February, and so I decided that I was going for both of us!

I submitted an abstract for an oral presentation and it was accepted as a poster. There were about 50 posters in the poster gallery. I wasn't sure what to expect but a lot of the posters portrayed research and best practices involving hip and knee surgery, early mobilization, throughput, and getting patients out of the PACU after they are recovered.

We had some great speakers to listen to on topics of malignant hyperthermia, pre-op to PACU perianesthesia education, high risk airways, capnography, and others, but my favorite session was on Friday. One of the last sessions, we were given a seating chart with where to sit. At the table was a mixture of people from the different countries in attendance. It was my favorite because we were given different topics and after we individually answered the question, we got to discuss it at the table and see what everyone else thought. Of course, we would get off topic, but I thought it was a great way to meet and talk with others from around the world! And of course, there was the exhibit hall, and the silent auction.

The social events were awesome! I did the tour of Croke Stadium which was very interesting and learned about Gaelic football! The venue for the conference was the convention rooms in Croke Stadium and our hotel was just across the street! While we were there, they were getting ready for their next big event, the NFL football game of the Minnesota Vikings against the Pittsburgh Steelers! The EPIC Museum was very interesting. That was our social event on Thursday. We were able to walk around the museum and see the exhibits while getting our passports stamped! The EPIC is an emigration museum and filled with stories of Irish emigrants, and why and how they left Ireland. The night ended with dancing and drinking in one of the last galleries. So dancing is a favorite pastime of all nurses!

I was a little worried about communication at an international conference, but we all spoke the same language, you just had to filter through the accents!

Since this was a once in a lifetime trip for me, I brought my husband along and we make it a 2-week vacation going to Belfast, Ireland (Titanic Museum), Galway, Ireland to see the Cliffs of Moher (I truly recommend going there, it was beautiful!), Edinburgh, Scotland (Nessie says, "Hi!") and London (went to Buckingham Palace, shopped at Harrods and went to a Premier League soccer game)! It was a great trip. I would like to thank ASPAN for the scholarship for the ICPAN conference. I was able to visit places that I have read about but never thought I would be able to visit!

Thank you ASPAN!

(See photos on next page!)

