

November Newsletter Australia and New Zealand Chapter IFNA



Newsletter Number 36: November 2023

Australian and New Zealand Chapter News

As the end of the year is very close, I thought it would be good to reflect and share about the International Family Nursing Association. The mission of the International Family Nursing Association is to work together as health professionals with a compassionate family focus on health, social justice, human dignity and respect for all.

The association is a global network of nurses and health professional who work together to transform family health by serving as a unifying force and voice for family nursing globally, sharing knowledge, practices, and skills to enhance and nurture family nursing practice and providing family nursing leadership through education, research, scholarship, socialisation, and collegial exchange on all aspects of family nursing. When you first meet other family researchers you sense the shared vision to care for the family as the unit of care, not the patient or the disease. The focus is on how the family as a group interact and adapt when faced with adversity.

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<https://internationalfamilynursing.org/association-information/mission/>

The board of directors for the IFNA meets online monthly and works with all the committees to provide direction and meet the association vision.

There are also three country chapters within the IFNA which provide an opportunity for members within a country to connect between conferences and form a strong collaboration within the country. Japan has an external group with close links to the IFNA.

The UK and Ireland Chapter <https://internationalfamilynursing.org/chapters/uk-and-ireland/>

AUS NZ chapter our chapter <https://internationalfamilynursing.org/chapters/australia-new-zealand/>

African Chapter <https://internationalfamilynursing.org/chapters/african/>

Japanese Association for Research in Family Nursing <http://www.jarfn.org/index.html>



Why become a member of the International Family Nursing Association?

Members of IFNA meet regularly from around the world in committees or chapters to enable support and networking together. This allows strong research and educational networks to be developed and work together to meet the aims of the association.

I joined IFNA as a PhD student and was introduced to key researchers such as Prof Janice Bell, Prof Lorraine Wright and Prof Kathleen Knafel. Who have been instrumental in my perseverance with working with and researching families. Being **mentored and researching with strong family researchers** provides opportunities to understand how to collaborate with a family rather than just an individual. The art of communicating with families and understanding their needs and how best to support them (Wright, 2015; Wright et al., 2013).



Aims of the International Family Nursing Association:

- Promote the care of families in health and illness;
- Facilitate networking among family nurse researchers, educators and practitioners;
- Provide mechanisms for dissemination of information regarding family nursing research, education and practice;
- Advance family nursing research and foster the utilization of nursing research findings;
- Encourage socialization and preparation of students for the roles of family nurse researcher, family nurse advanced practice and family nurse educator;
- Promote the allocation of resources available for family nursing development; and
- Comprise a professional source of evidence, information and advocacy in health policy, and health legislation to improve the care of families.

International Family Nursing Association activities

To ensure the mission of IFNA is achieved the association has several major committees working within the structure and often sub-committees to share the workload. One of the major outcomes which has been achieved is a range of position statements to assist the clinician and researcher to define the scope of practice and concepts within family nursing. For example the **position statement** for general competencies, advanced practice, graduate and prelicenced family nurses. These positive statements developed by the education and research committees are underpinned by current research and family theory to ensure translation to clinical practice and research.

<https://internationalfamilynursing.org/association-information/position-statements/>

There are also a range of information to support nurses caring for refugee and migrant families, families during war and family health during covid. These resources are a place for nurses to come to understand

the current research and information for family facing these challenges.

<https://internationalfamilynursing.org/2016/02/18/caring-for-refugee-families/>



The committees or groups within IFNA all have a purpose and members within each group range from students to professors all sharing research and clinical ideas. All the committees work together to ensure the aims of the association are achieved.

The **research committee** I would say is the most active and with lots of subgroups, a purpose to advance the conduct, dissemination, and use of family nursing research worldwide. This committee has developed a range of family nursing measurement and numerous research outputs. Joining this group provides you with an opportunity to develop international collaborations and publications. The chair is Prof Mooney Doyle with Prof Danford. Dr Mandie Foster is an active member of this group working with the child and family cluster. <https://internationalfamilynursing.org/resources-for-family-nursing/research/research-committee/>

IFNA 2023 Family Measures Project

- Introduction to Family Measures Project
- Survey of Family Environment (SFE) Final. Honda & her colleagues
- Pediatric Quality of Life – Family Impact Module Final. Fleming
- Iceland–Family Illness Beliefs Questionnaire (ICE-FIBQ) Final. Gisladdottir & Svavarsdottir
- Iceland–Family Perceived Support Questionnaire (FPSQ) Final. Sveinbjarnardottir & Svavarsdottir
- Feetham Family Functioning Survey (FFFS) Final. Feetham
- Family Management Measure (FaMM) Final. Knafli
- Family Inventory of Resources for Management (FIRM) Final. Mooney-Doyle
- Family Hardiness Index (FHI) Final. Van Riper & Armijos-Yambay
- Family Function Style Scale (FFSS) Final. Diaz
- Family Environment Scale (FES) Final. Choi
- Family Assessment Device (FAD) Final. Cosgrove
- Family APGAR (FAPGAR) Final. Sawin
- Family Adaptability and Cohesion Scale (FACES IV) Final. Moriarty & Hamid
- Families Importance in Nursing Care Nurses Attitudes Final. Ostergaard & Luttkik

The **education committee** has a purpose to identify and disseminate the best educational practices for family nursing worldwide. This committee has developed the practice statements and has several subcommittees as well. <https://internationalfamilynursing.org/resources-for-family-nursing/education/education-committee/>

Education Committee
Purpose: Identify and disseminate the best educational practices for family nursing worldwide

Co-chairs: Jill Bally, Canada jill.bally@usask.ca or Shelley Spurr shelley.spurr@usask.ca

Board Liaison: Sandra Eggenberger - sandra.eggenberger@mmsu.edu

Sub-Committees:

Sub-committee 1: Simulation, Informatics and Technology Subcommittee (Simulation, Webinars and Online Offerings) - Amanda Garrow, and Stacey Van Celderen

Sub-committee 2: Communications and Newsletter Subcommittee - Roxanne Wilson and Jill Bally

Sub-committee 3: Family Nursing Education Resources Subcommittee - Patricia Young, Norma Krumweide, Connie Kartoz and Joan Clites

The **practice committee** works to advance family nursing practice internationally with a focus on building capacity for all nurses with position statements. <https://internationalfamilynursing.org/2016/02/18/practice-committee/>



There is an **awards committee** to provide opportunities for members to be awarded for excellence in family nursing. The **communications committee** works with to ensure the IFNA website and all range of communications are timely and accessible for all members and family nurses. This committee also organise the family nursing Blog a great way to understand what other researchers and members are doing internationally. <https://internationalfamilynursing.org/blog/>

To ensure transition of board members the association has a **nominating committee** which is a great committee to start to understand the size and depth of the IFNA. This committee works together to select a range of members who are interesting in work on the Board of directors.

There are other committee all of which have roles within the IFNA organisation and all have members from early career research/ clinician to Professor Emeritus so provide opportunities for mentoring and working together.

The committee meet online and face to face each conference year.

There is a group for PhD or research students to meet together internationally and be mentored and feel part of the international organisation. This group works together to support each other in their early career and there are scholarship which can be applied for.

The objectives of the IFNA Student Engagement Group are:

- to provide a global network of support and resources for all graduate student (and post-graduate early career researcher) members of IFNA
- to encourage the professional growth of IFNA members who are graduate students through collaboration and guidance from IFNA’s leadership, members, mentors, and fellow students
- to provide opportunities for graduate students to collaborate with other IFNA members with similar research interests and advance the science of family nursing

<https://internationalfamilynursing.org/activate/ifna-student-engagement-group/>



Chapter Publications

Smith L & Nersesian P, (November 2023), Reimagining Child & Family Health Education and Health Promotion Through a Planetary Health Lens (Chapter 13). In R Cross Health Promotion and Health Education in Nursing, Sage

<https://us.sagepub.com/en-us/nam/health-promotion-and-health-education-in-nursing/book275066#description>

Whitehead, L., Palamara, P., Babatunde-Sowole, O., Boak, J., Franklin, N., Quinn, R., George, C., Allen, J. (2023). Nurses' experience of managing adults living with multimorbidity: A qualitative study. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 79(7), 2514-2524. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jan.15600>.

Dermody, D., Fritz, R., Glass, C., Dunham, M., **Whitehead, L.** (2023). Family caregiver readiness to adopt smart home technology to monitor care—Dependent older adults: A qualitative exploratory study. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 2023(Article in press), -. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jan.15826>

Carman, R., Towell, A., Shah, M., Davis, E., Maple-Brown, L., Pearson, G., **Arabi**, D., Kirkham, R., **Whitehead**, L. (2023). "Sometimes Our Mob Don't Really Take It Serious Until It's Serious": The Experiences of Western Australian Aboriginal Adolescents Living With Type 2 Diabetes, Their Parents, and Their Family Members. Canadian Journal of Diabetes, 2023(Article in Press), TBD.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.icjd.2023.03.008>

Resources for your family research and clinical practice

Don't forget to access the **International Family Nursing website** for a range of family theory, scales and publications to help build your research.

<https://internationalfamilynursing.org/>



International Family Nursing Association

Position Statement on Pre-Licensure Family Nursing Education

Background

The promotion of family health and healing are values many nurses share globally. The International Family Nursing Association (IFNA) has developed a Position Statement on Pre-Licensure Family Nursing Education to encourage and assist all nurse educators to include family nursing education worldwide.

For the full Position Statement, visit internationalfamilynursing.org

The Position Statement is available in several languages.



Family Nursing

Many definitions of family nursing exist in nursing literature and practice. The common attribute is the integration of nursing care to both the family as a whole and the individual family members, with attention to relationships among members.

Family nursing education encompasses the teaching of practice based and evidence informed theoretical knowledge and skills that are clinically developed through supervised practice.



Theory-Driven
Family nursing theories support family nursing education.



Collaborative
Family nursing education includes collaborative relationships.



Evidence-Informed
Practice models that guide family nursing are informed by evidence.

Position Statement

A focus on family nursing should extend beyond a single course and be integrated throughout nursing curricula in ways to influence critical thinking and clinical judgment.

One of the primary mechanisms for developing the knowledge and skills necessary for family-focused care is the intentional inclusion of family during all aspects of pre-licensure nursing education.

Family-focused nursing care should be a standard of practice across the lifespan and should include family assessment, planning, nursing actions or interventions, and outcome evaluation.

Nursing curricula should include a systematic and progressive introduction to family-focused health care supported by evidence-informed family-derived theoretical frameworks.

Foundational Competencies

- Therapeutic communication skills
- Individual and family empowerment
- Appreciation of diversity
- Intentionally family-focused actions
- Critical reflection about nurse's beliefs about family
- Links between individual, family, community, and health systems
- Effective partnering or collaboration
- Coordinated care including experiences of individual and family
- Integration of family needs and desires
- Value of individual and family outcomes
- Collaborative goal setting and outcome measurement
- Policies that address individual and family care needs



2024 travel to Denmark in May for the Nordic Family Health Conference

Abstracts Close 1st December

Call for Submissions: Nordic Family Health and Care Conference 2024 

We are thrilled to announce that the submission phase for the upcoming Nordic Family Health and Care Conference 2024 is now officially open! ✨🌟


This prestigious conference, dedicated to advancing the field of family-focused health and care, presents a unique platform for researchers, practitioners, and advocates to share their insights and contribute to the improvement of family well-being across the Nordic region and beyond.



- **Submission Deadline: 1st December 2023**

- Conference Dates: 21st - 23rd May 2024

Whether you are an accomplished researcher, a passionate practitioner, or an enthusiastic student, this is your chance to showcase your work, exchange ideas, and engage with a community of like-minded individuals committed to enhancing family health and care practices.

 Submission Categories:

Health Promotion

Palliative care

Establish relationships and communication

Treatment and supportive care

Rehabilitation

Palliative care

Methods & Methodologies in family health

Innovation

Other (Please specify it in the abstract and add a keyword.)

 [Submission link](#)

Let's collectively shape the future of family health and care by contributing our knowledge and expertise. Spread the word among your colleagues and networks, and let's make this conference a resounding success!

For more information and updates, visit the official conference website: See the comments section for more details.

Looking forward to seeing your innovative submissions and to the enriching discussions that will undoubtedly take place during the conference. 🍷📊

[#NordicFamilyHealthCare](#) [#Conference2023](#) [#CallForSubmissions](#) [#HealthcareInnovation](#) [#FamilyWellbeing](#) [#CollaborationInCare](#)

Contact Dr Elisabeth Coyne for more information. E.coyne@griffith.edu.au



Next meeting Wednesday • November 8th , 1500-1600 AEST

This month we welcome family researchers from Portugal. Link in to hear their research areas.

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Written by Dr Elisabeth Coyne.

References

Wright, L. M. (2015). Brain Science and Illness Beliefs: An Unexpected Explanation of the Healing Power of Therapeutic Conversations and the Family Interventions That Matter. *Journal of Family Nursing*, 21(2), 186-205. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1074840715575822>

Wright, L. M., Leahey, M., & ProQuest. (2013). *Nurses and families: a guide to family assessment and intervention* (6.;6th;6; ed.). F.A. Davis Company.