



HINZ NURSING INFORMATICS
SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP
Connecting nurses with digital health



1 July 2020

Got a tip to share? Email nurses@hinz.org.nz



Message from the chair of HiNZ-NI-SIG



Kia ora,

These certainly have been interesting times. Our worlds shrunk to a bubble and then slowly expanded again and then broke altogether. We were tested personally as well as in our working lives.

One thing that the pandemic demonstrated is that when we need to use technology to be able to continue to deliver high quality patient care, we can. There are a number of anecdotal reports that discuss the increased use of technology by nurses in all areas of healthcare. This includes communicating with patients, families and staff inside isolation rooms via video conferencing, virtual consultations, webinars for professional development, ePrescribing, as well as a multitude of other ways we were still able to care for our patients. This demonstrated that nurses are adaptable, committed and always putting the patient at the center of what they do – whether it be face to face, or not.

This pandemic journey was and still is, very difficult for some, and it was a time of reflection and connection for others. A saying that I have seen on multiple platforms resonates with me, as it probably does with you – we might all be in the same storm, but we are on board different boats, trying to weather the storm. We need to continue to care for those around us as well as for our patients.

Don't forget to email us on hinzni.sig@gmail.com if you would like anything included in this newsletter, or if you have any suggestions of what you would like to see.

Please encourage your nursing colleagues to [sign up](#) for this newsletter. Signing up to receive the newsletter is free.

Emma Collins

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Chair of HiNZ Nursing Informatics Special Interest Group (HiNZ-NI)



■ The Robyn Carr Cup

The awarding of the Robyn Carr Cup for Excellence in Nursing Informatics has been deferred until the next HiNZ Conference in 2021. The Robyn Carr Cup for Excellence in Nursing Informatics recognises sustained support of nursing informatics in New Zealand. It also acknowledges the central role nurses have had, and continue to have, in supporting the profession, each other and the wider interests of the health informatics community. Therefore, the next HiNZ Conference will provide the perfect opportunity for the national and peer recognition the nurse who receives this award to be highlighted.

■ Update re NI2020 – now NI2021

If you were thinking of attending the International Nursing Informatics Conference NI2020 and had registered your interest, then you will have heard that NI2020 is cancelled (was due July 2020 in Brisbane) and instead it will be run alongside MedInfo 2021 (www.medinfo2021.org) in Sydney - August 21 – 25, 2021 in the International Convention Centre, at Darling Harbour. A great opportunity to visit Sydney and enjoy a wonderful NI event and MedInfo if you want to attend both!

Accepted submissions are still accepted and will be moved forward AND there is an opportunity to update an existing submission, OR to make a new submission. The call for papers will go out again in about August this year. Keep watching your future newsletters to keep up with these changes and your options.

■ Clinical Informatics Position Statement

New Zealand's [Clinical Informatics Leadership Network](#), which has more than 360 members nationwide, has published a [Clinical Informatics Position Statement](#) defining the role and value of clinical informaticians to the health sector.

It says clinical informaticians enable the evolution of health care by combining their clinical experience and understanding of health outcomes with their knowledge of information and technology.

Membership of CiLN is free. Anyone with a clinical background and an interest in data/ and or digital can apply to join by filling in [this online form](#).

Example 1:

Nurse educator response to COVID-19

DHBs around New Zealand have quickly prepared and managed a response to COVID-19. As a nurse educator this has meant supporting nurse's competency and capability with an assurance they continue working within their scope of practice.

A key objective has been to prepare the nursing workforce for the expected demand on hospital services and nursing expertise. This has personally included retraining on new equipment such as ventilators in critical care. Nurses have also required upskilling to prepare for conditions outside their usual speciality. Education and guidance have supported broader practice requirements, an example being the expedited roll out of new monitoring devices to clinical areas that do not routinely use the equipment.

Another target has been to provide accurate and accessible information to support quality care delivery and patient safety. Included in this strategy has been the use of new communication channels. Due to restrictions in group sizes and the requirement for physical distancing, classroom settings have been abandoned and at short notice alternative plans have been made. New digital teaching strategies have been introduced, including video conferencing technology and innovative ways of using established platforms.

As a nurse educator based at Waikato Hospital, responding to the call for workers at Community Based Assessments Centres (CBAC) has provided insight to issues encountered when working with vulnerable and priority populations in rural and remote communities. This included connectivity problems which saw the introduction of workarounds to maintain patient flow through mobile centres.

The proactive response from all sectors of health has been amazing to be a part of. I work in collaboration with amazing teams who continually review, prioritise and tailor the appropriateness of these strategies as new evidence around COVID-19 emerges.

Jennine Stevenson

Nurse educator

Waikato DHB

Example 2:

The announcement of the outbreak of COVID 19 saw the engagement of the Professional Development Unit (PDU) at Waikato Hospital as part of the Community Dwelling Older Persons Project (CDOPP) being developed by Professor Matthew Parsons. This project was co-designed between the PDU and interRAI, and planning began immediately COVID was

Two Education Providers (WINTERC and Massey University) also identified that this would be a valuable learning opportunity for their 3rd year Nurses as a community placement and wished to be involved. Our challenge was to enrol over 200 RN's working from home, nursing students and their tutors, through the interRAI training in a short period of time, to begin the phone assessing as soon as possible. We collaborated with InterRAI to develop a Distance Learning Package that people could use from their own homes using their own devices. This proved to be very challenging for all, with the need to download security software, training programmes and attend ZOOM teaching sessions, using a variety of devices. This level of technology usage was new to many trainees and required intensive support from interRAI staff and the PDU.

A powerpoint presentation addressing the specific needs of assessing the older person and the physiological differences in how infections may present, was collated from resources developed by Nurse Practitioners in gerontology for teaching staff from Aged Residential Care facilities. As part of this we identified that addressing equity in our community and supporting the needs of our vulnerable Māori Older Persons in this project was vital. From this a You Tube Resource was developed for all trainees to utilise as a side-by-side tool to the interRAI Contact Assessment tool.

A note from Nicky Nelson who facilitated the development of the tool with the Cultural Support team in the PDU:

"When first approached with the idea of creating a bi-cultural approach to assessing the health and well-being of the older person video, I was excited but also apprehensive. The exciting thought was the prospect of training nurses to meet the cultural needs of our most vulnerable Kaumātua and that they were going to be assessed from a culturally holistic view using a framework that was familiar to them (Te Whare Tapa Whā). The apprehension came when thinking about the IT involvement and the digital platforms that would need to be involved. The development of the resource was a collective team effort, with many of the PDU involved, plus the IT support team and an instructional Designer. The challenges were developing what platform to use this on and the best way to present this resource. It was developed into a Power Point presentation with voice over and written information, then converted into a Story-Line which could be used as a You Tube resource and was able to be attached to an email. What a triumph!"

Six weeks into Lockdown, and we are well on the way to Contact Assessing the total identified Community Dwelling Older Persons within the Waikato DHB area. We are moving forward to engage with other Education Providers and DHB's to make this a nationwide project.

Jill Safey,

Nurse Coordinator, Professional Development Unit, Waikato Hospital

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The Canadian Journal of Nursing are looking for papers, presentations, book/web site/software/resource reviews, and other digital works related to Nursing Informatics in Practice, Education, Research and Administration. Please join us in showcasing how Nursing Informatics is being shaped in Canada and globally. The Journal is issued four times a year, with a Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall edition.

Deadlines for submissions include:

- Winter Issue - deadline January 31st
- Spring Issue - deadline April 30th
- Summer Issue - deadline July 31st
- Fall Issue - deadline October 1st

If you are interested in submitting to the CJNI, [Please send an abstract \(or your complete manuscript, video, or other files\) for consideration.](#) The Canadian Journal of Nursing welcome inventive as well as practical papers and other forms of exploration into the diverse world of Nursing Informatics!

■ HiNZ-NI-SIG discourse group as part of CiLN

The Clinical Informatics Leadership Network is a place where people working in informatics can have conversations. It is a space to share, communicate and meet. There is a Nursing space in this discourse. All current nurses in CiLN have been added to it. To join CiLN, please click [here](#).



Upcoming events



eHealthNews.nz LIVE - Free lunchtime webinars!

eHealthNews LIVE is a webinar series to keep the digital health community connected. There are significant transformations happening in the health system in response to the pandemic. It is critically important that people are able to share ideas, knowledge and experience across the country.

- Scott Herschberger, National Manager, Health Metrics New Zealand
- Karen Lake, Operations Clinical and Quality Manager, Ryman Healthcare
- Gillian Robinson, Director of Healthcare, Healthcare Compliance Solutions Ltd
- Swithin Foote, Head of Integration, Middleware NZ
- Facilitated by Becky George, HiNZ board chair

[Read more about webinar >>](#)



Digital Health Leadership Summit 2020
23 + 24 + 25 November 2020

Free to Attend - Apply Now!

In our recent post-Covid event survey, health sector leaders told HiNZ they want regional events that give them the opportunity to meet other digital health leaders face-to-face. They want an event format that could comply with covid alert levels in a responsible way, and that is low cost to attend. The innovative solution from HiNZ is the Digital Health Leadership Summit series!

The Digital Health Leadership Summit will be repeated in three different cities:

- Monday 23 November 2020 – CHRISTCHURCH
- Wednesday 25 November 2020 – WELLINGTON
- Friday 27 November 2020 – AUCKLAND

Attendance is free but you need to apply
To apply >> [please fill in this online form](#) <<



Education and networking

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A group of Kiwi clinicians with a passion for technology driving changes in healthcare created a Clinical Informatics Leadership Network (CiLN) for New Zealand in early 2019. The network is supported logistically and financially by Health Informatics New Zealand. Members are from a range of health professions such as medicine, nursing, allied health, midwifery and pharmacy. It provides an online forum for members to share expertise and ideas as well as national networking events.

Membership of CiLN is free. Anyone with a clinical background and an interest in IT can apply to join by filling in [this online form](#). CiLN also has a [web page](#) where anyone can read related news and profiles of clinicians working in digital health. If you have questions, please email [Rebecca McBeth](#).

[Read more >>](#)


University informatics courses

For anyone wanting to pursue their interest or gain qualifications in health informatics, there are a range of undergraduate and postgraduate university courses available in New Zealand.

[Read more >>](#)


About HiNZ-NI

The [HiNZ nursing informatics special interest group](#) (HiNZ-NI) supports the development of nursing informatics in New Zealand. HiNZ-NI publishes a free eNewsletter with digital health updates of relevance to nurses.

[Sign up for your own copy of this newsletter - click here >>](#)

What is nursing informatics?

Nursing Informatics science and practice integrates nursing, its information and knowledge and their management with information and communication technologies to promote the health of people, families and communities world-wide.



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