THE NATIONAL NURSING FORUM
THE POWER OF NOW
Melbourne Park Function Centre
Call for abstracts guidelines
Background

The Australian College of Nursing (ACN) is the national professional organisation for nurses in all health and aged care settings. Our purpose is to enhance health care for the Australian community by advancing the nursing profession, developing the knowledge and skills of nurses, nurturing their leadership skills and supporting them to be the best nurse that they can be.

All nurses can be leaders, regardless of their job title or position. Leadership is a mindset and a set of actions, commitments and beliefs that produce results. Nurse leaders and nurses with leadership skills are needed at every level of health and aged care systems, to inform and shape policy and drive the necessary changes.

The National Nursing Forum is ACN’s signature annual event bringing together nurses from around the country. This year, the Forum will be held in the dynamic city of Melbourne and is themed The Power of Now. The Forum will be a celebration of the passion, innovation and energy that exists across all generations of nursing.

The program for the Forum will include engaging keynote presenters, high quality sessions, stimulating discussions and workshops, along with the opportunity to network and share ideas with leaders, colleagues and peers from across Australia.
Invitation

The Forum will be held from Wednesday 26 October to Friday 28 October 2016.

ACN invites oral and poster abstract submissions for the Forum program from across the nursing profession in health and aged care, education, management, academia, clinical or research areas that address the most current and topical issues affecting nursing today.

Abstracts can be strengthened by identifying a clear link to the Forum theme, *The Power of Now*. Our theme this year is a celebration of the passion, innovation and energy across all generations of nursing. We will explore where we are as a profession and how we operate as teams and as individuals. Nurses’ contributions to patient experience and patient outcomes is significant within all communities. Through *The Power of Now*, we will look at the current and most vital issues nurses are facing every day and the creative way nurses are leading necessary reform.

As nurses we also lead busy lives and *The Power of Now* brings us back to the moment of being mindful and self-aware and offers an opportunity to take a closer look at our own wellbeing. This creates a flow-on effect that has a positive impact on what we have to offer in our everyday lives; in our workplaces, within our community and in our personal life. Our ability to have the confidence to know and trust in ourselves helps us to constantly evolve as leaders so that we can be our best selves every day. Moreover, we are better poised to provide care for our patients, clients residents and communities.

ACN welcomes papers from across Australia as well as from the international nursing community.


View last year's program

Key dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19 February 2016</td>
<td>Submissions open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 May 2016</td>
<td>Submissions close</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 July 2016</td>
<td>Authors notified of submission outcome</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 July 2016</td>
<td>Presenters to confirm acceptance</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 August 2016</td>
<td>Presenter registrations due</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 October 2016</td>
<td>Final presentations due for submission</td>
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Presenter benefits
If your abstract is accepted for presentation you will receive the following:

**Oral presentations**
- Abstract presentations will take place during the *ACN Talks* sessions scheduled on both Wednesday and Thursday of the Forum
- Presentations will be grouped into streams by ACN based on the subject areas they address in relation to the theme
- Option to select a 20 or 30 minute presentation length (includes 5 minutes for question time)
- Abstract published in the online Forum program
- Opportunity to provide a written paper based on your abstract to be published following the event.

Presenters will have the opportunity to think outside the box and explore alternative ways to deliver their presentation. Examples may include:
- role plays
- interviews
- storytelling
- videos
- brainstorming sessions

**Poster presentations**
- Maximum visual area of 1.2m high and 1m wide
- Posters will be displayed for the duration of the Forum
- Abstract published in the online Forum program
- A dedicated poster presentation session where authors must be present to share their work and ideas with delegates
- Opportunity to provide a written paper based on your abstract to be published following the event

All presenters, including co-presenters, will be required to register for the Forum and pay the registration fee in full by 11 August 2016 to confirm their place in the program. Presenters will need to meet their own travel and accommodation costs.

SUBMIT YOUR ABSTRACT
Abstract submission guidelines

Abstracts must be submitted online using the Abstract Submission Form by 8 May 2016. No other means of submission will be considered.

When constructing your abstract please note that it must:

• be submitted as a Word document and contain text only
• be structured to include a title, introductory sentence, description of pertinent research (if applicable), summary and conclusion
• be a maximum of 300 words in length, excluding the title*
• not contain any author names or information
• clearly address the Forum theme, The Power of Now.

*authors submitting abstracts over the word limit may be asked to amend their abstract if within the submission period.

When submitting an abstract online please note that:

• all details must be completed to allow the automated system to process your submission
• the person submitting the abstract is the person who will receive all correspondence in relation to the abstract and is responsible for passing on information to co-authors and/or co-presenters and other parties
• you must indicate which type of presentation is being proposed; oral or poster
• if you are submitting an abstract for oral presentation you must indicate your preferred presentation length; 20 or 30 minutes (includes 5 minutes question time)
• you must include the requested information for any co-authors and/or co-presenters as their name will be included in the program if the submission is successful
• authors must read and agree to the Terms and Conditions for your submission to be accepted for consideration.

Selection process and acceptance notification

• The Abstract Review Committee will undertake a peer-review process to judge the abstracts
• Abstracts will be reviewed on their content, relevance to the Forum theme, adherence to the above submission guidelines and overall quality
• Abstracts submitted for oral presentation may be offered a poster presentation at the discretion of the Abstract Review Committee
• It is anticipated that the submitting author will be notified of their abstract submission outcome via email by 6 June 2016.

Further information

For enquiries please contact the ACN Events team on (02) 6283 3400 or events@acn.edu.au Terms and conditions

SUBMIT YOUR ABSTRACT
Terms and conditions

In order to submit an abstract for The National Nursing Forum 2016, the abstract submitter/main author must agree to the following terms and conditions that will apply if the abstract is accepted for presentation.

- I agree that myself and any co-presenters will register for the Forum and pay the registration fee by 11 August 2016, noting that we must also meet our own travel and accommodation costs
- I agree to be the main contact for the event organisers in relation to the presentation and distribute information to any co-presenters
- I agree to provide my PowerPoint/Prezi presentation or session plan to ACN by 14 October 2016
- I give permission for my abstract and PowerPoint presentation to be published in the Forum program and on the ACN website following the event
- I give permission for my provided biography to be given to the session chairperson prior to the Forum and for reductions to be made to my biography at the discretion of ACN and the session chair
- I give permission for a photographer to be present during my presentation and agree to these photos being used on the ACN website, in publications and on social media for promotional purposes
- ACN may engage a videographer to film presentations throughout the Forum. If you do not want your presentation to be filmed, please advise us via events@acn.edu.au