

Association of Cardiovascular Nursing and Allied Professions (ACNAP)

In 1991, the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) founded the Working Group on Cardiovascular Nursing, where the aim was to improve education and to support and initiate research activities in cardiovascular nursing. Three important initiatives were undertaken by the Working Group: the annual spring meetings, the launch of the now top-ranking European Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing (EJCN) (<https://journals.sagepub.com/home/cnu>), and the establishment of the Undertaking Nursing Interventions Throughout Europe (UNITE) Study Group¹. In 2005, the Working Group on Cardiovascular Nursing explored in detail the needs and advantages of a transformation into an ESC Council to coordinate the activities of cardiovascular nurses and allied health professionals within the different ESC bodies. The ESC Council of Cardiovascular Nursing and Allied Professions (CCNAP) was officially created on 5 September 2006 at the General Assembly in Barcelona, Spain. Several important initiatives were carried out by CCNAP, including the portfolio of educational resources for cardiovascular nurses, the portfolio of e-learning, which included webinars and a clinical case gallery, and the Be Guidelines Smart initiative². On 28 August 2018, the ESC General Assembly in Munich voted to create a new association: the Association of Cardiovascular Nursing and Allied Professions (ACNAP). This has been of great importance as an association is the highest organizational level within the ESC and provides ACNAP with a more central and influential part in the delivery of optimum cardiovascular care. Furthermore, it is an important recognition of the work performed by cardiovascular nurses and allied professions. ACNAP's mission is to support nurses and allied professionals throughout Europe to deliver the best possible care to patients with cardiovascular disease and their families¹.

Clinical Case Gallery

ACNAP has a Clinical Case Gallery where you can present clinical scenarios focusing on patient centred care. There is a need for more submissions to the Clinical Case Gallery, and we strongly encourage all cardiovascular nurses to submit cases to the gallery. Submitted cases do not need to be unique, but rather typical clinical scenarios that are followed, managed and discussed in light of current ESC recommendations. For more information regarding the Clinical Case Gallery, contact Trond Pettersen (trond.roed.pettersen@helse-bergen.no).

(https://learn.escardio.org/login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fdashboard%2fclinicalcase%2fAuthor%2ftCC%3ftopic%3dnursing%26_ga%3d2.234228251.488402384.1569923112-829184381.1543319390).

Webinars

ACNAP also provides webinars. A webinar is a case based 60 minutes interactive presentation where participants can send questions to the panel. The webinars focus on a clinical case scenario and Multiple-Choice Questions are available throughout the webinar to engage interaction and validate learning achieved. Furthermore, the webinars are available on-demand after the live event, allowing viewers to watch in their own time.

ACNAP Young Community

ACNAP Young Community (ACNAP YoCo) was created to support all nurses and allied professionals *under the age of 40*. The aim is to transfer existing knowledge and expertise within

ACNAP to the young members in order to support them within the cardiovascular field and in delivering high quality care for patients and in research.

EuroHeartCare

EuroHeartCare is the annual congress of ACNAP and includes more than 500 participants from over 40 countries. The congress lasts for three days and consist of more than 20 scientific sessions covering a wide range of topics presented by leading experts within their field. Poster sessions will also be running during the breaks and at lunchtime. Next year's congress will be held in Seville, Spain from the *4-6th of June*. Abstract submission services opens December 4th 2019 and the deadline for submitting abstracts is *4th of February 2020*. Each year, *The ACNAP Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Care* is awarded to the best clinical case submitted to the congress. The winner receives a diploma and free registration to next year's EuroHeartCare congress.

Go to <https://www.escardio.org/Sub-specialty-communities/Association-of-Cardiovascular-Nursing-&-Allied-Professions> if you want to read more about what ACNAP offers.

Membership

If you want to be part of a vibrant and interdisciplinary network of experts within cardiovascular nursing, ACNAP offers two different types of membership. As a regular member, you will have access to electronic newsletters from ACNAP, «Be Guidelines Smart» online toolkit, reduced subscription to EJCN, discount on ESC Textbooks & handbooks, and discount on congress registration for EuroHeartCare.

Silver membership costs 45 Euro, but includes discount on congress registration for EuroHeartCare, access to members lounge during the congress, free online access to EJCN, webinars and the Clinical Case Gallery, discount on ESC Textbooks & handbooks, «Be Guidelines Smart» online toolkit, and the opportunity to apply for ACNAP Travel Grants, Awards & Mentoring opportunities. In addition, you will be eligible to apply for ACNAP Board & Committees positions (<https://www.escardio.org/Marketing/ACNAP-Membership-offer>).

References:

1. Hansen, T. B., & Neubeck, L. (2019). Standing on the shoulders of giants: Reflecting on the history and creation of the new Association of Cardiovascular Nursing and Allied Professions. *European Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing*, 18(3), 176-178. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1474515118824228>
2. Norekvål, T. M., Deaton, C., & Scholteop Reimer, W. J. M. (2007). Moving from Working Group on Cardiovascular Nursing to Council on Cardiovascular Nursing and Allied Professions in ESC. *European Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing*, 6(1), 3–5. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejcnurse.2007.01.099>