

Annual National Conference

WARWICK ARTS CENTRE

IERE

No.

VELC

University of Warwick 8 – 9 August 2025

FRIDAY 8 AUGUST		
Session details:	Overview	Learning Objectives
Opening Keynote Ed Gillespie 09:40 – 10:40 Molnlycke Theatre	More information coming soon	More information coming soon
Green Surgery Report Andy Stevenson 11:10 – 12:00 Molnlycke Theatre	More information coming soon	More information coming soon
Intraosseous Vascular Access Workshop 11:10 – 12:00 12:10 – 13:00 Ensemble Room	In this practical hands-on workshop, you will master the essentials of intraosseous (IO) needle insertion. Learn when and why to use an IO needle, identify key contraindications, and understand the best anatomical sites for placement. Participants will engage in hands-on practice, followed by access to ongoing learning resources to reinforce and enhance your expertise.	 Gain a clear understanding of the role of IO. Master correct landmarking techniques for accurate placement. Safely perform needle insertion on a manikin, ensuring effective and precise application.
The Organisational Management of Traumatic Stress Prof. Neil Greenberg 11:10 – 12:00 Helen Martin Studio	The session will focus on the impact of traumatic stress on healthcare professionals and other trauma-exposed staff. The session will cover the impact of working with trauma and provide practical strategies to prevent the onset of mental health difficulties, as well as techniques for effectively managing them at an early stage.	 Describe the impact on mental health when working in trauma-prone environments. Outline evidence-based approaches to safeguarding the mental health of trauma-exposed staff. Identify effective treatment interventions for staff who develop mental health conditions due to trauma exposure.
Immersive Simulation - Enhancing Perioperative Performance Workshop 11:10 - 13:00 14:00 - 15:50 Studio Room	This workshop introduces how immersive simulation can be integrated into the perioperative environment to enhance staff response to human factors, emotional resilience, and time-critical emergencies. Through the use of virtual reality, spontaneous simulated scenarios and guided discussions, participants will engage in realistic experiences that challenge decision-making, teamwork, and crisis management. High fidelity manikins and immersive spaces will be deployed to enhance the experience amongst participants. The session ensures that learning outcomes are directly applicable to participants' individual	 Discuss the importance of simulation within the perioperative environment. Explore the link between human factors in the clinical setting and simulation. Identify challenges and advances within simulating perioperative scenarios.

	departments, fostering improved preparedness and patient safety in high-pressure surgical settings.	
More information coming soon 12:10 - 13:00 Molnlycke Theatre	More information coming soon	More information coming soon
Turning Adversity into a Positive Carol Jordan 12:10 - 13:00 Helen Martin Studio	This session will share a personal lived experience, focusing on how adversity can be turned into a positive force. It will cover the development of resilience, the promotion of mental well-being, and the power of surviving with a smile. Reflecting on personal initiatives, the session will provide practical guidance for practitioners to implement change in practice.	 Understand that it's easier to get angry than to remain positive and explore ways to cultivate positivity. Provide an insight into using personal experience to influence care delivery Learn practical strategies for fostering resilience and kindness and enhancing personal well-being.
Accreditation: A quality improvement initiative Matthew Ashman 12:10 - 13:00 Wood Scawen Room	More information coming soon	More information coming soon
Perioperative Futures: Evolving Roles, Career Progression, and Workforce Innovation Craig Griffiths, Sarah Massey, Lisa Tierney 14:00 - 14:50 Molnlycke Theatre	This panel will explore the future of the perioperative workforce, with a focus on career progression, role development, and innovative pathways that respond to evolving surgical services and workforce pressures. Bringing together voices from clinical leadership, advanced practice, and education - including representatives from Anaesthesia Associates, Surgical Care Practitioners, and AfPP trustees.	 Examine emerging roles and their impact on perioperative care. Discuss career progression opportunities. Highlight the importance of educational pathways. Explore how organisations can future-proof the perioperative workforce through development strategies.
Ultrasound Guided IV Access Workshop 14:00 – 14:50 15:00 – 15:50 Ensemble Room	This dynamic workshop blends brief expert-led discussions with extensive hands-on practice, offering a comprehensive approach to mastering ultrasound-guided IV cannulation. You will learn how to use ultrasound to accurately identify suitable vessels for cannulation and refine your cannula placement technique on our specially developed models. With close supervision and expert tips and tricks from our experienced faculty, you'll gain the skills and confidence to successfully perform this advanced technique.	 Understand the basic ultrasound anatomy relevant to peripheral IV cannulation. Gain practical experience with ultrasound probe handling and image optimisation. Learn ultrasound guided IV cannulation techniques through hands- on practice on specially designed models.
Emotional Freedom Technique Tapping Workshop 14:00 – 14:50 Helen Martin Studio	More information coming soon	More information coming soon

Causative Factors Leading into Perioperative Never Events Paul Wheeler 14:00 – 14:50 Wood Scawen Room	This interactive session will engage the audience in a rich discussion focused on the causative factors leading to perioperative never events. The session will explore three key themes: human factors and communication, the influence of department, surgery type and specialty, and compliance with policies and guidelines. Insights gathered from this discussion will be used to promote ideas of how systems could be put in place to minimise the chances of future never events occurring.	 Explore factors that lead to perioperative never events. Compare methods of investigation to drive improvements. Discuss imbedding a culture of safety within the perioperative Department.
	"Drevention is botton then ever"	
Healthcare 3.0 Ryan Kerstein 15:00 – 15:50 Molnlycke Theatre	"Prevention is better than cure". Healthcare 3.0 explores the future of medicine through emerging technologies such as AI, robotics, wearables, and big data. The session will highlight the role of clinical innovators, the ethical challenges involved, and the importance of cross-sector collaboration. A thought-provoking talk combining real-world case studies and insights to drive meaningful, tech-enabled transformation in healthcare delivery.	 Understand Healthcare 3.0 – Explore how emerging technologies like AI, robotics, and big data are reshaping clinical care and decision-making. Empower Clinical Innovators – Learn how healthcare professionals can develop innovation skills, drive change, and collaborate across sectors. Navigate Ethical & Practical Challenges – Recognise key considerations around patient safety, data security, and equitable access in tech-driven healthcare.
Preventing Burnout	This session will provide valuable information on	 Recognise the signs and symptoms of
and Promoting	identifying the symptoms of burnout, understanding	burnout.
Wellbeing	the common contributors to burnout, and exploring	Identify the main contributors to
Danielle Grant	effective strategies for prevention. Danielle will	burnout.
15:00 – 15:50 Helen Martin Studio	discuss practical ways to reduce or eliminate burnout triggers and share simple yet impactful ideas for promoting overall wellbeing.	 Learn strategies to reduce burnout and promote wellbeing.
The Education Café:	This session will explore an innovative, in-budget	• Discuss a proposed way of in-budget
Innovating Specialist Perioperative CPD Jasper Ballecer 15:00 – 15:50 Wood Scawen Room	approach to supporting practitioners in accessing CPD across a range of specialist topics within perioperative practice and beyond. A curated selection of free online CPD programmes was assembled into a "café menu" and made available to theatre staff during periods of decreased activity, such as industrial action days. Jasper, a team member and winner of the AfPP Perioperative Care Team of the Year 2024 Award, will share how this initiative was implemented and the effects it has had on staff development and engagement.	 in-service support for theatre practitioners to access relevant CPD. Describe an initiative which entails a flexible approach in supporting professional development for staff, while responding to the dynamic staffing and skill-mix needs of the clinical service. Outline the financial and staff engagement impact of the initiative.
Perioperative	This panel discussion will explore the	
International Boorwitmont Banol	challenges, opportunities, and responsibilities	
Recruitment Panel Pete Chell, Mike	surrounding international recruitment in the perioperative setting. With a focus on Operating	
Donnellon, Christine	Department Practitioners (ODPs) and	
Elliot, Maricar Gaspar	perioperative nurses, the session will examine	
Chair - Oliver Tierney	how professional bodies, regulators, and	
16:10 - 17:10	frontline practitioners can ensure ethical	
	recruitment, effective onboarding, and	
	sustained support for international recruits.	
	SATURDAY 9 AUGUST	

Session details:	Overview	Learning Objectives
Beth's Story: The Importance of Speaking Up and Challenging in Teams Clare Bowen 08:40 - 09:30 Molnlycke Theatre	Clare will share the story of what she and a surgeon experienced as the worst day of their lives. Clare will discuss how we health care professionals can work together to ensure that no one else has to face such a situation.	 Reflect on a situation similar to Beth's and consider how your response would differ now after hearing her story. Identify ways to support colleagues in learning about Human Factors and its importance in clinical practice. Explore how you can further your own understanding of Human Factors to improve patient safety and care.
Daisy Ayris Lecture: Fixing Theatre Culture and Behaviours Scarlett McNally 9:30 - 10:20 Molnlycke Theatre	This session will explore how behaviours impact theatre culture, staff wellbeing, and patient outcomes. Negative behaviours contribute to poor patient care and staff distress, while positive teamwork is life-enhancing. We will discuss the reasons behind different behaviours and how change can occur - both at the institutional and individual levels. Practical tips will be provided for perpetrators, managers, policymakers, allies, patients, bystanders, and more.	 Understand why it is crucial to stop poor behaviours and foster good behaviours, considering their impact on both the team and patient outcomes. Gain confidence in how to change behaviours, both as individuals and within organisations. Gain practical tips and suggestions, such as "cup of coffee" conversations, the "Declare, Distract, Delegate or Delay" strategy, team briefs, promoting positive behaviours, and acknowledging diversity.
Sustainability in Practice – Greener Theatres 10:50 - 11:40 Molnlycke Theatre	A thought-provoking and practical panel discussion exploring how we can deliver safe surgery while reducing our environmental impact. With the NHS committed to becoming the world's first net-zero health system, theatres, known for high energy use and waste generation, has a critical role to play. Whether you're already involved in green initiatives or just starting to think about sustainability in your practice, this session will offer inspiration, practical ideas, and honest insights into what it takes to build a greener future in perioperative care.	 Practical strategies for sustainable change without compromising patient safety or clinical standards. Inspiration from peers leading change on the ground. Ideas for getting involved and influencing change in your own department.
Skin Prep & Surgical Fires Workshop 10:50 - 11:40 11.50 – 12:40 Ensemble Room	More information coming soon	More information coming soon
Let's Start a Conversation Oliver Tierney 10:50 - 11:40 Helen Martin Studio	In this presentation Oliver will discuss the impact and prevalence of mental health in the workplace and our wider lives. The presentation will look to start a conversation to help demonstrate that it is "Ok to not be Ok" and how if we tell our own personal stories around mental health, we can help to remove the stigma and enact positive change in our departments. This session will also demonstrate how to set up a Health and Wellbeing Team within your department and the positive impact it can have.	 Gain an understanding of the impact and prevalence of Mental health Understand how Stigma can affect people suffering from mental health issues and prevent them seeking help Demonstrate the important of Mental Health First Aiders and Health and Wellbeing team in the Theatre Department Discuss the launch of the AfPP Behavioural Charter and "Sign-up to Civility"

Practical Steps To Strengthen Patient Safety Catherine Okonkwo 10:50 - 11:40 Wood Scawen Room	Explore actionable strategies to enhance patient safety in perioperative settings. Drawing from experience as an NHS NEL Patient Safety Partner, former CQC inspector, and Director at COMI, this session offers practical tools to foster safety culture, implement effective interventions, and drive continuous improvement towards outstanding care.	 Recognise key components of a strong patient safety culture and how leadership and team behaviours directly impact outcomes in perioperative care. Apply practical tools and frameworks, including learning from incidents and proactive risk identification, to enhance safety and compliance in everyday practice. Understand the evolving regulatory and improvement landscape (e.g. PSIRF, CQC expectations) and how to embed sustainable change across healthcare settings.
Learning Surgical Safety with the Virtual Operating Theatre: The NatSSIPs 2 Workshop	Experience an immersive and interactive learning experience using the Virtual Reality Operating Theatre (VOT) to enhance your understanding of the National Safety Standards for Invasive Procedures (NatSSIPs2). During this fun and engaging VOT	 Gain a better understanding of NatSSIPs 2 and how it helps to promote safe practice. Enumerate and explain each of the sequential steps of NatSSIPs 2.
10:50 - 11:40 11.50 - 12:40 13.45 - 14:35 Studio Room	workshop, participants will watch, interact, and then take turns to use the VR simulator. Learning Objectives:	• Demonstrate and self-evaluate the application of NatSSIPs 2 within the Virtual Reality Operating Theatre.
More information coming soon 11.50 – 12:40 Molnlycke Theatre	More information coming soon	More information coming soon
More information coming soon 11.50 – 12:40 Helen Martin Studio	More information coming soon	More information coming soon
NatSSIPs: Practical Approaches to Implementing National Safety Standards for Invasive Procedures Scarlett McNally 11.50 – 12:40 Wood Scawen Room More information coming soon	This session will discuss how to improve processes to ensure that NatSSIPs (National Safety Standards for Invasive Procedures) are used for all invasive procedures. This includes how organisations can embed NatSSIPs and how each step should work for every patient. The session will also offer practical suggestions on encouraging colleagues to use NatSSIPs efficiently and effectively, promoting a culture of safety in healthcare settings. <i>More information coming soon</i>	 Outline of NatSSIPs – including what the safety standards are for organisations and for each patient. Provide suggestions on how to implement NatSSIPs in practice. Provide practicalities to encourage co-workers to use NatSSIPs efficiently and effectively.
13.45 – 14:35 Molnlycke Theatre	More information coming soon	More information coming soon
Aspiring to Inspiring Maxine Page, Lisa Tierney 13.45 – 14:35 Ensemble Room		Hore mornation coming soon

Schwartz Rounds Christine Johnson, Suzy Plows 13.45 – 14:35 Helen Martin Studio	More information coming soon	More information coming soon
International Voices: Shaping NHS Recruitment and Retention Mayflor Bernal 13.45 – 14:35 Wood Scawen Room	This session offers valuable insights into the journey and lived experiences of Mayflor, an internationally educated nurse working within the NHS and social care. The session highlights the challenges faced as an international recruit, particularly those affecting workforce retention and the delivery of safe, effective patient care in both acute and community settings.	 To raise awareness of the challenges that internationally educated nurses encounter when working abroad, and to emphasise the importance of comprehensive pastoral support. To strengthen the support systems that enable internationally educated nurses to thrive personally and professionally as they navigate their chosen career paths. To identify and promote opportunities that empower staff from the global majority to confidently advocate for themselves and their peers.
Cadence: the Key to High Performance Leanne Spencer 14.50 - 15:50 Molnlycke Theatre	Leanne will equip you with the skills to minimise risk of burnout, manage your energy and have more fun by following a four-step process. This interactive, fun keynote is brought to life by Leanne through the power of storytelling. This interactive session brings the Cadence Approach to life. A method that helps professionals align effort with recovery to enhance performance, sustain wellbeing, and build long-term resilience.	 Understand the Cadence Approach and Its Relevance to Theatre Practitioners. Discover how aligning effort with recovery supports optimal performance, reduces fatigue, and promotes wellbeing in demanding clinical settings. Develop Strategies to Sustain Energy and Focus. Learn practical tools to manage workload, shifts, and emotional demands using cadence principles to maintain resilience and effectiveness. Recognise and Respond to Signs of Overload. Identify early warning signs of stress and imbalance, and implement proactive strategies to restore rhythm and prevent burnout.