



SASA Nurse Committee

Dear Member,

The SASA Nursing Committee was established to empower and advance the role of nursing professionals within the field of anaesthesiology. At present, there is no existing formal qualification specifically designated for anaesthetic nurses. SASA strongly believes in the necessity of fostering collaboration in recognition of the indispensable role played by anaesthetic nurses.

Committee Structure and Leadership: Currently, the committee consists of dedicated SASA Branch representatives, nurse members and other volunteers who are passionate about advancing nursing within the field of anaesthesiology. The current convenor of the committee is Dr Ina Vorster.

Committee Activities: Our committee's activities primarily revolve around collaboration, communication, and the implementation of initiatives aimed at improving the nursing practice in anaesthesiology. We conduct meetings as needed with a minimum of four per year to discuss pertinent matters and to plan our various projects. Additionally, we maintain a committee WhatsApp group to facilitate real-time communication, ensuring that our members can easily exchange ideas and information.

Accountability to SASA Council: As a committee, we are accountable to the SASA Council. We take this responsibility seriously and understand the importance of transparency and reporting. To this end, we provide reports to the SASA Council four times a year, outlining our progress, achievements, and upcoming initiatives. This regular reporting ensures that our activities align with the broader goals and objectives of SASA.

The SASA Nursing Committee is deeply committed to advancing the profession of nursing within anaesthesiology, and we achieve this through three key portfolios:

1. Communication Portfolio – Dr Stephan Erwee:

- *General Communication:* Our focus is on improving communication channels within SASA, ensuring nurses are well-informed about society activities, and promoting their active participation.
- *SASA Nurse Membership:* We are dedicated to strengthening engagement among nurses within SASA, offering them the resources and opportunities needed for professional growth.
- *Branch and Special Interest Group (SIGs):* We actively foster collaboration between nurses and other SASA branches and SIGs, providing assistance and support for nurse-specific events and initiatives.

2. Development and Training Portfolio- Dr Ina Vorster:

- * *SMARTSLEEP Platform:* Our committee coordinates the upload of valuable educational content on the SMARTSLEEP platform, enhancing the knowledge base of nurses in anaesthesiology.
- * *SASA Nurse Membership Coordination:* We streamline the membership process, ensuring that nurses have seamless access to the benefits and resources SASA offers.

3. All Africa Anaesthesia Congress (AAAC) 2024 Portfolio- Dr Ina Vorster:

- * *Assisting the Local Organising Committee:* We play a crucial role in assisting the local organising committee for the upcoming All Africa Anaesthesia Congress (AAAC) in 2024. Our focus includes contributing to the selection of themes and topics for the programme.
- * *Nurse Refresher Course:* As part of the conference, we are committed to providing a full day nurse refresher course, equipping nurses with the latest knowledge and skills in the field.

SASA Nurse Membership: We aim to enhance the value of SASA Nurse Membership through:

- * *Continued Professional Development:* Offering educational resources and opportunities for growth.
- * *Wellness Enhancement Tactics:* Promoting well-being among our nursing members.
- * *Stakeholder Partnerships:* Collaborating with relevant partners to benefit our members.
- * *Useful Publications:* Providing access to informative materials.
- * *Powerful Advocacy Platform:* Advocating for the interests of nurses in anaesthesiology.
- * *Events & Courses:* Organising and supporting events for professional development.
- * *Acknowledgment & Recognition:* Recognising the valuable contributions of our members.

We aim to develop and expand our committee as well as our membership through new and innovative value propositions.

Should you wish to get involved, please send an email to Dr Ina Vorster (drhcvorster@gmail.com) or Dr Stephan Erwee (stephan.erwee@gmail.com).

Sincerely,

SASA Nurse Committee