CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

International Conference on Forensic Nursing Science and Practice

September 23–26, 2020
Palm Springs, California

Abstract Submission Deadline: Feb 12, 2020, 11:59 pm EST

- **30-minute research/evidence-based practice (EBP) sessions**
- **90-minute concurrent sessions**
- **Poster sessions**

International Conference on Forensic Nursing Science and Practice Learning Outcome

After attending the 2020 International Conference on Forensic Nursing Science and Practice, participants will report increased knowledge about:
- the current state of the science in forensic nursing,
- concepts impacting the future of forensic nursing,
- strategies to influence the future of forensic nursing and the global response to violence,
- the risks and benefits of technological advances as they relate to forensic nursing and issues of violence, and
- incorporating evidence-based strategies into forensic nursing practice.

Call for Abstracts

Foundations of the International Conference on Forensic Nursing Science and Practice are:
- presentations by national/international forensic nursing experts;
- science from other disciplines with relevance to forensic nursing, national, and international standards;
- cutting-edge forensic nursing research; and
- evidence-based practice.

This year's conference offers opportunities for nurses, researchers, nursing leaders, educators, law enforcement personnel, policy makers, and all related professionals to share important knowledge and experiences that have implications for forensic nursing science.

The International Association of Forensic Nurses (IAFN) invites abstracts for three categories:
- *30-minute research and EBP sessions,*
- *90-minute concurrent sessions,* and
- *poster sessions*

Submissions should be prepared for presentation in one of the following areas:
- Theory (presenting practice or theoretical concepts as an analysis or framework),
- Practice (presenting a quality improvement project, programmatic or practice project, or case study), or
- Research to practice (original or replication research that supports forensic nursing principles and/or applies to forensic nursing practice as an EBP project). IAFN invites both qualitative and quantitative research projects.

IAFN is particularly interested in abstracts that increase the use or application of scientific knowledge as a basis for forensic nursing practice. IAFN encourages research presentations and EBP projects that focus on methodological and/or development of technological aspects of research. IAFN welcomes research presentations that are meaningful to nurses in practice, educators, and other researchers—and clinical topics that support EBP in forensic nursing. *IAFN encourages panel presentations, whereby several people present on the same topic during a single concurrent session.*

Please note: Up to two presenters per selected oral abstract will be eligible for a discounted conference registration. One presenter per accepted poster will be eligible for a discounted conference registration.

- Abstracts undergo peer review and initial scoring is blinded; the review committee may ask the submitter to clarify points within the abstract.

- To ensure the blind scoring process, no identifying author or institution information is to be included in the body of the abstract summary.

Research and Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) 30-minute Sessions
Nursing research and EBP projects are essential for developing the scientific foundation for forensic nursing. IAFN seeks to provide the forensic nursing community with opportunities to disseminate new nursing knowledge and the application of nursing knowledge-into-practice to promote the growth and validation of forensic nursing science.
- Research uses a methodology (quantitative or qualitative) to develop new nursing knowledge based on scientific inquiry. A review of the literature is performed to identify gaps in nursing knowledge and research is used to develop new nursing knowledge. Research findings contribute to nursing knowledge.

- Evidence-based practice (EBP) seeks and applies the best clinical evidence available, often from research, toward making patient-care decisions. The purpose of EBP is not to generate new knowledge but to validate current knowledge. EBP translates the best clinical evidence available into clinical practice. The dissemination of a completed Doctor of Nursing Practice project is an example of a presentation that is well-suited for these sessions.

90-minute Concurrent Sessions

90-minute sessions may address forensic nursing practice, anecdotal experiences, case review, and approaches to providing care for patients given unique situations or with particular populations. Unlike research or EBP projects, quality and care improvement projects typically do not require extensive literature reviews and rigorous critical appraisal. Initiatives that address improving programs, services, or competence of people in the multidisciplinary team (MDT); improving services for specific populations; and/or using guidelines to improve practice are well-suited for 90-minute sessions.

Poster Sessions

Developments involving a new forensic nursing project, a quality improvement project that produced an interesting outcome, a research in progress are prime examples for poster presentation. A poster presentation is an apt way to share this work. Poster sessions allow presenters to network with peers one-on-one, exchange ideas, and learn from one another outside traditional conference sessions.

IAFN encourages students at all levels (BSN/MSN/DNP/PhD) to submit poster presentations. This is an excellent way to disseminate work, present an early stage doctoral project, and receive feedback from scholars and clinicians.

- Posters are judged for awards and are available for viewing throughout the conference. Authors will present their data before an audience at a dedicated, scheduled session during the conference.

- IAFN specifically encourages poster submissions from students, first-time presenters, and researchers whose work is not yet completed.

Tracks for Concurrent and Poster Sessions
- Administrative & Leadership
- Death Investigation
- General Forensic & Legal
- Intimate Partner Violence
- Multidisciplinary
- Pediatrics
- Psychiatry & Corrections
- Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE)

Track Descriptions
Administrative & Leadership: Abstracts will contribute to the development of innovative or effective nursing leadership strategies to foster forensic nursing Programs in educational, clinical, and administrative settings. Abstracts which promote professional and leadership

knowledge to improve practice for the forensic nurse clinician, manager, administrator, or entrepreneur should be submitted to this track.

Death Investigation: Appropriate abstracts would be those that contribute to the understanding of death investigation. Abstracts could be focused on evidence collection, the nursing needs of the decedent, family/witness survivors, and/or community/social needs as they pertain to death investigation systems, death investigation techniques, post-mortem assessment, and research.

General Forensic and Legal: Abstracts in this track will address general forensic nursing knowledge and the legal aspects of forensic nursing that apply across all specialties. Abstracts should apply to nursing practice, forensic nursing knowledge, expert and lay testimony, the criminal and civil justice system, consulting and marketing of forensic nursing services, and collaboration with other legal professionals to assist clinicians in delivering state-of-the-science forensic nursing care.

Intimate Partner Violence: Abstracts in this track should offer opportunities for forensic nurses to build on current knowledge and competence to improve the health care response to intimate partner violence. Authors will describe intimate partner violence prevention and intervention work as it pertains to their expertise and discuss the roles nurses can play in responding to and ending intimate partner violence.

Multidisciplinary: Abstracts will focus on knowledge and expertise about cutting-edge topics of interest to multidisciplinary partners, including but not limited to nurses, researchers, educators, advocates and criminal justice professionals.

Pediatrics: Forensic nurses will build on current knowledge and competence to improve the forensic management and health care response to child maltreatment. Abstracts of work happening in an innovative program or a promising practice issue, concept, or strategy in forensic pediatric nursing are invited for this workshop track.

Psychiatry & Corrections: Abstracts in this track will highlight current issues in forensic psychiatric and correctional nursing and the care of clients in these services. Abstracts should address practice and policy issues on psycho-social, legal, physical and mental health matters that draw out the unique contribution of nurses to this field that are innovative, research- or practice-based.

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE): Forensic nurses will build on current knowledge and competence to improve the forensic management and health care response to child, adolescent, and adult patients who present for care following sexual assault/abuse. Abstracts addressing innovations in service delivery, excellence in patient care, and new research findings as applied to clinical practice are suitable for this track.

Who Should Submit an Abstract?

- Forensic Nurses and Students
- Nurse Administrators
- Nurse Researchers
- Nurse Educators
- Professionals in disciplines related to forensic nursing, including:
  - Law Enforcement
  - Corrections
  - Legal/Prosecution/Defense
  - Program Administration
  - Advocacy
  - Death Investigation
  - Forensic Psychiatry/Mental Health

Only abstracts that conform to these guidelines will be accepted:

- Abstracts must be submitted via the online portal. Click here to submit.

- All submissions must be completed by February 12, 2020.

- Abstracts must maintain a standard of excellence, including appropriate acknowledgement, citation of sources, and any institutional review board (IRB) approval.

- Abstract revisions after the final date are not permitted. Revisions may be made until the final submission deadline using the username and password you create.

- Promotion or endorsement of commercial products is not allowed, as this conflicts with IAFN policy and the commercial interest standard of the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), the accrediting body of IAFN's Provider Unit.

- Any use of session audience for research or data collection must be declared in a submitter's abstract summary.

- An educational planning table (EPT) for each session and a disclosure/conflict of interest (COI) statement for each presenter or person who controls the content must be completed during the online submission process.

- Abstracts previously submitted to other conferences may be submitted for consideration for the International Conference on Forensic Nursing Science and Practice. (Presenters are responsible for adhering to the submission exclusivity/privacy guidelines of those conferences.)

Evaluation Criteria for Abstracts and Posters
- Quality and originality
- Potential significance to the development of forensic nursing theory, concepts, policy, and/or evidence-based clinical practice or education
- Relevance to contemporary issues and events in forensic nursing
- Clarity in communication of ideas

Abstract Withdrawal
If a submitter wishes to withdraw an abstract after submission, IAFN kindly request this be done in a timely manner to allow IAFN to find a replacement abstract. To withdraw an abstract: log in to the Cadmium account, and click on the abstract title to be withdrawn; click on the abstract title again (in the gray box); scroll down to Abstract Status; and change from Active to Withdrawn.

Statement of Liability
Authors are responsible for obtaining all necessary permission and clearance for all research prior to submission. IAFN assumes no liability or responsibility for any material that is submitted. Abstracts submitted assign all rights, titles, and interests to IAFN. This does not prevent or preclude the presenter from using his or her content in another venue or for a future educational opportunity. The content presented at the Annual Conference is solely owned by IAFN and cannot be used without the IAFN's prior written permission.

Confirmation
All submitters will receive a confirmation of acceptance or non-acceptance by **late April 2020**. Notifications will be sent to the **primary presenter** through email only.

Additional Information
Ensure that the email address provided is accurate; all correspondence will be conducted via email.

Travel & Registration Information
- Presenters are responsible for providing their own hotel and travel accommodations for the Conference.
- All primary presenters and co-presenters are required to register their attendance for the Conference.
- Up to two presenters per 30- and/or 90-minute sessions may receive a discounted registration rate, which is non-transferable.
- Up to one presenter per poster presentation may receive a discounted registration rate, which is non-transferable.
- All Conference meals that IAFN provides—as well as access to all sessions and events, including keynotes and exhibits—are included in the registration fee. Presenters may

include the acceptance of your abstract on their CV and/or use it for promotional purposes related to their research.

Credit Hours
Presenters do not receive credit hours for presenting as presenters cannot evaluate their own sessions. However, presenters may claim their teaching experience as credit toward certification renewal. Presenters who are registered for the conference may attend and evaluate other sessions to receive credit hours.

Questions?
Please contact education@ForensicNurses.org

All abstracts must be submitted online. Click here to submit.