

IACA ANNUAL UPDATE 2022

While COVID19 has not gone away in 2022, as the year has progressed, we have slowly and safely started to look at what our future direction will look like and to tentatively plan for in person meetings and international collaboration.

Since its inception in 2021, the International Academy of Colleges of Anaesthesiology (IACA) has only ever met virtually and conducted its work online. We have become very adept at Zoom committee meetings, welcoming videos, online conferences and webinars. All of which have been designed to foster a sense of collegiality across our five colleges and with all our members.

What have we been up to?

While delivery of webinars has been a primary focus in 2022 and we have provided you with a synopsis of these webinars in this update, the IACA partnership collaboration has carried the residual benefit of increased intercollegiality among the partner colleges.

Leadership

The IACA college presidents and CEOs continue to meet regularly and discuss common issues including memberships, delivery of examinations and learning activities during COVID-19, and CPD among other topics. Also, an important focus has been the development of a strategic framework with the following goals:

1. Collaborate to provide support, enrichment, and opportunity for our global memberships
2. Support improvements to patient safety as a global public health priority, by advancing the safe, effective delivery of anaesthesia and pain medicine care
3. Continue to raise awareness of the IACA.

With more opportunity to travel and college's annual scientific meetings recommencing in person, we are all looking forward to enacting these plans and engaging more broadly with our membership, our committees and our staff.

Collegiality

It has also been extremely rewarding to see how our differing teams across the colleges are also sharing information and knowledge, educational resources and in general discussing issues and problem solving. There is evidence of real and valuable partnerships which we are looking forward to fostering and developing further.

This allegiance has been a shining example of how the colleges have continued to progress their work during COVID times.

In 2022, the partner colleges of International Academy of Colleges of Anaesthesiologists (IACA) delivered two successful webinars on environmental sustainability and opioid regulation. These events were well attended and continued to promote the aim of the IACA which is to facilitate safe and high-quality patient care regionally and internationally through dialogue and a collaborative alliance, with shared resources, experiences, ideas, and energy.

Our 2022 webinars

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1. Environmental Sustainability – the next generation

The IACA hosted a webinar on Wednesday 8 June which focussed on the future of environmental sustainability in anaesthesia and pain medicine. The webinar featured international guest speakers and panel members from all five partner colleges. New fellows and trainees discussed the rigorous work they've done to create lasting changes within their workplaces and communities.

This included information on visualising carbon emissions, reducing nitrous oxide emissions, the formation of sustainability working groups and committees, and useful tips on how to get started catalysing change.

The speakers expressed during the panel discussion that they were inspired by the efforts made by others. Australian Trainee group [TRA2SH](#) received significant interest from attendees and speakers. This also generated a novel idea to create an international version of "Operation Clean Up," an initiative to educate doctors about refusing, reducing, reusing, and recycling in theatres.

They also shared plenty of useful information on how to get started in sustainability. The webinar featured a panel discussion and live Q&A. The College of Anaesthesiologists Ireland hosted the webinar and was chaired by Dr Dónall Ó'Cróinín.

There were 515 registrants from around the world and 255 attendees at the live streaming event, signifying a growing interest in both the IACA and environmental sustainability.

All registrants were sent a recording of the webinar along with a curated [resource guide](#) post-event. These resources are now available freely on-demand [online](#) and will continue to be promoted for those who were unable to attend.

Chair: Dónall O'Cróinín

Speakers and Panellists:

- Dr Tim Keady, Ireland
- Dr Jess Davies, Australia
- Dr Noni Harold, Australia
- Dr Husein Moloo, Canada
- Dr Donovan Wong, Hong Kong
- Dr Cliff Shelton, UK
- Dr Li Fang, UK

2. Opioid Regulation – an International Perspective

On Wednesday 28 September, the IACA hosted its second webinar of the year on regulation of opioids.

In the webinar, pain medicine specialists of the IACA partner colleges shared their clinical expertise and insights on opioid regulation in their respective countries.

The speakers and panellists discussed a broad range of topics surrounding opioid prescription and regulation in their respective countries. Highlights included discussion around relationships with pharmaceutical companies, observations made after the introduction of tighter restrictions on codeine, and proposed development of new regulatory frameworks.

This webinar was chaired by Dr Timmy Chan of the Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists and featured keynote speakers Professor Chi-Wai Cheung and Dr Andrew Purcell. The event concluded with a lively expert panel discussion and Q&A session.

There were 278 registrants from around the world and 147 attendees at the live streaming event.

A [resource guide](#) with further readings curated from by the speakers, along with the [webinar recording](#), are now available freely on-demand online.

Chair: Dr Timmy Chan

Speakers and Panellists:

- Professor Chi-wai Cheung, Hong Kong
- Dr Andrew Purcell, Ireland
- Dr Lorraine De Gray, UK
- Dr Therese O'Connor, Ireland
- Associate Professor Jennifer Stevens, Australia

What's next

Secretariat and Chair changes

ANZCA has been the inaugural secretariat over the last two years with Dr Vanessa Beavis the founding chair. In 2023, the Royal College of Anaesthetists (RCoA) will accept both the secretariat and Chair roles. This handover will occur in May 2023 at the RCoA annual meeting to be held in Birmingham, May 16 to 18. We would like to thank Dr Vanessa Beavis for her leadership, support and belief in the importance and value of the IACA

Upcoming activities

In 2023, the colleges will continue to raise the IACA profile through delivery of sessions at college conferences, online event delivery, and social media campaigns among other activities.

Planned IACA activities for 2023 include:

- Collaboration to create IACA video presentations which will contribute to an IACA presence at the annual meetings of the partner colleges
- Introduction of a new virtual Q and A series of webinars
- Planning and launch of strong social media campaigns to raise awareness of the IACA while also encouraging networking and / or the building of communities of practice for event attendees and college members

IACA College annual meetings in 2023 . . .

- ANZCA ASM: 5-9 May "[Be Connected](#)"
- RCoA Annual Conference 16 to 18 May "[Anaesthesia 2023](#)"
- CAI Annual Congress: 18 to 19 May Check the [CAI website](#) for up to date information
- HKCA ASM: 18 to 19 Nov Check the [HKCA website](#) for up to date information
- RCPSC Check the [RCPSC website](#) for up to date information

We wish everyone a safe, relaxing and joyful holiday season and look forward to working with you all in 2023.

Warm regards

Dr Vanessa Beavis
Chair IACA

