The 18th South Pacific Nurses Forum will bring together evidence, experience and innovations highlighting nursing contribution to Universal Health Coverage and demonstrating how nurses are important to ensuring access and quality of health care for all. The forum will provide a regional platform for the dissemination of nursing knowledge and leadership across specialities, cultures and countries via the SPNF programme, featuring keynote and plenary session invited speakers as well as a wide range of main sessions on papers accepted through our abstract selection process.

The main objectives of the South Pacific Forum are:

1. To promote and improve the coverage and quality of health services to the public.
2. To ensure the establishment and maintenance of the optimum standards of professional nursing practice in the South Pacific supported by appropriate nursing education and research.
3. To establish networking between nurses in the South Pacific, provide opportunities for an in-depth exchange of experience and expertise within and beyond the regional nursing community.
4. To demonstrate nursing contribution to the health of individuals, families and communities.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/spnf.org.au
The South Pacific Nurses Forum (SPNF) was formed in 1982 by South Pacific Nurses who were attending the 1980 International Council of Nurses in Los Angeles, USA and has met in different locations in the South Pacific every two years since then.

Clinical nurses, nurse managers, nurse educators and nurse leaders from across the South Pacific attend the forum to discuss and debate key issues of importance to nurses and nursing.

The forum provides a venue for the 14 national nursing associations representing thousands of nurses in the South Pacific to discuss nursing experiences, share knowledge and develop networking amongst the islands including Australia and New Zealand.

South Pacific Nurses Forum

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Solomon Islands Nurses Association

Solomon Islands Nurses Association (SINA) was formed in 1968, with the aim of improving the nursing profession and managing the welfare of nurses in Solomon Islands. SINA is committed to upholding Solomon Islands nurses’ rights and enhancing nursing professionals’ competencies. An organization run by nurses, SINA promotes nurses’ ethical conduct, contributes to better public health, and strives to bring the country’s nursing to the next level through interaction with the international nursing community. SINA supports the improvement of health service delivery in Solomon Islands. SINA is a significant partner in ensuring improved nursing services with the Ministry of Health and Medical Services through the National Nursing Administration and as such maintains close cooperation with the government of Solomon Islands.

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Abstracts

Key Dates
14 August 2015: Submission of abstracts opens
08 February 2016: Deadline for submission of abstracts
01 February 2016: Registration opens
11 April 2016: Applicants notified of abstract acceptance
13 June 2016: Deadline for registration of abstract presenters

Instructions for the submission of abstracts
The deadline for the receipt of abstracts is 8 February 2016.
1. The abstract text must be no more than 2,500 characters (250 words including title and authors’ information and should highlight the main points the presenter/s wish to communicate.
2. Abstracts are to be addressed to Chairman, Local Organising Committee, South Pacific Nurses Forum, c/- Solomon Islands Nurses Association, P.O. Box 349, Honiara, Solomon Islands, email: spnfsina@gmail.com (submission of abstracts through email is preferred).
3. Those whose abstracts are accepted must register for the Conference and pay the registration fee by 13 June 2016. Successful candidates will be continually reminded to register before the deadline.
4. The abstract can be submitted in one of the following categories:
   • Main: A 15 minute presentation grouped by sub-theme.
   • Poster: A visual presentation of research with an academic or professional focus by an individual or representatives of research teams for display on a poster board.
5. Abstracts must be submitted in English.
6. Co-authors are allowed to submit joint abstracts.
7. Applicants will be notified by 11 April 2016 if their abstract has been accepted.
8. Successful candidates will be requested to produce a brief biography with a passport sized photo to be published in the SPNF information booklet.

All decisions on abstract acceptance are final. Once the decision has been rendered on an abstract, no further correspondence will be undertaken on the selection process.

Factors that will be considered during selection are:
• Interest to the regional audience.
• Relevance to both the 2016 SPNF theme and one of the six abstract sub-themes (as discussed below).
• Scientific and/or professional merit.
• Contribution to knowledge, practice, policies or programmes of nursing and/or health.
• Clarity of abstract.

Note: All abstracts must be original work. An abstract should not be submitted if the work is to be presented at a national or international meeting prior to SPNF 2016 Conference. Abstracts already published as an abstract or full manuscript or that will be published prior to 10 October 2016 cannot be submitted.
Abstract sub-themes

1. Professional Nursing Leadership and clinical Governance

How does Nursing Leadership and Governance lead to improved Health Service Delivery? What is the relationship between nursing leadership and quality patient outcomes? How can nurses engage and lead in the formation of health and social policy? What actions can be taken to address the reduction in nursing leadership positions? How can nurses better understand the concept of governance and management? What competencies are needed by nurse managers and nursing leaders? What impact will Nursing Practice have on leadership and performance in Pacific Island countries? How can we prepare future generations for leadership in the Pacific? What is the current image of nursing and will that image empower the profession? Is the profession adequately influencing how nursing is viewed and maximizing its visibility?

How are care systems evolving to meet changing needs? What happens at the interface between the health and social sectors? How do we achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC) at a time of major societal change? How does knowledge of the past help us prepare for the future? What lessons have we learned? What national and regional trends do we see in nursing? What do we know about the history of national and regional nursing in research?

2. Managing Nursing Human Resource for Health for Efficient Nursing Services

What skill mix is required to achieve UHC and ensure quality care? What are the priority workforce and workplace issues that affect access to care? What is the status of nurses’ recruitment in the region? What are policy implications and financial incentives on remunerating nurses? What are effects of payment and incentives on nurses’ motivation? What is the impact of positive practice environments? Is Migration an Issue that’s affecting Service delivery? How does regional nurse mobility affect access to quality health care? How does retention and deployment of nurses help health systems to function?

What are the current workforce planning models that are utilised by other industries? Are they relevant to nursing? What have been some of the challenges and opportunities for the nursing workforce and models of care in the current economic climate including the interface between public sector and private sector systems?
3. Strategic Nursing Education

How does Nursing Education help health systems to function? How do we better address the gap from education to practice? What innovations do we see in the learning environment? What are the trends in delivery of entry level and continuing education? How do we address the gaps in standards of education in the Pacific? Are developments of curricula in the Nursing training institutions relevant and of quality to the country’s health service needs?

In light of the regional shortage of employed nurses and workforce maldistribution, how will a sufficient student pool be attracted to the profession? Are Pacific island countries investing or underinvesting in education and training of nurses?

How do we understand the new generation’s personal attributes and needs and what are the predictions of how the nurse of the future will look? Are there innovative models of education available to meet future needs? How will we prepare the academics staff necessary to educate future generations of nurses?

4. Developing the Nursing Workforce for Improved Service Delivery

How does Nursing Workforce Development contribute to Improved Service Delivery? How does workforce development impact on leadership? What is the relationship between Evidence based Nursing and workforce development? What are the strengths and weaknesses of Staff Development Plans? What processes are there for analysing Nursing Knowledge for Workforce Development? How are continuing Professional development (CPD) plans developed? How are CPDs benefitting nurses and contributing to improved service delivery?

What competencies are required for Professional Development? What are some of the effects of the changing trends in philosophies of science on nursing development? Is Professional Development a reason for Nurse Migration? What innovations in Practice development support Nursing Care? What can we learn from past efforts in nursing workforce development?
5. Nursing Practice in Health Service Delivery

What innovations in clinical practice support better patient outcomes? Given the continuous need for evidence based practice to guide the development of the best practice models to provide safe and quality care, what is the link between the practice environment and patient safety? What are quality health care indicators and how they are measured? What is the link between patient engagement and better patient outcomes? What is the evidence if any, in the literature of the impact of nurses who are certified as specialists on patient safety and care outcomes?

Across the continuum of care what are the trends in health and well-being? How can we effectively promote and improve the health and well-being of individuals and populations? What is the impact of interventions addressing those at an early stage of life (from pregnant women, young children to adolescents)? What are the strategies to address the growing trend in non-communicable diseases (NCDs) including mental health globally? How can we support healthy ageing and provide equity and access to health care including end of life care? What is the current status of NCDs from a nursing perspective? How is nursing education, regulation and practice responding? How can we learn from our past experiences and avoid shortcomings?

What is the impact of climate change on public health? What is the role of nurses in conflict situations, in disaster preparedness and relief efforts? How do we screen and deploy disaster nurses safely and effectively? What protective measures are required by relief workers? What are the risks and protective measures for nurses in times of conflict, disasters and pandemics? What is the role of nurses in sustainable development?

What needs to be in place to support ethical practice? What are the ethical challenges facing regional nursing when providing care through medical/health programmes?

6. Nursing Regulation, its Impact on Health Service Delivery

What is the role of professional regulation in ensuring patient safety and quality? How can accreditation systems benefit the patient? What will be the impact of national/regional/dialogue on regulation? Who are the stakeholders in regulation and how best can we collaborate within the profession and among professions?

What are the implications of evolving regulatory models around the region for the regional nurse and for nursing regulators? How does Nursing regulation influence nurses scope of practice?

What ethical dilemmas exist in ensuring access, quality and health? What is equity and how is it introduced/maintained in health systems?

What measures need to be taken to promote and protect the health rights of individuals and populations? What is the impact of our rapidly advancing technology on nursing ethics? What are the ethical implications for nursing in Pacific Islands?