



NZNO National Division of Infection Control Nurses (NDICN)

Publication Awards - Criteria and Information

Objectives

- To encourage infection prevention and control (IPC) practitioners to share their knowledge and experiences in the area of Infection Prevention & Control.
- To encourage IPC practitioners who are participating in post graduate IPC education to publish their studies, projects or research.
- To encourage academic writing and publications that showcases infection prevention and control practice in New Zealand.

Adjudication

The NDICN Committee will nominate one of its members as the award co-ordinator.

- The Short Article entries will be judged by the NDICN NZNO Committee members.
- The Journal/Scholarly Article entries will be judged by one Committee member (this person may also be the award co-ordinator) and one or more invited expert adjudicators as necessary.

NDICN Committee members may NOT enter for the Short Article award but may enter for the Journal/Scholarly Article award with the exception of the award co-ordinator and the judging member.

The names of successful entrants will be published in The Infection Controlla.

Administration

Administration will be carried out by the NDICN Secretary. All submissions and entry forms must be received by the Secretary by the end of the closing date. Applications will be made anonymous for judging.

Awards

\$3000 is awarded for the winning journal article / scholarly essay.

Two \$500 awards are available for the best short article entries.

The monies will be sent to the winners within one month of notification. There are no conditions of use for the monies.

Entry Criteria

Original articles that address issues of infection prevention and control clinical practice, research, education, management, case studies and projects of interest to others will be considered for the award.

Submissions must meet the overall aims and objectives of the awards.

1. Short Article

- The submission may be in the form of a report on a project, a case study, or event. You may choose to reflect on your practice or write an exemplar.
- The submission must be in English and between 500 and 700 words, double-spaced. Any references must be referenced in a recognised scholarly style.
- Entrants must be full members of the NDICN, with a minimum of 3 months membership at closing date.
- Successful applicants will be required to have their article published in *The Infection Controlla*

2. Journal Article for Publication

- The submission may be in the form of a report on research undertaken, an IPC practice or project in your area of work, or a commentary or editorial on a chosen topic of your choice.
- The article must be written to publishing standards for a peer reviewed journal. *Refer to Appendix A for the Kaitiaki 'Guidelines for Writing Practice Articles'.*
- The submission must be in English, between 2500 and 3000 words and double spaced. Essays should be fully referenced in a recognised scholarly style e.g. APA, Harvard.
- Entrants must be full members of the NDICN, with a minimum of 1 year's membership by the closing date.
- The winner will be required to publish their work in *The Kaitiaki* or a peer reviewed journal of their choice. The winner will also be encouraged to submit their work at a NDICN Conference as either an oral or poster presentation.

All submissions should be forwarded to the NDICN Secretary along with an entry form by 29th February 2012.

Successful candidates will be informed in writing prior to the announcement at NDICN Conference and in *The Infection Controlla*. Correspondence will not be entered into.



NDICN Publication Awards

Entry Form

Name: _____

Postal Address: _____

Contact Number(s): _____

Email: _____

Current occupation: _____

Year of joining NDICN: _____ (NB: Entrants must be Full Members)

- For the '**Short Article**' award members must have a minimum of 3 months FULL NDICN membership at the closing date.
- For the '**Journal Article/Scholarly Essay**' award members must have a minimum of 1 year's FULL NDICN membership at the closing date.

For which award are you applying? Short article Journal/Scholarly Article

I agree to abide by the NDICN Publications Award's Terms of Reference and Application Criteria (available www.infectioncontrol.co.nz)

Signature

Date

Closing date: 29th February 2012

Please send completed form to, **Katharine Clarkson**, 30 Holloway Street, Invercargill 9810 or email katharine.clarkson@southerndhb.govt.nz

Appendix A

Kai Tiaki Nursing New Zealand Guidelines for writing practice articles (abridged)

Kai Tiaki Nursing New Zealand welcomes articles on subjects relevant to nurses and nursing. These guidelines are designed to help you write an article, which is accurate, clear, easily read and interesting.

What makes a good article?

The main reason you want an article published in *Kai Tiaki Nursing New Zealand* is so other nurses will read it, and hopefully, learn something valuable from it. Therefore the subject must interest nurses and be written in a way that will appeal to them.

The essence of good writing is simple, effective communication - a good story well told. Even the most complicated nursing care scenario, theory of nursing practice or research study can be presented in a straightforward, logical fashion.

Tips for constructing your article

This list should help you construct an article which will be read, understood and appreciated.

- Always remember who your reader is. Your readers are nurses so what you write must be relevant and understood by nurses. The focus of your article must be what the nurse does, how the nurse behaves, what affects the nurse.
- If you are writing about a new technique introduced to your ward, explain how it changes nursing practice and its advantages and disadvantages to the nurse and patient/client.
- If you are discussing a theory of nursing practice, link this to concrete examples of working nurses.
- Avoid using big words, complicated sentences and technical jargon. They don't make you smarter or your article better. Writing clearly and plainly is your goal. Widely used nursing terms are acceptable but avoid overly technical jargon.
- One of the great figures in nursing, Miss Virginia Henderson, said: "If nurses hope to influence or improve health care in its preventive, curative, and rehabilitative aspects, they should search for a universally understood language and what William Zinsser (1976) calls an uncluttered style. He says, with reference to 'professional' writing: 'Simplify, simplify, simplify.'" (Nursing Mirror, May 11 1978, p16)
- These questions will help you pull together all the relevant information needed for your article: Who? What? Why? When? Where? How?
- Don't assume all other nurses know the ins and outs of your particular area of practice. If you are unsure about how to express a particular idea or technique, think how you would explain it to a student nurse.