



CHY 17932  
[www.irishpracticenurses.ie](http://www.irishpracticenurses.ie)  
tel: 042-9692403  
SMS text to: 087-1304115  
e-mail: [admin@irishpracticenurses.ie](mailto:admin@irishpracticenurses.ie)

## BENEFITS OF IPNA MEMBERSHIP



Invitation to each **monthly educational meeting** of your local branch, which will include a speaker who has been carefully chosen by the branch committee to talk about a subject that is relevant to Practice Nursing in your area and update you on the latest guidelines / best practice.

Invitation to the **annual IPNA Educational Conference/AGM**. All aspects of the conference - theme, speakers, clinical workshops, poster displays, research presentations, awards, exhibitors - are specifically relevant to Practice Nurses.



Free delivery of "**Nursing in General Practice**", the official Journal of the Irish Practice Nurses Association which includes clinical articles, research abstracts and relevant news.

Free **IPNA Resource Pack and Personal Portfolio** – to assist you with maintaining records of your Continuing Professional Development.



The opportunity to enter the various **IPNA Educational Awards**, including the "Practice Nurse of the Year" award, "IPNA Educational Bursary", "IPNA Clinical Award", "Valerie Mangan IPNA Loyalty Award", and "IPNA Branch Poster" award.

Exclusive access to the members' area of the **IPNA Website** ([www.irishpracticenurses.ie](http://www.irishpracticenurses.ie)), which has news about relevant events & study days, education, publications, research, grants & awards, speakers' presentations from IPNA Conferences, Discussion Boards, updated pages for your Professional Development Portfolio, and other relevant documents.



The option to receive **e-mail and/or text messages** about relevant issues, education, study days, etc. The option to receive **information by post** from sources other than IPNA regarding relevant study days, courses & products. The opportunity to avail of special offers on uniforms, educational books, etc when these are available.



Some **practical assistance** is available to members who need to source mailing lists for the purposes of carrying out research that is relevant to Practice Nursing.



Invaluable contact with other Practice Nurses in your area. The **chance to network, share information, learn from more experienced Practice Nurses and the general peer support provided by colleagues** is often cited by members as one of the most beneficial aspects of IPNA membership.

# WHAT OTHERS SAY ABOUT THE IPNA

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**"We recognise the enormous contribution that the IPNA makes in promoting education and professional development for Practice Nurses. This contribution has supported Practice Nurses to have access to a wide range of educational opportunities."**

Kathleen Mac Lellan, Head of Professional Development, National Council for the Professional Development of Nursing & Midwifery.

## RECOMMENDATIONS FROM EXISTING IPNA MEMBERS

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*"After 15yrs membership I am still attending meetings and learning all the time. Peer support and excellent clinical up-dates helped me to establish and maintain my role. Any isolation in practice that I felt initially was soon alleviated by shared experiences, depth of knowledge and generosity of spirit that was shown by all members. IPNA membership continues to be a positive and enriching experience for me."* IPNA member (North East)

*"As practice nurses, we often work alone amongst a team of other professionals. It is great to have the support of an organisation that is always there for advice and help. The Cork branch has been amazing and really enhances my enjoyment of the job. The journal is useful, the meetings are also useful and the clinical days the Cork branch has organised have been fantastic."*

IPNA Member (Cork)

*"As one of the 'Grannies' of the IPNA, the Association has always provided excellent clinical and professional support and encouragement to grow as a Practice Nurse. Every meeting or conference you attend gives more ideas and you arrive back to the practice brimming with plans. Some developed brilliantly and some get lost in the list of appointments waiting. The most important value of being a member is belonging to a fantastic group of forward thinking determined professionals who support each other through good times and often the bad times. Some of my closest friendships have been formed through the IPNA. To keep these ideas fresh we need plenty of new blood. Come on the youngsters!"* IPNA Member (East Coast)

*"I have found the text alerts re education ... invaluable. I would never hear about these things without being a member of the IPNA. Meetings are a nice opportunity to meet other nurses and to compare the different roles we play within various practices because as we know every place of work is different!!"* IPNA member (Cork)

*"I joined the IPNA Louth Meath group 3 years ago when I was new to practice nursing. The support I received from networking with other practice nurses was invaluable. I have remained an active member since and look forward to our meetings which are always interesting, educational and benefit me greatly. The regular emails keep me updated to new changes in practice and new courses available to attend. I would feel very isolated as a practice nurse without the IPNA."* IPNA member (Louth/Meath)

*"The IPNA is a terrific resource for new practice nurses and for those not so new. It assists me in my professional development through regular educational meetings and the email alerts keep me up to date with what's going on. The association is invaluable in terms of peer support and friendship as many PNs work in isolation"* IPNA member (North East)

Those who are on the Active RGN register of An Bord Altranais and who are currently working as Practice Nurses in the Republic of Ireland are eligible to become members of the Irish Practice Nurses Association. To join, contact Tracey Rooney (IPNA Membership Secretary) at 086-2634917, e-mail: [membership@irishpracticenurses.ie](mailto:membership@irishpracticenurses.ie) or visit [www.irishpracticenurses.ie](http://www.irishpracticenurses.ie) to download an application form.

