DSACCARN is the Society of nurse anaesthetists, intensive care nurses and nurses working in recovery/postoperative wards. It was founded 1959 and is the oldest society of specialist nurses in Denmark. The main organization is: Danish Nurses Organization known in Denmark as: Dansk Sygeplejeuraad.

Number of members

The Society counts around 2000 members. Approximately 900 nurse anaesthetists, 900 critical care nurses and approximately 200 recovery/postoperative/perianaesthesia nurses.

Table of contents

- Aims of the Society
- Main tasks of the board
- Congresses
- Collaboration with the industry
- Educational matters
- International affairs
- Journal

History

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Function field of a nurse anesthetist and an intensive care nurse

Field of responsibility and function of nurse-anaesthetists

- give anesthesia during general surgery, examination and therapy
- escorting critically ill patients in-house and to other hospitals
- prehospital treatment at disasters, accidents and acute diseases
- Very sick patients in-house - cardiac arrest, sepsis, respiratory problems ...

Field of responsibility and function of intensive care nurses.

- observation, care and treatment of critically ill patients
- use of technical equipments for monitoring vital parameters
- create continuity and overall solutions for patients
- take care of relatives of critically ill patients.
Aims of the society

- Improve the collaboration between the members of the Society
- Support educational and working tasks
- Arrange conferences and meetings in order to qualify members
- Encourage to and assist at inquiries into the working field of Nurse Anesthetist and Intensive Care Nurses
- Contribute to improve the developing of health and nursing care
- Promote transverse collaboration between the different nursing societies in Denmark
- Represent Danish Nurse Anesthetists and Intensive Care Nurses National and International
- To improve the Anesthesia and Intensive care Nursing in Denmark.

Main tasks of the board

The board meet approximately 6 times a year. The meetings lasts one whole day, one meeting is a two-day meeting. One of the main tasks is to arrange two national congresses per year. Two members of the board meet annual with the leadership of National Association in order to improve the collaboration and share experiences. The board acts as an advisory body concerning elements of interest of the specialities, e.g. educational topics, Advanced Trauma Life Support, expert statements and opinions.

Congresses

The board arrange two annual congresses, one in spring and one in autumn. The congresses are contemplating in collaboration with experts within the functional field of anaesthesia and critical care. Each congress lasts 2-3 days. The content of the congresses vary a lot and reflect the wishes of our members.

Collaboration with the industry

The Society has a close collaboration with the industry. As an example of that, medical companies are strongly represented at each congress: around 35 and up to 45 medical companies.

Educational matters

Education to become nurse anaesthetist and/or intensive care nurse.

- Danish authorisation as a nurse
- Minimum 2 years of clinical experience from a hospital ward
- 6 months introduction period at an anaesthesia ward or in an critical care unit
- 18 months theoretical/practical education at either an anaesthesia ward or a critical care unit, containing:
  - Approximately 210 hours of theory (in a class room) related to either anaesthesia or critical care with an examination (multiple choice)
  - 1-2 hours of clinical supervision per week when working in the ward
  - 6 weeks study visit at a recovery ward
  - anaesthesia-students: 6 weeks study visit at another anaesthesia ward
  - critical care students: 6-24 weeks study visit to another critical care unit
- A written assignment/ a project complete both educations
To acquire translations of the Danish Education Orders translated into English, please do not hesitate to contact the President.

**International affairs**

The Danish Society of Nurse Anaesthetists and Intensive Care Nurses has a strong tradition in cooperating internationally.

**NOSAM** is an abbreviation of the Nordic collaboration. For more than 25 years we have been working together with: Norway, Sweden, Finland, Iceland and The Faroe Islands. Every three years we arrange a huge Nordic congress with up to 900 delegates. Besides that, we have made some statements of the functional field of being a nurse anaesthetist and an intensive care nurse.

**IFNA** is an abbreviation of International Federation of Nurse Anaesthetists. Denmark has been a member since 1997 and has a representative in the council of representatives. IFNA arrange a world congress every second year.

Website: [www.ifna-int.org](http://www.ifna-int.org)

**EfCCNa** stands for European federation of Critical Care Nurses associations and Denmark has been a member since the beginning in 1997. EfCCNa has developed rapidly and has several subgroups working. EfCCNa goes for a European congress every three years.

Website: [www.efccna.org](http://www.efccna.org)

**National Journal**

In the national journal, which now is web-based, you can find articles relevant for our speciality. Most of them will however be in Danish.

Website: [www.draabe-nyt.dk](http://www.draabe-nyt.dk)