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In this issue

President and President Elect joint message: Congress 2024 – gone but not forgotten	1-6
In Memory of:	
Sally J Gill-Thompson	6
Dr Harikesh Gulabrai Buch	8
Congratulations go to:	
Dr Elizabeth A Ayello for the New York University Distinguished Alumni Award	8
Dr Ayise Karadag inducted as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing	9
Angie Perrin awarded the Title of Queens Nurse	10
Dr Corey Heerschap on completing his PhD	10
Mary Jo Kroeber, Past WCET® President, on 50 Years as a Stoma Therapy Nurse	12
Welcome to WCET® Congress Coordinator Louise (Sam) Samuel	12
Prilli and John Stevens, celebrating 60 Years of married bliss	12
WCET® Travels: Joint Congress 2024, Glasgow, UK	
Reporting on Congress 2024	13
What an amazing experience!	14
Finally, WCET® returns to the UK, 2024 Joint Congress: WCET® and ASCN-UK	16
International Ostomy Association: A major role in Congress 2024	17
Wonderful Congress!	17
Reflections on a remarkable event: WCET® - ASCN-UK 2024 Joint Congress, Unwrapping a fantastic memory package	21
Reflections on my experience at the WCET® & ASCN-UK Joint Congress (Glasgow, Scotland, September 28 th – October 1 st 2024)	23
My experience of attending the World Council of Enterostomal Therapists® (WCET®) Congress in Glasgow, UK 2024	24
A nostalgic journey: Receiving the World Council of Enterostomal Therapists® (WCET®) Congress Scholarship Award 2024	25
A journey of learning and connection: Reflections from WCET® & ASCN-UK Congress, Glasgow	25
Jiangsu ET in China, attended World Council of Enterostomal Therapists® ASCN-UK Joint 2024 Conference	29
Last chapter on Congress 2024	31
Norma's Circle Founding Members 2023–2024	44
Roll of Honour Industry	45
Norma's Circle new members	46
Roll of Honour General Donations	46
Joe and Betty Garofalo Cutfrolo Memorial Scholarship	46
Reports from around the world	48
News From the Brazilian Association of Enterostomal Therapy – SOBEST®	48
Report From Chile: Commemoration of the ostomy patients in Chile Clinica Alemana, Hospital, Valdivia	52
Jiangsu Province Wound Ostomy Continence Case Reports (English) Seminar ended successfully	57
A story from Croatia	58
NNA-Kenya launches the Wound, Continence and Enterostomal Therapy Nurses, a new Chapter at Moi Teaching & Referral Hospital in Eldoret celebrates its inaugural Norma N. Gill Day®	59
Malaysia – How I started: Struggles and challenges are gifts for my wish to come true, I can do it; you too can do it!	65
Celebrating World Ostomy Day in Malaysia	67
The celebration of International Ostomy Day in Portugal	69
WCET® represented at booth along with HEdS (High School of Health Geneva) and SARW (Swiss Association for Wound Care)	71
USA-Returning to our roots, recognising excellence, growing the speciality	71
Upcoming education events	74
The WCET® International Delegates list	77

President & President Elect joint message



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Congress 2024: gone but not forgotten

The WCET® Congress is our most valued member benefit, we are sure, following our very successful joint event with the ASCN-UK in September, that this will not have changed. We take this opportunity to thank everyone who attended, International Delegates (IDs), members, non-members, speakers, poster presenters, moderators, organisers, volunteers and our industry partners. We would like to thank the ASCN-UK Executive Board (EB) and volunteers for their collaboration which started in 2018, after which it was delayed due to COVID and other Congress commitments. We especially thank Angie Perrin Acting Chair of the ASCN-UK and send Andrew Bird our best wishes for a speedy recovery. Finally, we thank the WCET® EB (outgoing and incoming members) and our support team especially Alison Crawshaw Congress Coordinator, Barcami Lane Conference Planner Karen Hill, Management Company Director Susan Barber and her team, Inconference and the onsite Scottish Conference Center team. We recognise a shining star in Dr Jennie Burch, who took over as Chair of the Scientific Committee and did an excellent job. We also very much appreciate our publisher Greg Paull, journal editor Dr Jenny Prentice and bulletin coordinator Gordon McDade, of Cambridge Media. Of course, we also would like to recognise Ian Katte, accountant, and Tracy Addis, Bookkeeper, as this is our busiest time for financial governance. Finally, we thank the city of Glasgow who welcomed us all with open arms, a special thank you to the Lord Provosts' representative, Bailie Hanif Raja, who attended and welcomed our guests. Please enjoy reading more about Congress in this issue.

At Congress we said a fond farewell and thank you to our outgoing 2020–2024 EB; Treasurer, Diana Gallagher; Education Committee Chair, Yajuan

(Julie) Weng; NNGF® Committee Chair Aihua (Alice) Chen; and our Congress Coordinator Alison Crawshaw. We also welcomed the new 2024–2028 EB who joined immediately after Congress: Treasurer Fiona Bolton; Education Chair, Dr Angela Bocarra; NNGF® chair Dr Katie Capitulo; and the 2024–2026 Congress Coordinator Louise (Sam) Samuel. Please join us in wishing them well.

It is also time to say a very sad last farewell to the WCET®'s biggest supporter, Sally J. Thompson Gill, Enterostomal Therapist, daughter of our Founder Norma N Gill and 2022 WCET® Norma N. Gill President Awardee, who tragically passed away on October 19. Thank you to all members who signed the card during Congress for Sally. We hope that this brought her some comfort in her last days. We also thank all who have since sent emails in her memory. On your behalf we planted three trees with a reforestation green charity, one tree for each of our practice specialties (Wound, Ostomy, Continence). We send our condolences to her family, friends, colleagues and all who knew her. A great loss to our global family, may she rest in peace.

We are also saddened to hear of the passing of Dr Harikesh Gulabrai Buch, who dedicated himself to helping Ostomates. His outstanding contribution both in the field of medicine, and stoma-care will continue to inspire us.

We would also like to take this opportunity to celebrate our members' achievements: Dr Elizabeth A. Ayello who became a life member of the WCET® and for receiving the New York University, Myers College of Nursing Distinguished Alumni Award; Alison Crawshaw for becoming a WCET® life member; Louise Forest-Lalande, Dr Christine Norton, and Dr Kerlyn Carville for being honoured with a WCET® Norma N. Gill President Award; Dr Ayişe Karadag on being inducted as a FAAN USA; Angie Perrin for being awarded the title of Queens Nurse in the UK; and Dr Cory Heerschap on completing his PhD.

On a more social note, it is important to celebrate our Founding Members' life achievement, Prilli Stevens and her husband John, happily celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary while we were at Congress. Prilli and John, we wish you many more.

In this issue you will also be able to read and learn more about how some of our members celebrated Norma N. Gill Day®, and some members' memories and experiences of the WCET® ASCN-UK joint Congress 2024.

We hope you will enjoy reading these reports; again, thank you all for your incredible contributions.

Enjoy the coming holidays and festivities, stay safe.

You will hear from us again in 2025!

Sincerely

Denise & Laurent

2024 年大会已过，但未被遗忘

Thank you to Michelle Lee for the Chinese Translation

WCET® 大会是我们最有价值的会员福利，继 9 月份与 ASCN-UK 非常成功的联合活动之后，我们确信这一点不会改变。我们借此机会感谢所有与会者、国际代表 (ID)、会员、非会员、演讲者、海报展示者、主持人、组织者、义工和我们的厂家合作伙伴。我们要感谢 ASCN-UK 执行委员会和义工从 2018 年开始的合作，但此后由于新冠疫情和其他大会的承诺而推迟至今。我们特别感谢英国 ASCN 代理主席安吉·佩兰 (Angie Perrin)，并向安德鲁·伯德 (Andrew Bird) 致以最美好的祝愿，祝他早日康复。最后，我们感谢 WCET® 执行委员会 (即将离任和新任成员) 和我们的支援团队，特别是 Alison Crawshaw 大会协调员、Barcami Lane 会议策划者、Karen Hill 管理公司总监、Susan Barber 及其团队、会场内以及苏格兰会议中心团队。我们赏识到 Jennie Burch 博士是一颗闪亮的明星，她接任科学委员会主席并做了极出色的工作。我们也非常感谢剑桥媒体的出版商 Greg Paull、期刊编辑 Jenny Prentice 博士和公告协调员 Gordon McDade。当然，我们也要感谢会计师 Ian Katte 和簿记员 Tracy Addis，因为这是我们财务治理最繁忙的时期。最后，我们感谢格拉斯哥市，张开双臂欢迎我们所有人。特别感谢教务长勋爵 Bailie Hanif Raja，出席并欢迎我们的客人。请阅读本期有关大会的更多资讯。

在大会上，我们向即将卸任的 2020-2024 年度执行委员会，财务主管 Diana Gallagher、教育委员会主席翁雅娟 (Julie) Weng 和 NNGF® 委员会主席陈爱华 (Aihua (Alice) Chen) 以及大会协调员 Alison Crawshaw，表示感谢并深情告别。我们也欢迎大会后立即加入 2024-2028 年度的新执行委员会，财务主管 Fiona Bolton、教育主席 Angella Bocarra 博士和 NNGF® 主席 Katie Capitulo 博士，以及 2024-2026 年大会协调员 Louise (Sam) Samuel。请和我们一起祝愿他们一切顺利。

现在也是时候向 WCET® 最大的支持者、造口治疗师 Sally J. Thompson Gill 作最后一次悲伤的告别。她是我们的创始人，Norma N. Gill 的女儿和 2022 年 WCET® Norma N. Gill 主席奖项的获奖者。她在 10 月 19 日不幸去世。我们也要感谢所有为纪念她而发送电子邮件的人。我们代表您与再造林绿色慈善机构一起种植了三棵树，每一棵树代表我们的每个执业专科 (伤口、造口、失禁)。我们向她的家人、朋友、同僚和所有认识她的人表示哀悼。这是我们这大家庭的巨大损失，愿她安息。

我们也对致力于帮助造口者的 Harikesh Gulabrai Buch 博士的去世而感到悲痛。他在医学和造口护理领域的杰出贡献将继续激励我们。

我们也想借此机会，庆祝我们会员的成就。 Elizabeth A. Ayello 博士成为WCET® 的终身会员，并获得纽约大学迈尔护理学院的杰出校友奖； Alison Crawshaw 成为WCET® 的终身会员； Louse Forrest-Lalande、Christine Norton 博士和Kerlyn Carville 博士荣获WCET® Norma N. Gill 主席奖。致 Ayise Karadag 博士，恭喜他成为美国 FAAN 会员； Angie Perrin 榮獲英國女王護士稱號，和 Cori 博士完成他的博士学位。

从更具社会意义的角度来看，庆祝我们的创始成员的人生成就也非常重要。普利·史蒂文斯 (Prilli Stevens) 和她的丈夫约翰 (John)，在我们出席大会期间愉快地庆祝了他们的60周年结婚纪念日。 Prilli和 John，我们祝愿你们未来还会有更多的快乐。

在本期中，您还可以阅读并了解更多关于我们的会员如何庆祝 Norma N. Gill Day® 的信息，以及一些会员对 2024 年 WCET® ASCN-UK 联合大会的回忆和经历。

我们希望您会喜欢阅读这些报告；再次感谢大家所作的令人惊叹的贡献。

愿你们享受即将到来的假期和庆祝活动，请注意安全。

2025 年将会再次收到我们的信息！

真挚地

丹尼斯和洛朗

Le congrès 2024 est passé mais pas oublié

Thank you to Laurent Chabal for the French Translation

Le congrès du WCET® est l'un des bénéfices le plus apprécié de nos membres. Nous sommes convaincu qu'après le succès de notre événement joint avec l'ASCN-UK en septembre dernier, cela ne va pas changer. Nous prenons l'occasion de remercier toutes celles et ceux qui y ont participé, les Délégué-e-s Internationaux (DIs), nos membres, les non membres, orateurs, celles et ceux qui ont présenté un poster, les modérateurs, les organisateurs, les volontaires et nos partenaires de l'industrie. Nous adressons nos remerciements au Comité Exécutif (CE) de l'ASCN-UK et leurs volontaires pour leur collaboration qui a commencé en 2018, et qui s'est poursuivi après COVID et malgré d'autres implications à d'autres congrès. Nous remercions particulièrement Angie Perrin, Présidente par intérim de l'ASCN-UK et nous envoyons à Andrew Bird nos meilleurs vœux de prompt rétablissement. Enfin nous

remercions les membres du CE du WCET® (membres sortant et entrant) ainsi qu'à toute notre équipe de soutien, en particulier Alison Crawshaw, notre Coordinatrice des congrès, Karen Hill notre Planificatrice des congrès, Susan Barber notre Directrice et toute l'équipe de Barcami Lane, l'équipe d'Inconference et celle du Centre de congrès Ecossais. Nous reconnaissons en Dr Jennie Burch une étoile montante. Elle a repris la responsabilité du Comité Scientifique et a su relever le défi avec brio. Nous remercions aussi notre très apprécié Éditeur, Greg Paull, notre éditorialiste du journal, Drse Jenny Prentice, et le coordinateur du bulLETin, Gordon McDade de Cambridge Média. Bien sûr, nous tenons aussi à remercier notre comptable, Ian Katte, et notre aide-comptable, Tracy Addis, dans cette période qui est la plus chargée en matière de gouvernance financière. Enfin, nous adressons nos remerciements à la ville de Glasgow qui nous a accueilli les bras ouverts et remercions tout particulièrement Bailie Hanif Raja, représentant Mme le Maire, pour être venu et nous avoir adressé à tous la bienvenue. Nous espérons que vous apprécierez en savoir plus sur le congrès en lisant ce numéro.

A ce congrès nous avons pu adresser nos au revoir et remerciements aux membres du CE 2020-2024: Diana Gallagher, Trésorière, Yajuan (Julie) Weng, responsable de la Commission Éducation, et Aihua (Alice) Chen, responsable de la Commission NNGF®, ainsi qu'à notre Coordinatrice des congrès, Alison Crawshaw. Nous avons, bien sûr, aussi, souhaité la bienvenue aux nouveaux membres du CE 2024-2028 qui ont commencé leur mandat directement après le congrès: Fiona Bolton, Trésorière, Drse Angela Bocarra, responsable de la Commission Éducation, Drse Katie Capitolo, responsable de la Commission NNGF®, et la Coordinatrice des congrès 2024.2026 Louise (Sam) Samuel. Merci de vous joindre à nous dans nos vœux de pleine réussite.

Malheureusement il est aussi le temps de dire un très triste au revoir à l'une des plus grandes supportrices du WCET®, Sally J. Thompson, Stomathérapeute et fille de notre fondatrice Norma N. Gill, ayant reçu le prix Norma N. Gill de la Présidente du WCET® en 2022, qui est tragiquement décédée le 19 octobre dernier. Merci à tous les membres qui ont signés la carte que nous lui avons envoyé depuis le congrès. Nous espérons que celle-ci a pu lui amener un peu de réconfort dans ses derniers jours. Nous remercions aussi toutes celles et ceux qui nous ont envoyé depuis des courriels en sa mémoire. En notre nom, trois arbres ont été planté via une association de reforestation, un pour chacune de notre tri spécialisation (plaies, stomies et troubles de la continence). Nous adressons toutes nos condoléances à sa famille, amis, collègues ainsi qu'à toutes celles et

ceux qui l'ont connu. C'est une très grande perte pour notre grande famille. Qu'elle repose en paix.

Nous avons aussi été triste d'apprendre le décès du Dr Harikesh Gulabrai Buch, qui a décidé sa vie à soutenir les personnes stomisées. Ses contributions exceptionnelles, tant dans le champ de la médecine que dans les soins aux stomies, continueront de nous inspirer.

Nous voulons également prendre l'opportunité de ce numéro pour célébrer les réussites de nos membres. La Drse Elizabeth A. Ayello, qui est devenue membre à vie du WCET®, a reçu le prix des anciens élèves en soins infirmiers du collège Myers de l'université de New York. Alison Crawshaw est devenue membre à vie du WCET®. Louise Forest-Lalande, Drse Christine Norton, et la Dres Keryln Carville ont été honoré et ont reçu le prix de la Présidence Norma N. Gill du WCET®. La Drse Ayiçe Karadag a été introduite comme membre FAAN aux USA, Angie Perrin pour avoir reçu le titre d'infirmière du Queens au Royaume-Uni, et enfin le Dr Cory Heerschap pour avoir achevé son PhD.

Sur une note sociale, il est important de célébrer l'accomplissement de nos membres fondateurs. Prilli Stevens et son mari John ont célébré avec joie leur 60ème anniversaire de mariage alors que nous étions au congrès. Prilli et John, nous vous souhaitons d'en avoir encore plein d'autres.

Dans ce numéro vous en apprendrez en plus sur comment certains de nos membres ont célébrés la journée Norma N. Gill, et lisez quelques souvenirs et expériences vécues lors du congrès 2024 joint WCET® ASCN-UK.

Nous espérons que vous aurez plaisir à lire ces rapports, merci encore à toutes et tous pour vos contributions incroyables.

Nous vous souhaitons de très bonnes vacances et festivités de fin d'année. Restez en santé.

Nous reviendrons bien sûr vers vous en 2025 pour d'autres nouvelles.

Congresso 2024 – Terminou , mas não sera esquecido

Thank you to Dr Angela Bocarra for the Portugese (Brazil) Translation

Congresso do WCET® é um dos maiores benefícios para nossos membros. Após o grande sucesso do evento conjunto com o ASCN-UK em setembro, temos certeza de que isso continua sendo verdade. Aproveitamos esta

oportunidade para agradecer a todos os participantes: Delegados Internacionais (IDs), membros, não-membros, palestrantes, apresentadores de pôsteres, moderadores, organizadores, voluntários e nossos parceiros da indústria.

Nosso agradecimento especial ao Conselho Executivo (EB) do ASCN-UK e aos voluntários pela colaboração iniciada em 2018, adiada devido à COVID-19 e outros compromissos do Congresso. Um agradecimento especial à Angie Perrin, presidente interina do ASCN-UK, e enviamos nossos melhores votos de recuperação ao Andrew Bird.

Também agradecemos ao EB do WCET® (membros que estão saindo e os novos) e à nossa equipe de apoio, especialmente Alison Crawshaw, Coordenadora do Congresso; Karen Hill, Planejadora de Conferências da Barcami Lane; Susan Barber, Diretora da Empresa de Gestão, e sua equipe; Inconference; e a equipe local do Centro de Conferências Escocês. Destacamos Dr Jennie Burch, que assumiu como Presidente do Comitê Científico e fez um excelente trabalho.

Agradecemos também ao nosso editor Greg Paull, à Editora do Jornal Dr Jenny Prentice, e ao Coordenador do *bulletin* Gordon McDade, da Cambridge Media. Reconhecemos Ian Katte, nosso contador, e Tracy Addis, responsável pela contabilidade, especialmente em um período tão intenso para a governança financeira.

A cidade de Glasgow também merece nosso agradecimento por nos receber de braços abertos. Um agradecimento especial ao representante do Lord Provost, Bailie Hanif Raja, que esteve presente e deu as boas-vindas aos nossos convidados. Aproveitem a leitura sobre o Congresso nesta edição!

Durante o Congresso, despedimo-nos carinhosamente e agradecemos aos membros do EB 2020-2024: Diana Gallagher (Tesoureira), Yajuan (Julie) Weng (Presidente do Comitê de Educação) e Aihua (Alice) Chen (Presidente do Comitê NNGF®), além da Coordenadora do Congresso, Alison Crawshaw.

Damos as boas-vindas ao novo EB 2024-2028: Fiona Bolton (Tesoureira), Dr Angela Bocarra (Presidente do Comitê de Educação), e Dr Katie Capitulo (Presidente do Comitê NNGF®), bem como à Coordenadora do Congresso 2024-2026, Louise (Sam) Samuel. Desejamos sucesso a todos!

Infelizmente, também nos despedimos de Sally J. Thompson Gill, terapeuta enterostomal, filha de nossa fundadora Norma N. Gill e vencedora do Prêmio Presidente Norma N. Gill WCET® 2022, que faleceu tragicamente em 19 de outubro. Obrigado a todos que

assinaram o cartão para Sally durante o Congresso; esperamos que tenha trazido algum conforto em seus últimos dias. Em sua memória, plantamos três árvores, representando cada uma de nossas especialidades (feridas, estomias, continência). Enviamos nossas condolências à sua família, amigos e colegas.

Estamos igualmente entristecidos pela perda do Dr Harikesh Gulabrai Buch, que dedicou sua vida a ajudar as pessoas com estomias. Sua contribuição excepcional no campo da medicina e dos cuidados com estomias continua a nos inspirar.

Celebramos também conquistas de nossos membros:

- Dr Elizabeth A. Ayello tornou-se membro vitalício do WCET® e recebeu o prêmio de Alumni Distinto do Myers College of Nursing, da Universidade de Nova York.
- Alison Crawshaw também se tornou membro vitalício do WCET®.
- Louse Forrest-Lalande, Dr Christine Norton e Dr Kerlyn Carville foram homenageadas com o Prêmio Presidente Norma N. Gill do WCET®.
- Dr Ayise Karadag foi nomeada FAAN nos EUA.
- Angie Perrin por receber o título de Enfermeira do Queens no Reino Unido.
- Dr Cori completou seu doutorado.

Por fim, celebramos a vida de Prilli Stevens, membro fundadora, e de seu marido, John, que comemoraram 60 anos de casamento durante o Congresso. Desejamos muitas felicidades a eles!

Nesta edição, você também poderá ler sobre como membros celebraram o Dia Norma N. Gill® e memórias do Congresso conjunto WCET® ASCN-UK 2024.

Agradecemos novamente por todas as contribuições incríveis. Aproveitem as festas que se aproximam e cuidem-se.

Nos vemos novamente em 2025!

Atenciosamente,
Denise & Laurent

El Congreso 2024 se fue, pero no se olvidó

Thank you to Heidi Hevia Campos for the Spanish Translation

El Congreso WCET® es el beneficio más valioso para nuestros miembros. Estamos seguros de que, tras nuestro exitoso evento conjunto con la ASCN-UK en septiembre, esto no habrá cambiado. Aprovechamos esta oportunidad para agradecer a todos los

asistentes, delegados internacionales (ID), miembros, no miembros, oradores, presentadores de carteles, moderadores, organizadores, voluntarios y nuestros socios de la industria. Nos gustaría agradecer a la Junta Ejecutiva (EB) de la ASCN-UK y a los voluntarios por su colaboración, que comenzó en 2018, después de lo cual se retrasó debido a la COVID y otros compromisos del Congreso. Agradecemos especialmente a Angie Perrin, presidenta interina de la ASCN-UK, y enviamos a Andrew Bird nuestros mejores deseos de una pronta recuperación. Por último, agradecemos a la Junta Ejecutiva de WCET® (miembros salientes y entrantes) y a nuestro equipo de apoyo, especialmente a Alison Crawshaw, coordinadora del Congreso, a Karen Hill, organizadora de conferencias de Barcami Lane, a Susan Barber, directora de la empresa de gestión y a su equipo, a Inconference y al equipo del Scottish Conference Center in situ. Reconocemos a una estrella brillante en la Dra. Jennie Burch, quien asumió como presidenta del Comité Científico e hizo un excelente trabajo.

También agradecemos mucho a nuestro editor Greg Paull, a la editora de la revista, la Dra. Jenny Prentice, y al coordinador del boletín Gordon McDade, de Cambridge Media. Por supuesto, también nos gustaría reconocer a Ian Katte, contador, y a Tracy Addis, contable, ya que este es nuestro momento de mayor actividad en materia de gobernanza financiera. Por último, agradecemos a la ciudad de Glasgow, que nos recibió a todos con los brazos abiertos, un agradecimiento especial al representante de los Lord Provosts, Bailie Hanif Raja, que asistió y dio la bienvenida a nuestros invitados. Disfrute leyendo más sobre el Congreso en este número.

En el Congreso nos despedimos con cariño y agradecemos a nuestro EB saliente 2020-2024, a la tesorera, Diana Gallagher, a la presidenta del Comité de Educación, Yajuan (Julie) Weng y a la presidenta del Comité NNGF®, Aihua (Alice) Chen, y a nuestra coordinadora del Congreso, Alison Crawshaw. También dimos la bienvenida a la nueva Junta Ejecutiva 2024-2028 que se unió inmediatamente después del Congreso, la Tesorera Fiona Bolton, la Presidenta de Educación, la Dra. Angella Bocarra, y la Presidenta de NNGF®, la Dra. Katie Capitulo, y la Coordinadora del Congreso 2024-2026 Louise (Sam) Samuel, únase a nosotros para desearles lo mejor. También es hora de decir un último y triste adiós a la mayor partidaria de WCET®s, Sally J. Thompson Gill, terapeuta enterostomal, hija de nuestra fundadora Norma N. Gill y ganadora del premio a la presidenta de WCET® Norma N. Gill 2022, quien falleció trágicamente el 19 de octubre. Gracias a todos los miembros que firmaron la tarjeta durante el Congreso para Sally, esperamos que esto le haya traído algo de consuelo en sus últimos días. También

agradecemos a todos los que desde entonces han enviado correos electrónicos en su memoria. En su nombre, plantamos tres árboles con una organización benéfica de reforestación ecológica, un árbol por cada una de nuestras especialidades (heridas, ostomía, continencia). Enviamos nuestras condolencias a su familia, amigos, colegas y todos los que la conocieron. Una gran pérdida para nuestra familia mundial. Que descanse en paz.

También nos entristece saber del fallecimiento del Dr Harikesh Gulabrai Buch, quien se dedicó a ayudar a los ostomizados. Su destacada contribución tanto en el campo de la medicina como en el cuidado de los estomas seguirá inspirándonos.

También nos gustaría aprovechar esta oportunidad para celebrar los logros de nuestros miembros, la Dra. Elizabeth A. Ayello, quien se convirtió en miembro vitalicio de WCET® y por recibir el Premio a los Antiguos Alumnos Distinguidos de la Universidad de Nueva York, Myers College of Nursing; Alison Crawshaw por convertirse en miembro vitalicio de WCET®; Louise Forest-Lalande, la Dra. Christine Norton y la Dra.

Kerlyn Carville por ser honradas con el Premio de la Presidenta Norma N. Gill de WCET®; Al Dr Ayise Karadag por su incorporación como miembro de la FAAN de EE. UU. Angie Perrin por haber recibido el título de Enfermera de Queens en el Reino Unido, y al Dr Cori por completar su doctorado. En una nota más social, es importante celebrar el logro de vida de nuestros miembros fundadores, Prilli Stevens y su esposo John, que celebraron felizmente su 60.º aniversario de bodas mientras estábamos en el Congreso. Prilli y John, les deseamos muchos más. En este número, también podrá leer y aprender más sobre cómo algunos de nuestros miembros celebraron el Día de Norma N. Gill® y algunos recuerdos y experiencias de los miembros del Congreso conjunto WCET® ASCN-UK 2024. Esperamos que disfrute de la lectura de estos informes; nuevamente, gracias a todos por sus increíbles contribuciones. Disfrute de las próximas vacaciones y festividades, manténgase a salvo. ¡Nos comunicaremos nuevamente con usted en 2025!

Atentamente Denise y Laurent

In loving memory of Sally J. Gill-Thompson

1 June, 1952 - 19 October 2024



It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Sally Gill-Thompson. She died on Saturday, October 19th, 2024, after a courageous battle with cancer.

Sally was the daughter of WCET® founder, Norma N. Gill. She was an ET nurse, having been trained at the renowned Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio.

Throughout her career, she was an ardent supporter of WCET® and was dedicated to furthering her mother's mission by supporting ET nurses worldwide. We are deeply indebted for Sally's tireless work and we mourn her passing. We extend our sympathies to Sally's family and friends.

Further information about Sally's life and legacy can be found here:

[Tribute to Sally Gill-Thompson](#)

In memory of Sally WCET® planted three trees on your behalf representing our trispecialty (ostomy, wound and continence).



A TREE to REMEMBER™



Ostomy



Wound



Continence

WCET® EB kept in touch with Sally during her illness, below is the last communication received



Laurent Chabal, President WCET®
Denise Hibbert, President-Elect WCET®
The Board of Directors of WCET®

"I met Sally when I was just 10 years old, and she was 13. Norma saw many of us for follow up in her home-she took my Mom and me into her own bedroom to be refitted. I was a scrawny sickly child and was in awe of the tall, beautiful teenager with fiery red hair. The rest as they say is history. I began my ET career working with Norma and Sally. As I moved on completing my education and gaining experience Norma and Sally became my cheerleaders. Sally was my mentor and dearest friend."

Paula Erwin-Toth

Sally joined WCET® Congress 2022 virtually to receive her President Award from WCET® Immediate Past President Elizabeth Ayello (center), along with Paula Erwin-Toth (left) and Diane Krasner (right)

Rest in peace dear Sally.



"So grateful to have known Sally and to have shared the WCET® President's Award with Sally and Paula. May her memory forever be a blessing!"

Diane L Krasner



Sally with Diane

"My favorite memory of Sally was on a boat ride when I spoke at the WOCN® regional conference. I was so excited to meet her and learn more first-hand about her pioneering journey in WOC nursing speciality. She was such a kind and caring person. An important highlight for me was when I was able, in June 2022, as then WCET® President, to present her with the WCET® President's Award. A special recognition for a very special lady who will be missed. My deepest sympathy to her family and friends. May her memory be a blessing. Rest in peace dear Sally."

Elizabeth A Ayello

“DEVASTATED ... so quick from diagnosis to now ... her poor family the GREAT thing has been that Sally lived to see the fruits of Norma’s amazing work, and herself to receive recognition for her own contributions ... very sad day.”

Prilli Stevens

“What very sad news. We knew she was ill, but hoped and prayed that she would get better. Her support for WCET® and all that her mother had started regarding care for stoma patients was admirable and cannot be applauded enough.

Rest in peace Sally.”

Alison Crawshaw

“This is very sad to hear. Sally was a strong supporter of WCET® and in keeping her mom’s legacy vibrant through our work.”

Katie Capitullo

“May Sally rest peacefully. Heartfelt condolences to Sally’s family and friends. A great loss to the WCET® family.”

Jenny Prentice

“End of another era for WCET® isn’t it? Sad news indeed.”

Fiona Bolton

“So sorry to hear about Sally’s passing. My condolences go out to Paula and all of Sally’s loved ones”.

Alice Chen

In Memory Dr Harikesh Gulabrai Buch



On behalf of the WCET® Executive Board, we regretfully inform you of the passing of a longtime supporter of ostomates and ET/WOC/Stoma Care Nurses across Asia. Dr Harikesh Gulabrai Buch was known for his compassion, humility and leadership.

He will be greatly missed; may he rest in peace.

We send our condolences to his family, friends and colleagues across the globe.

In fond remembrance,

Laurent Chabal, President WCET®

Denise Hibbert, President-Elect WCET®

The Board of Directors of WCET®

Congratulations

Dr Elizabeth A Ayello received the New York University Distinguished Alumni Award

Congratulations to Dr Elizabeth A. Ayello on receiving the New York University, Myers College of Nursing Distinguished Alumni Award on Saturday, October 26th, 2024 at their annual meeting. Dr Ayello who is immediate past president of WCET®, co-editor in chief of *Advances in Skin and Wound Care*, editor emeritus of the *WCET® Journal*, and a global believer in skin and wound care, was recognised for her outstanding contributions to the advancement of skin and wound care throughout the globe. Dr Ayello received her PhD in Nursing from NYU. Dr Ayello was accompanied by her family, A. Scott Harris, Wendy Jicman RN, Dr Andrei Jicman, and Aubrey



Dr Elizabeth A Ayello receiving the Myers College of Nursing Distinguished Alumni Award from Dr Angela Amar, the Dean of the NYU Myers College of Nursing



Dr Elizabeth A Ayello celebrating with family, left to right Dr Andrei Jicman, Wendy Jicman with granddaughter Aubrey Jicman, Elizabeth Ayello and husband Scott Harris

Jicman, and Dr Katie Capitulo, nursing colleague; with well wishes from daughter Sarah. Dr Sharon Wexler, President of the NYU Alumni Association and a former

doctoral student of Dr Ayello, introduced the award which was presented by Dr Angela Amar, the Dean of the NYU Myers College of Nursing.



Left to Right Dr Katie Capitulo, Dr Elizabeth A. Ayello and Dr Carl Kirton

Inducted as a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing

Dr Ayise Karadag, PhD, MSN, ET/WOC Nurse, FAAN

WCET® extends its heartfelt congratulations to long time WCET® member, Dr Ayise Karadag, upon her induction as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing (FAAN) on Saturday, November 2nd, 2024 in Washington DC, USA.

Dr Karadag is professor of nursing at Koc University School of Nursing, which under her leadership, became the first internationally accredited BSN program in Turkey. Her research focuses on wound and ostomy care and in developing nursing capacity equipped with the knowledge, skills and competence to provide wound and ostomy care. As a pioneer in WOC nursing, her crucial role, through policy change in training and practice, has been achieved by collaboration with the Ministry of Health and national healthcare/academic organisations. She has been instrumental in creating stoma therapy units in hospitals and wound management courses for all healthcare professionals.

She has been widely published in national and international journals and books, including more than 150 publications in international scientific journals, more than 30 national journals (Turkey), and almost 30 books or book chapters. Her work has been cited widely by the global scholar community. Dr Karadag holds BSN, MSN, and PhD degrees from Hacettepe University, School of Nursing, Ankara, Turkey and WOCN® certificate from the Cleveland Clinic the USA.

Being selected to become a FAAN is a rigorous process. It requires completion of an extensive application form by the candidate as well as two sponsors who are already members of the academy who know and can attest to the candidate's contributions and work. All applications are reviewed by the Academy's fellow selection committee. As reported at the induction ceremony, a little under 50% of applicants were successful in being invited to become Fellows this year. This is a special year for the American Academy of Nursing (AAN) as it celebrates its 50th year. As stated in the induction programs: "The Academy has worked to not only envision a more equitable future, but also to enact policies that ultimately create a healthier world. This is the core pillar of the Academy's mission to improve health and achieve health equity by impacting policy through nursing leadership, innovation, and science."

Being inducted into the Academy "represents a visible significant milestone in a nurse's career." It requires sustained contributions by a nurse. Dr Karadag was selected as a 2024 American Academy of Nursing Fellow (FAAN) for her outstanding contributions to education, research, and practice. Dr Karadag extends her sincere gratitude and thanks to her sponsors, Dr Elizabeth A. Ayello and Dr Ruth Ludwick for their outstanding contributions and guidance throughout this process.

Congratulations to Dr Ayise Karadag, FAAN on this important recognition and induction as an FAAN.



Dr Ayise Karadag Receiving her FAAN



Left to Right, Dr Ruth Ludwick, Dr Ayise Karadag and Dr Elizabeth A. Ayello



Left to Right Dr Ayise Karadag and Dr Elizabeth A. Ayello at the Ceremony

Angie Perrin awarded the title of Queens Nurse

WCET® would like to recognise the achievements of Angie Perrin, Acting Chairperson of the Association of Stoma Care Nurses UK (ASCN-UK) and Global Clinical Education Lead at the Salts Academy. Angie has worked with stoma and colorectal patient populations for over 25 years, both in clinical practice and clinical education. On November 29th, 2024, Angie was awarded the title of Queen’s Nurse at a ceremony in the UK. This award is presented to individuals who have demonstrated a high level of commitment to patient care and nursing practice by the Queens Nursing Institute (QNI). Patrons have been all the Queens of England since 1889. The current patron is Her Majesty Queen Camilla. Congratulations Angie what a wonderful achievement as an advocate of excellence in patient care.



Congratulations to NSWOCC President Corey Heerschap on his PhD



***Dr Corey Heerschap,
RN, MScCH (WPC), BScN, NSWOC, WOCC(C), IIWCC, PhD
President NSWOCC***

Nurses Specialised in Wound, Ostomy and Continence Canada (NSWOCC) would like to recognise NSWOCC President Corey Heerschap, MScCH (WPC), BScN, RN, NSWOC, WOCC(C), IIWCC for successfully defending his PhD thesis examination on, *Uncovering the decision*

making process of wound management by nurses at the Queen’s University Nursing Program based in Kingston, Ontario, Canada. In addition to being the NSWOCC President, Corey is the Clinical Nurse Specialist for Wound and Ostomy at the Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre in Barrie, Ontario, Canada. We congratulate Corey on such an amazing achievement.



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red dot winner 2022



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Congratulations to Mary Jo Kroeber, past WCET® President, on 50 Years as a Stoma Therapy Nurse



Mary Jo Kroeber AM, MSc, FACN (DLF)

Mary Jo Kroeber is a WCET® Past President, and a life member of both the WCET® and Australian Association of Stoma Therapy Nurses (AASTN). Mary Jo was born

in Ireland and trained as a Nurse in the UK, soon after that she traveled to Australia where she became a very highly respected member of the AASTN. The *WCET® Journal* became a reality during Mary Jo's presidency, she currently sits on the WCET® Past President's Advisory Panel.

Earlier this year Mary Jo was acknowledged at a conference in Australia for her 50 years as a STN.

She said: "I was at our Stomal Therapy Conference and to my surprise my 50 years as a STN was acknowledged."

We have come a long way since then, Mary Jo

Welcome and congratulations WCET® Congress Coordinator Louise (Sam) Samuel



Louise (Sam) Samuel, RN, NSWOC
WCET® Congress Coordinator 2024-2026

Louise Samuel, better known as Sam, has been a nurse at the Jewish General Hospital in Montréal, Canada for over 27 years. In 2007, she graduated from the Canadian Association of Enterostomal Therapy

Education Program (ETNEP). Sam is the French-speaking academic advisor for the ostomy component of the WOC Institute, a wound and ostomy preceptor for the Institute's students, and a member of the organising committee for the national conference of the NSWOC. She is the president of the Association des infirmières et infirmiers stomothérapeutes du Québec (Québec ETN association). She has served on numerous wound and ostomy care advisory committees over the years and has hosted several webinars. She has a lot of energy and likes to get involved in many projects. She is the mother of two, an 18-year-old Lacrosse and hockey player and a 16-year-old dancer. And she is very happy to be involved in the WCET® as Congress Coordinator.

Prilli and John Stevens celebrating 60 Years of married bliss

"Dear Laurent and Denise

I hope the joint Congress with ASCN-UK is going well, I have been thinking of you all and keeping an eye on the Scottish weather!! Please give my greetings to everyone. We are hoping that the delegates are being well entertained with great presentations and enjoying the meeting of nations!

We celebrate our 60th wedding anniversary this week... It makes me feel like METHUSALA!!!! We have had a marvellous day, the excitement mounted when this card from King Charles and Queen Camilla of the United Kingdom was beamed through from London, it was delivered to family over there for us to collect next year !!!!!"



60th Anniversary Card from the King and Queen of the United Kingdom



Left to right, John and Prilli on their wedding day and still celebrating 60 years on.



Bubbles at sunset. The perfect end to the perfect day.

Reporting on Congress 2024



Susan Barber,
Barcami Lane Executive Director



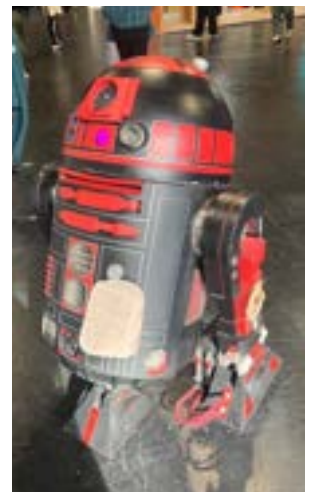
Karen Hill,
Barcami Lane Director of Meetings,
Events & Engagement

After several years of postponing and waiting, WCET® and ASCN-UK hosted the WCET® & ASCN-UK 2024 Joint Congress in Glasgow Scotland! This Congress was originally planned to take place in 2020 but was postponed because of the global pandemic. After two more years of planning, we were able to open the Congress on September 28th and hosted it through to October 1st, 2024 at the Scottish Event Campus in the beautiful host city of Glasgow!



WCET® - ASCN UK 2024 JOINT CONGRESS
28 SEPT-1 OCT 2024 // GLASGOW, UNITED KINGDOM

We welcomed members and non-members of WCET® and ASCN-UK, industry experts, practitioners, researchers, members of the media and even R2D2 (an unexpected but welcomed little robot who was open to hugs and lots of photos).



R2D2 sporting the latest in stoma wear

- 43 industry exhibitors
- 1119 registrants
- 1020 attendees
- 53 countries represented
- 17 Plenary Session keynote speakers
- 29 educational sessions
- 23 scholarships
- 6 industry symposia
- 2 pre-congress workshops
- 411 abstracts accepted
- 266 posters accepted
- 132 oral presentations
- 2 local artisans (6 invited) at the opening of the exhibit hall; featured hand-crafted jewelry and tea towels

In the evenings, we hosted these social events:

- Reception sponsored by the Glasgow Convention Bureau at the Glasgow Science Centre
- Evening event at Platform in Glasgow

We extend a special thankyou to the following people, without whom we could not have planned the Congress:

- Executive Board of WCET®: Laurent Chabal, President; Denise Hibbert, President Elect; Fiona Bolton, Treasurer; Julie Weng, Chair of Education Committee; Alice Chen, Chair of NNGF® Committee; Alison Crawshaw, Congress and Meetings Coordinator, Dee Waugh for her previous work as Congress Coordinator and in organising the Parade of Nations, to Dr Katie Capitulo for organising the NNGF® raffle, and to Dr Elizabeth A. Ayello and Diana Gallagher and the NNGF® Committee for volunteering their time
- Board members of ASCN-UK: Andrew Bird, President; Angie Perrin, Vice President
- Members of the Scientific Committee
- Members of the Organising Committee
- To IDs, members and attendees who donated prizes for the raffle
- Staff at the Scottish Event Campus, Cameron Event Logistics and Glasgow Convention Bureau

Comments from our attendees and organisers:

"A Congress with amazing speakers and presentations as well as a record number of poster presentations. The networking between different nationalities was happening all the time and everyone looked happy. Roll on Congress 2026 in Canada!!!"

Alison Crawshaw, WCET® Congress and Meetings Coordinator

"Overall, it was a wonderful experience—warm, professional, and enriching."

Attendee

"Working together with ASCN-UK made this event such a success, thanks to all and especially to patients who were a welcome part of this event. This amazing event has given us a chance to share and hear stories that moved our hearts and helped fulfill our purpose to be even better healthcare professionals, aiding us in providing better care... All that WCET® is about. THANKS!"

Laurent Chabal, WCET® President

"A long time coming, but well worth the wait!!! We were exhilarated and energised by the enthusiasm of all speakers, poster presenters, attendees and industry partners. We cannot wait to see you all in Vancouver in April 2026."

Denise Hibbert, WCET® President Elect

At the closing, we announced the location of the 2026 Congress. In case you missed it, here it is!

**Vancouver Convention Centre
Vancouver, British Columbia CANADA
April 24th–28th, 2026**

Thank you for attending the 2024 Congress and we hope to see you in Vancouver, BC, Canada in 2026!



Congress 2024: What an amazing experience!



**Laurent O. Chabal, BSc (CBP), RN, OncPall (Cert), Dip(WH), ET, EAWT
WCET® President**

In the past I have been involved in our Swiss regional wound care, and our stoma care association annual conferences as an organising committee member. I have even been fortunate enough in the past to be invited to other scientific committees, such as European Wound Management Association (EWMA) in Geneva, 2010 and also the European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel (EPUAP) in Lausanne, 2024; but this did not prepare me for being up front and center at Congress 2024 as President of the WCET®, but can anything prepare you for this huge, amazing and unique event? Of course, I

worked as part of a team along with WCET® Executive Board members and supporters, our colleagues from the ASCN-UK, our company management Barcami Lane, InConference, the Conference Center team, not to mention our International Delegates and many member volunteers. A special thanks to Dee Waugh, Jen Wood and the 2018-2020 Organising Committee for their research and design of the WCET® Tartan.

As President there was much to do at Congress that was unexpected and behind the scenes. I had to adapt and learn quickly to deal with these added stressors, unexpected challenges and changes. My schedule was very busy with many business meetings, speaking, moderating, meeting attendees and industry, booth and poster visits, all without losing focus. My prime target to ensure our guests had an amazing educational and networking experience. It was a real rollercoaster emotionally, an extraordinary experience.

Many thanks to all who have posted comments and pictures about Congress on social media. I deeply appreciate all your personal best wishes and thanks which I accept on behalf of all the team who have worked so hard over many months to make it a success. This event will stay in my memory forever and I will cherish it always.

Prior to Congress we had a very productive Executive Board (EB) meeting, we finally had a valuable chance to have the full team in person, discuss past achievements and issues still to be worked on. It was also time to say a private thank you and goodbye to our 2020–2024 Education Chair, Yajuan (Julie) Weng and our 2020–2024 Norma N. Gill Foundation® Chair, Aihua (Alice) Chen. We thank them for successfully completing the challenge of joining remotely for meetings late at night due to time differences, as volunteers for juggling busy day jobs, professional and career duties not to mention personal lives.

Denise and I also had the opportunity to meet with Dr Emily Haesler, our methodologist for revision of the 3rd edition of the International Ostomy Guidelines (IOG), along with Dr Elizabeth A. Ayello, WCET® Immediate Past President and Life Member, Dr Jenny L Prentice, WCET® Journal Editor, and our Patient Representatives, Richard McNair from the International Ostomy Association, Treasurer of the Asia South Pacific Ostomy Association (ASPOA) and Julie Atkinson as an Ostomate living with two stomas. Unfortunately, our collaborating representatives from the International Society of University Colon and Rectal Surgeons (ISUCRS) were not able to attend. This meeting has allowed us to progress the revision of the WCET® International Ostomy Guideline 3rd edition, we will continue to work on them to achieve our goals.

Post congress, the new WCET® EB had a very quick meeting aimed at forming our new team and reviewing our next steps and duties.

I cannot thank enough all IDs, Committee members, EB and supporters who signed a card for Sally J. Thompson, when we were informed that she was not doing so well. Many thanks to Fiona Bolton for posting it on to Sally. We did not know at the time that it would be our last communication with her. May she rest in peace. We will keep her in our heart as an outstanding WCET® supporter and Daughter of our founder Norma N Gill.

The work of the WCET® charity is a huge commitment but such an amazing opportunity to dedicate ourselves for bettering patient care towards positive outcomes, to raise awareness about our work, and to stay connected to Global Stoma, Wound and Continence Nursing. I am so proud and grateful to be part of this/your/our family.



Pre-congress EB meeting, Left to Right Dr Katie Capitulo (incoming NNGF® Chair), Alice (Aihua) Chen (Outgoing NNGF® Chair), Fiona Bolton (Treasurer), Dr Angela Bocarra (incoming Education Chair), Susan Barber (BL Management Company Director), Denise Hibbert (President Elect), Laurent Chabal (President), Julie (Yajuan) Weng (Outgoing Education Chair).



IOG meeting (left to right). Front: Julie Atkinson and Richard McNair (Patient Representatives). Back: Dr Jenny L Prentice (Journal Editor), Dr Elizabeth A Ayello, (Immediate Past President), Laurent Chabal (President), Denise Hibbert, (President Elect), Dr Emily Haesler, (IOG Methodologist).

Finally, WCET® returns to the UK 2024 Joint Congress: WCET® and ASCN-UK



Angie Perrin
Acting Chairperson, ASCN UK

It was 26 years ago in 1998 when WCET® last visited the UK for their conference. This year's joint conference between WCET® and the Association of Stoma Care Nurses UK (ASCN-UK) was originally planned to take place in 2020, however the world saw the COVID19 pandemic which sadly forced the conference to be postponed, but eventually after years of further planning the joint conference came to fruition. The conference was in the beautiful city of Glasgow at the Scottish Exhibition Conference Centre, a great venue for specialist nurses to come together, collaborate and educate each other, and the sun was shining!

The collaborative conference entitled *Weaving culture and expertise to offer the best patient care* was very well attended with 1119 registrants, with an amazing 53 countries being represented, highlighting the vast global reach of this educational provision.

The conference opened in its traditional way with the very colourful and sometimes flamboyant, Parade of Nations. All member countries of WCET® were introduced by Congress organiser, many being represented by the International Delegate in their own country's traditional dress. This opening event creates a great deal of excitement and opens the conference in a unique, all-encompassing and fun way.

Some of the hot topics at this year's conference included *Continence in inflammatory bowel disease* delivered by Professor Christine Norton from the UK, *Leadership strategies for specialist nurses* superbly executed by Dr Kathleen Capitulo from USA, as well as an interesting session from Dr Dimitri Beekman who explored some of the breakthroughs and the future of pressure ulcer/injury care.

It was so interesting to listen to some of the shorter presentations given by specialist nurses in the parallel sessions from a variety of countries. I have a great deal of heartfelt admiration for my colleagues who present in English when this is not their first language. It is so commendable and wonderful that they are keen to share their experiences, skill and expertise providing us all with the ideal opportunity to enhance our knowledge of how stoma care, wound or continence care can be delivered differently, and perhaps to learn alternative

ways to meet a challenge, as well as exploring how culture is addressed in the multitude of countries.

I was also in awe of the number of posters on display, the time and research that goes into the design and development of each and every one is vast. Although there is never enough time to read all of the posters thoroughly, especially at a tri-speciality conference. There was so much learning gained from many of these inspiring, informative posters.

ASCN-UK took the opportunity to present their Annual Awards at the social event hosted at Platform. Cathie King, Colorectal/Stoma Clinical Nurse Specialist Raigmore Hospital was awarded the ASCN-UK Philip Salt Stoma Care Nurse of the Year Award for 2024 for her dedication to the Stoma Care Speciality, being proactive in the evaluation of stoma care services in Scotland and her outstanding patient care. Terri Porrett, Strategic Project Manager at Coloplast was awarded the prestigious Chairperson's Award for her outstanding contribution to the stoma care speciality in the UK and her commitment to raising the profile and championing the role of the specialist nurse.

One of the most valuable experiences of attending any conference has to be sharing good practice, networking with colleagues and learning from each other. Attendance to this international conference ticked all of these boxes. I learnt so much from my international colleagues, made new friends and shared my experience and knowledge with others. ASCN-UK has its next conference in October 2025, and we would be delighted to welcome any of our international colleagues to attend our 2-day conference. Please do visit the ASCN-UK website for further details and perhaps become a member

ASCN-UK 2025 ICC Wales October 12th-14th

[ASCNUK25 – ASCN UK](#)



Representing the UK in the Parade of Nations

International Ostomy Association: a major role in Congress 2024



Richard B. McNair, New Zealand
President, International Ostomy Association

Although this was the second WCET® Congress that I had attended (my first being Kuala Lumpur 2018), it was the first one that I had really taken any sort of major role in. When Laurent approached me to become a member of the International Ostomy Guidelines (IOG) review panel I was extremely pleased to be able to have some sort of input and in fact really enjoyed my part in this and hope to be of continuing assistance over the next year or so as the review progresses. I was quite shocked to find that I was in fact the only Kiwi at the event and so I jumped at the chance to be the New Zealand flag bearer at the Parade of Nations, as that was something that I never thought that I would be in a position to do.

I was somewhat more concerned about being asked to present a paper on *Sexuality* which to be honest was something that I had never really thought about in the past. However, I did a lot of research and head scratching and came up with a reasonable presentation which appeared to go down quite well, at least no-one walked out of the room! I also co-chaired that session along with another near the end of the event.

I was really pleased to see not only the number of new products available, but also the number of new exhibitors. With something like over 1000 registered people attending the Congress this was a major event and I feel that it was a very “happy” congress as everything seemed to flow smoothly and I believe that an excellent job was done by all involved.

Along with Jon Thorkelsson from Iceland (Jon is the EOA President) we manned the small table down the back with the IOA and ASPOA banners and met a large number of people.

Wonderful Congress! 2024 WCET® & ASCN-UK Joint Congress



Alice (Aihua) Chen
WCET® NNGF® Committee Chairperson 2020-2024
Director of Wenzhou ET School

It has been my great honor to serve as an Executive Board (EB) member of the World Council of Enterostomal Therapists® (WCET®) and as Chair of the Norma N. Gill Foundation® Committee for the past four years. During this time I had the opportunity to work alongside colleagues from various countries serving nurses specializing in wound, stoma and continence care worldwide.

During my tenure, I had the privilege of participating in this wonderful conference: the 2024 WCET®-ASCN UK Joint Congress in Glasgow, Scotland, UK. It was a remarkable event, featuring 266 posters and 132 oral presentations. The conference was attended by 1119 participants from 53 different countries.

This diverse gathering showcased the richness and diversity of perspectives and research in the wound, ostomy, continence care field, and also fostered valuable collaboration and exchanges among professionals from around the globe. It is heartening to see such a vibrant and engaged community dedicated to advancing our knowledge, understanding and practice. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to contribute to WCET® and advance the mission of the Norma N. Gill Foundation® (NNGF®).

During the Congress, the NNGF® booth offered a tombola (raffle) as a fund-raiser. It was incredibly popular. The event not only raised funds for NNGF® but also engaged conference attendees with positive energy, inspiring care, collaboration, support, and fun! The NNGF® funds scholarships to future congresses and Enterostomal Therapy Nursing Programs (ETNPs), all of which advances Norma N. Gill's Vision. We look forward to the NNGF® continuing to organise more innovative and influential fund-raising activities in the future, making even greater contributions to professional and organisational development. It is through such efforts that we can collectively make a lasting impact and drive forward initiatives that benefit our members,

their patients and their families, and healthcare. Let us continue to work together to harness the power of collective action and make a difference in the world!



Pre-Congress EB gathering



Attending the Pre-Congress Debridement Workshop



NNGF® Committee Members



At the NNGF® committee meeting



Chinese members at the Opening Ceremony



Parade of Nations



Chinese members with President Laurent Chabal



At the booth



WCET® Executive Board 2020–2024 sporting the WCET® Tartan



Scholarship recipients on stage at the Platform



Vashi Livingston with Alice Chen



Alice and Fiona chairing an oral session



Alice and Fiona with session attendees





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Reflections on a remarkable event: WCET® and ASCN-UK 2024 Joint Congress unwrapping a fantastic memory package



Cristina Elekes Darabont, RN, BSN, MSc, (Palliative Care Specialist, Certified Trainer)
Romanian International Delegate
HOSPICE Casa Speranței, Brașov, Romania

The WCET® and ASCN-UK 2024 Joint Congress, held from September 28th to October 1st in Glasgow, was an extraordinary and transformative scientific event. The Congress consisted in an impressive array of speakers, networking sessions, and workshops, providing a wealth of knowledge and inspiration. My participation expanded my understanding of best practices, cutting-edge evidence, innovations, and practical successes in the field of stoma therapy. These insights have nurtured my passion for improving care and support for people living with ostomies and fistulas. It was an honor and privilege to engage with esteemed professionals whose expertise and dedication profoundly influenced me.

Flying into Scotland, I was welcomed by its rich green landscapes and the warmth of its people, an experience that evoked vivid memories of my visit three decades ago. At that time, I was a young nurse managing a 65-bed surgical in-patient unit, participating in an educational exchange with healthcare organisations in Scotland. Since then, my professional journey has evolved from my initial love for surgery to my lifelong commitment to palliative care. For the past 22 years, I

have worked at HOSPICE Casa Speranței, a recognised Center of Excellence in Palliative Care in Central and Eastern Europe.¹ HOSPICE Casa Speranței integrates a wide range of services for adults and children, including a stoma therapy clinic that provides free specialised care for ostomates of all ages from the region.

The Opening Ceremony and Parade of Nations on September 28th was a truly unforgettable experience. The sight of delegates from nearly 70 countries proudly wearing their traditional attire and waving their flags on stage was both inspiring and moving, highlighting the global reach and unity of this community.

Highlights of inspiring session

The Congress offered an impressive selection of plenaries and parallel sessions. Among the most inspiring was the presentation by Gill Castle and Claire Ryan, titled *Chameleon Buddies*. Gill's extraordinary journey, to become the first Ostomate to swim the English Channel solo, was a testament to resilience and determination. The session also highlighted the positive ripple effects of her work, which continues to inspire and support others facing similar challenges.

Equally compelling was the plenary by Keryln Carville, who delivered a rich historical perspective while projecting a forward-looking vision for stoma-therapy. Her presentation underscored the value of understanding the past to shape the future—a sentiment echoed by Romanian historian Nicolae Iorga's words, "A people who do not know their history are like a child who does not know their parents."

Another standout presentation was by Christine Norton, addressing the neglected topic of faecal incontinence in Inflammatory Bowel Disease. Her session emphasised the importance of thorough assessments, empathetic communication, and access to specialised services.



WCET® Parade of Nations

I was particularly impressed by Dr Calum Lyon's session on *Experiences from a multidisciplinary dermatology clinic*. His work demonstrated the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration and innovative approaches to managing skin conditions in ostomy patients. His courage to explore new treatment avenues and his commitment to improving patients' quality of life were truly inspiring.

A number of other parallel sessions grabbed my attention in how important it is to very well define the problem and its etiology so you can find the right solutions and timing to implement them. *Irritant Contact Dermatitis Due To Incontinence* presented by Dr Elizabeth A. Ayello and *Defining The High Output Stoma* presented by Michelle Carr and Paris Purnell, to name just few.

Transformative Interventions and Global Perspectives

Several sessions highlighted life-saving interventions and creative problem-solving in resource-limited settings. For example:

Dr M. Amoah's presentation *Ingestion of corrosive chemicals in Ghana Paediatrics* highlighted the severe risks children face due to improper chemical handling. It showcased the ingenuity and resilience of medical professionals who navigate these emergencies with minimal resources and exceptional creativity. I was particularly struck by the unintended consequences of a program designed to empower women through soap-making, which inadvertently exposed their children to life-threatening hazards.

Chabo Lelaka's session, *Enterocutaneous Fistula Management at Princess Marina Hospital* showcased the profound impact of education and determination. Her efforts demonstrated how a well-trained stoma care nurse can make a life or death difference, for a whole country, even in challenging environments.

Key Insights and Practical Takeaways

The Congress offered numerous practical insights that will influence my clinical practice. Key takeaways included:

- The importance of preoperative preparation, tailored exercise programs, and psychological interventions to help patients regain independence.
- Strategies for treating peristomal granulomas only when symptomatic, correctly identifying prolapse types (fixed, sliding, telescoping, or pistoling stoma), innovative solutions like botulinum toxin, using GLOBIAD for classifying incontinence-associated dermatitis, and practical methods to measure stoma output without transferring to another container; cleaning varicose ulcers with low-alcohol solutions

like Peridex® (an antiseptic mouthwash) and using polystyrene bead pads for perineal edema relief.

- The link between physical and psychological recovery, emphasising emotional support and empowering communication.

I resonate deeply with the emotions in day-to-day work but recall Katie Capitulo's advice: "When you're not having fun, it's time to find something else." I thank God for the incredible gift of my job and the amazing team I work with.

Exhibition and Poster Sessions

The poster presentations were another highlight, offering a wide array of case studies and innovative solutions. These sparked valuable discussions and provided actionable ideas for clinical implementation.

The thoughtfully organised exhibition area showcased the latest advancements in ostomy devices. Among the highlights were:

- Devices crafted from soft, clothing-like materials for enhanced comfort.
- An impressive variety of convex baseplate pouches.
- Specialised garments and supportive wear designed to improve patients' quality of life.

I was particularly struck by the creativity and courage of the nurses, Marie Parslov and Cecilie Ammitzbøll who are working for a discreet, single-use device for ileostomates—a testament to the innovative spirit of this community.

Final Reflections

The WCET® and ASCN-UK 2024 Joint Congress in Glasgow was far more than a professional development opportunity. It was a powerful reminder of the transformative potential of innovation, collaboration, and shared expertise. The knowledge, inspiration, and connections gained during this event will undoubtedly guide and energise my efforts to provide compassionate, evidence-based, and patient-centered care for years to come.

Acknowledgment

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Norma N. Gill Foundation® (NNGF®) for awarding me a scholarship to attend this Congress. Their generous support made it possible for me to participate in this exceptional event and gain invaluable knowledge and insights to enhance my professional practice.

1. Clark D, Wright M. Transition in end-of-life care. Hospice and related developments in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Open University Press; 2003.

Reflections on my experience at the WCET® & ASCN-UK Joint Congress (Glasgow, Scotland, 28th September – 1st October 2024)



**Haavanur Kilic, PhD student,
Research and Teaching Assistant, Koç University**

Having the opportunity to attend the WCET® and ASCN-UK Joint Congress marked a significant milestone in my professional career. Under the theme of *Weaving Culture & Expertise to Offer the Best Patient Care*, I was able to follow the latest global developments in wound and ostomy care, and had the chance to meet with leading experts to share our experiences. I am deeply grateful for the WCET® Congress Travel Scholarship, which made my participation in this prestigious congress possible and enabled me to take a significant step forward in both my academic and personal development. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the WCET® and Congress Travel Scholarship Committee for making this participation possible.

During this congress, I had the privilege of delivering an oral presentation on our study entitled, *Exploring Nursing Students' First Experiences Providing Wound and Ostomy Care to Patients: A Qualitative Study*. This study aimed to address a critical gap in patient care by exploring nursing students' initial experiences in wound and ostomy care. Sharing our findings with the participants and receiving feedback during the presentation provided me with new perspectives for my PhD journey. I would like to express my gratitude to my PhD advisor, Professor Ayiße Karadağ, and to Associate Professor Tuba Şengül for their invaluable contributions, as well as to our Congress session chair, Professor Gary Sibbald, for his support.

This presentation not only marked an important turning point in my professional career but also deepened my interest in wound and ostomy care. Presenting and discussing the best practices and innovative approaches in the field provided me with academic motivation and furthered my research at the international level, opening up new opportunities for professional growth.

Furthermore, I had the honor of representing Türkiye in the Parade of Nations during this esteemed congress.

Carrying the Turkish flag during the opening ceremony was an unforgettable and proud moment for me. Sharing this excitement with representatives from other countries highlighted the special nature of being part of a global community of colleagues from diverse cultures. This experience reinforced the significance and value of being a part of an international professional community.

Throughout the congress, many sessions and workshops were held, focusing primarily on critical topics such as wound and ostomy care, continence management, multidisciplinary stoma care, and dermatology. Additionally, practical and theoretical sessions provided participants with up-to-date approaches and innovations that contributed to professional development. These sessions allowed me to deepen my clinical knowledge and gain new perspectives to improve patient care outcomes.

Moreover, I had the opportunity to reconnect with esteemed professionals I had previously met, such as Professor Dr Elizabeth A. Ayello, WCET® President Laurent Chabal, WCET® President-elect Denise Hibbert, Professor Dimitri Beekman, and Ms Hiske Smart, among many others. Attending their presentations was truly inspiring, and participating in these scientific events gave me fresh ideas for new projects and collaborations. I also had the chance to establish many new connections internationally, which I hope will lead to future collaborations on various projects.

Finally, the congress in Scotland's captivating atmosphere provided me with both professional and personal rejuvenation. In addition to the scientific sessions, I had the opportunity to explore the historical and cultural richness of Glasgow. The city's stunning architecture and warm hospitality made this experience even more special. My time in Scotland enriched me not only professionally but also personally.



Left to Right: Ayşe Silanur Demir, Havanur Kilic and Prof Ayiße Karadağ, attending the ID Meeting

In conclusion, participating in the WCET® and ASCN-UK Joint Congress allowed me to deepen my knowledge and expertise in wound and ostomy care, while also



Left to Right: President Laurent Chabal, Vice Chairperson ASCN-UK Angie Perrin at the opening ceremony



Left to Right Margarete Wieczorek, Havanur Kilic, Prof Ayiſe Karadağ and Ayse Silanur Demir at the opening ceremony



Left to Right: Havanur Kilic, Prof Gary Sibbald and Prof Ayiſe Karadağ after my presentation

taking significant steps in my academic career under the guidance of my PhD advisor, Professor Ayiſe Karadağ. This experience has opened new doors for my scientific career, motivating me to pursue impactful research on an international level. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all those who supported me in making this valuable opportunity possible.



Left to Right: Havanur Kilic, Prof Ayiſe Karadağ and Ayse Silanur Demir out and about in Glasgow



Havanur Kilic, PhD student, research and teaching assistant in Koç University giving her oral presentation

My experience of attending the World Council of Enterostomal Therapists® (WCET®) Congress in Glasgow, UK 2024



Kavita Devi Ayerdurai, RN, ET Nurse
Palliative Home Care Procedure Nurse

Attending the World Council of Enterostomal Therapists® (WCET®) Congress was truly a memorable and enriching experience for me. Many enterostomal therapy professionals came together from around the globe

to share insights, advancements and cutting-edge research on stoma care, wound management and continence care. The atmosphere was filled with energy and enthusiasm from participants as experts in the field shared the latest clinical practices, innovative advancements and evidence-based research, all aimed for the improvement of patient-centered care and their quality of life.

One of the highlights was the diversified sessions, which ranged from advancement of treatment techniques to plenary discussions on patient-centered care. There was exchange of ideas and best practices which fostered a collaborative spirit among the participants. Ample networking opportunities were experienced which enabled me to connect with health care providers from different specialties, whom were all committed to enhancing enterostomal therapy practices.

The rich cultural heritage and warm hospitality of Glasgow itself gave me an added value-based experience. It was truly a culturally enriching moment. In summary, the WCET® Congress in Glasgow was a once in a lifetime experience, a place for the provision of knowledge and building connections, definitely inspirational, facilitating my movement forward in the field of enterostomal therapy.

A nostalgic journey: receiving the World Council of Enterostomal Therapists® (WCET®) Congress Scholarship Award 2024



Ms S Peir, RN, ET
Palliative Home Care Nurse Manager & Nurse Educator

I consider receiving my WCET® Congress Scholarship Award in 2024 as the most distinguished accolade in the field of stoma, wound and continence care. This year, I am deeply honored and humbled to be named a recipient of this prestigious award, which has left me reflecting on the journey that led me here, a journey filled with growth, challenges and heartfelt moments that ultimately transformed my career and perspective.

A journey of dedication and growth

The path to specialising in enterostomal therapy nursing was never easy. Like many professionals in the healthcare field, my career began as a caregiver in London where I first developed the passion for patient-centered care. My commitment to excellence and compassion for others drove me forward to become a Senior Caregiver and later to the role of Home Safety Trainer and Assistant Manager within a Non-Governmental Organisation. With a calling to serve my home country, Malaysia, I enrolled and became a State Registered Nurse (SRN) with a passion in end-of life care. I successfully established Aspire Life Care Sdn. Bhd. in 2017 dedicated to end-of life care. This is where I first witnessed the unique and often overlooked struggles faced by patients requiring ostomy, wound and continence care. Those early encounters left a lasting impression on me. Thereafter, I also professionally developed myself by completing the Malaysian Enterostomal Therapy Nursing Education Program (ETNEP) which is recognised by the WCET®.

Over the years, I have committed myself to continuous learning, attending workshops, collaborating with

mentors and have dedicated countless hours to studying the latest research and innovations in the field of medicine and nursing. Enterostomal Therapy Nursing is not only about treating ailments, but it also goes beyond, in fostering resilience and supporting patients in regaining their independence and confidence. This congress scholarship represents not only recognition of my dedication but also an ongoing commitment to the principles I uphold in my life.

The WCET® Congress Scholarship offers more than merely financial support, it is an invitation to join a global community of dedicated professionals, a network of mentors who are similarly driven by a shared purpose. Through this award, I have had the opportunity to participate in international conferences, have had access to cutting-edge research and best practices that can make a real difference in patient care outcomes. The WCET® is a place where innovation and patient-centered care meets empathy. In other words, each member's commitment strengthens the collective mission.

This award has strengthened my commitment to make a positive impact on both patients and the broader healthcare community. I look forward to the opportunities ahead, sharing what I have learned and to inspiring others as I have been inspired. In closing, I am immensely grateful to the WCET®. It was worth the journey. Most importantly, it is a reminder that, as a health care provider, it is not just about the care we provide but the lives we touch along the way.

A journey of learning and connection: reflections from WCET® and ASCN-UK Congress, Glasgow



Muhammad Afiq bin Mohd Azlin, RN, ET
Secretary of 11th APETNA Conference 2025
Assistant Secretary Persatuan Ostomi Pulau Pinang (POPP)
Committee Member of Malaysian Ostomy Association (MOsA)

My heart is full of gratitude as I reflect on my incredible journey to the WCET® and ASCN-UK joint Congress in Glasgow. This dream turned reality wouldn't have been

possible without the unwavering support of my beloved family, my parents who have always believed in me, and my dear wife and children whose understanding and endless encouragement fuel my professional journey. I'm equally grateful to Madam Mariam, CEO of M&T Network and Consultancy, who has been more than just a teacher, she has been my mentor and guiding light. Special thanks also go to the M&T Team, Miss Azureen from Dreamz, and Malaysian Ostomy Association (MOsA) for helping make this professional milestone achievable. The support of both my family and professional mentors has been the cornerstone of my success in pursuing this remarkable opportunity.

The Congress was truly an eye-opening experience! Being surrounded by wound, stoma, and continence care experts from across the globe was both humbling and inspiring. Every session felt like opening a new window of knowledge from innovative research presentations to practical sharing sessions. I was particularly fascinated by the advanced wound care technologies and sophisticated ostomy management techniques being used in different healthcare settings. The practical demonstrations and case studies shared by European colleagues showed me new approaches that could be adapted for our patients back home. What struck me most was how openly everyone shared their experiences, challenges, and solutions, regardless of their country of origin. The session on integrating modern wound care technologies with traditional healing methods was especially enlightening, it showed me how we can bridge different approaches to provide the best possible patient care.

One of the absolute highlights was connecting with fellow ET nurses and medical experts from around the world. There's something special about meeting people who share your passion for patient care! During coffee breaks and networking sessions, I found myself engaged in fascinating discussions about how different countries handle similar challenges. We shared stories about our most challenging cases, exchanged practical tips that aren't found in textbooks, and discussed innovative solutions for common problems. We didn't just exchange professional knowledge we shared stories, laughed together, and created lasting friendships. Meeting the WCET® board members in person was particularly exciting, they are truly inspiring leaders in our field. The warmth and openness they showed in sharing their vast experience made me feel part of a larger, global ET nursing family. I've come away with not just new professional contacts, but genuine friendships and mentors who I can reach out to for guidance and support.

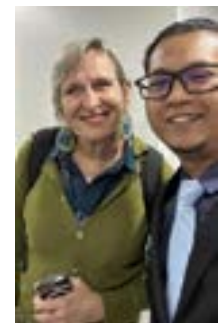
As the incoming Secretary for the 11th APETNA Conference 2025 in Malaysia, this experience couldn't

have come at a better time. The Congress has given me countless ideas and insights that will be invaluable for our upcoming regional event. I'm especially grateful to WCET® for providing us the opportunity to showcase our APETNA booth, the encouraging response from international delegates was truly heartwarming.

Looking ahead, I'm already excited about WCET® 2026 in Vancouver, Canada! But first, I can't wait to share all these learnings with my colleagues back home in Malaysia. This experience has reinforced my belief that in our field, we're not just healthcare professionals, we are a global community dedicated to improving patient care.



Left to right: Carmen George and Mariam Mohd Nasir



Me with Carmen George



Left to right: Carmen George (Australia), Heidi Hevia Campos (Chile) and Sandra Guerreiro Gambo (Columbia) with me



International Delegate meeting



*Me with Denise Hibbert
WCET® President Elect*



Left to right: Me with Wong CH, Chiew HL, Mariam Mohd Nasir, Gulnaz Tariq, Angela Bocorra and Hanita



Left: with Julie Weng WCET® Education Committee Chair
Below: Photos at APETNA 2025 booth with delegates



With Indonesia ETs before the Parade of Nation



With Madam Hanita (Former Chief Nursing Officer), Madam Mariam (CEO M&T) and Madam Chiew HL (Supervisor Wound Clinic)



With Carly Lindsay ID from Canada



With Sandra Guerreiro Gamboa (ID Columbia) after the Parade of Nations



With left to right Dr Katie Capitulo incoming WCET® NNGF® Chair and Dr Elizabeth A. Ayello immediate past WCET® President



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At WCET® Booth with (left to right) Alice Chen NNGF®, Committee Chair Nor Azureen, Marriam Mohd Nasir, and Congress Coordinator Alison Crawshaw



Very glad to have a photo with WCET® board members at the booth. Left to right: Katie Capitulo, Diana Gallagher, Angela Boccara, Alice Chen, Elizabeth A. Ayello, Laurent Chabal, Denise Hibbert, Julie Weng, Jennie Burch, Fiona Bolton, Alison Crawshaw and me



Left: with our handsome WCET® President, Mr Laurent Chabal



Left: with Dr Keryln Carville during the closing ceremony

Left: with Malaysian friends during the closing ceremony

Jiangsu ET in China, attended the World Council of Enterostomal Therapists® ASCN-UK Joint 2024 Conference



Ling Wu



Yajuan (Julie)Weng



Lei Guo

From September 28th to October 1st, 2024, the (WCET®-ASCN UK Joint Congress was successfully held in Glasgow, UK. The event was themed *Enhancing the Future of Stoma Care* focusing on nursing practice and innovation, patient education, and interdisciplinary collaboration.

At the start of the exhibition opening ceremony, international delegates of the WCET®, holding flags from over sixty countries or regions came on stage in the Parade of Nations for a group photo, showcasing the cultures and characteristics of different nations.



Group photo of representatives from various countries

More than 20 Chinese representatives from many provinces and cities attended this international conference. Ling Wu, the chief expert of the Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nursing Professional Committee of Jiangsu Nursing Association, attended the opening ceremony as the representative of China.



Ling Wu, Chinese Representative



The opening ceremony



Group photo of Chinese representatives

At the opening ceremony, WCET®-ASCN UK leadership chaired the meeting and delivered the welcome speech. This international event was divided into a main venue and three sub-venues on wounds, ostomies, continence, and other related topics. Sixteen internationally renowned scholars delivered keynote speeches, and over 100 papers were presented and discussed. Attendees explored the latest research findings and clinical practices, sharing successful cases in wound and ostomy care from various countries, with the aim of collectively raising global nursing standards.

Eighteen Chinese delegates delivered oral speeches in the conference, with nearly one third of them from Jiangsu Province. Jiangsu ET participated in the hosting, thematic presentations, article reports and poster presentations in wound, stoma and other topics.



Representatives of Jiangsu Province with Dr Kerlyn Carville



Laurent Chabal, President of WCET® (2022–2026), giving the welcome speech



Alison Crawshaw, Congress Coordinator, giving a welcome speech

MsWeng (Julie) Yajuan delivered a speech titled *Different locations, Same Passion-Challenges and reflections on the standardisation of WCET® Global education programs*. In her presentation, she analysed the frontiers and development trends in educational expansion within the global wound, ostomy, and continence care fields. The Committee spoke highly of her work as WCET® Education Chair, and she was awarded an honorary commendation for her tenure.



Yajuan (Julie) Weng delivering the speech titled *Different locations, Same Passion-Challenges and reflections on the standardisation of WCET® Global education programs*

Yuan Baofang, Lin Xiao, and other experts from China delivered speeches at the conference, sharing successful care cases in wound and ostomy management. With their fluent language and confident expressions, the Chinese enterostomal therapists garnered rounds of applause from the attendees.



Jiangsu representatives

Left top to bottom: Baofang Yuan, Xia Sun, Xiao Lin

Right top to bottom: Jing Zhao, Lei Guo, Ying Sun

This conference demonstrated the scientific research capacity of wound, ostomy and continence nursing in China, especially in Jiangsu Province. The Nanjing International Enterostomal Therapist School, which nurtures Jiangsu's enterostomal therapists, has become one of the most influential international schools in this field. Since its establishment in 2007 under the leadership of Principal Huo Xiaorong, the school has thrived through mutual learning and has successfully trained 410 international enterostomal therapists, playing an important role in advancing the development of wound, ostomy, and incontinence care both domestically and internationally, significantly contributing to the progress of nursing.

Last Chapter on Congress 2024



Denise Hibbert,
WCET® President Elect

Well, what amazing congress stories, it has fallen to me to close this wonderful bulLETin chapter on Congress 2024. Thank you to all those who have submitted their stories and pictures. I have so much enjoyed reading them, the pictures brought back memories making me both laugh and cry, but always very proud. You have all told our story so well, what is left to say? I will leave you with a pictorial representation of what I think you might like to see or remember.

Pre-Congress

There is so much goes on behind the scenes in organising any congress, even more when it is a global conference with organisers from seven continents. But, this was a very special congress, in the planning for six years, postponed twice due to COVID-19, spanning two WCET® executive boards (EB), two ASCN-UK EBs, two WCET® Congress Coordinators (Dee Waugh 2018–2020 and Alison Crawshaw 2020–2024), two WCET® management companies and two ASCN-UK management companies. Not only was the scientific program, with speakers and abstract submitters kept under consideration, but industry had pledged support and vendors had signed contracts as far back as 2019. Well done to all involved in pulling the pieces together and staying loyal to get the job done.

Historically the WCET® have had an annual face-to-face meeting, but since COVID-19 this is the first time we have all been in the same room together. Here we gather with EB, incoming and outgoing volunteers, our management company representative and supporters. It gives a chance for good communication, honest dialogue, problem solving, strategising, not to mention team building and knowledge and skill sharing. All important for high performing international volunteer teams.

We traveled from all over the world (Australia, Brazil, China, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, UK-Scotland and USA), we try to have dinner together once we all arrive. This sets time aside for a catch up, to reminisce, to welcome newcomers, to laugh, and it sets the scene

for a productive first day. I would like to take this opportunity to thank EB members who donated, not only their time, knowledge and experience, but also some travel funds (which is not an expectation), but was greatly appreciated.



The WCET® EB arrived in Scotland at last. Left to right: Katie Capitulo, Alice (Aihua) Chen, Julie (Yajuan) Weng, Angela Bocarra, Laurent Chabal, Fiona Bolton, Alison Crawshaw, Denise Hibbert and Susan Barber



Last day of the pre-congress EB Meeting before traveling to Glasgow for the international Ostomy Guideline 3rd Edition meeting and Congress 2024. Left to right: Susan Barber, Katie Capitulo, Alice (Aihua) Chen, Fiona Bolton, Julie (Yajuan) Weng, Angela Bocarra, Alison Crawshaw, Laurent Chabal and Denise Hibbert



After traveling half way around the world, and having two and a half days of 7am–5pm meetings, here are members of a very exhausted EB, with one day to travel and make last preparations for Congress. Left to right: Julie (Yajuan) Weng, Denise Hibbert, Laurent Chabal, Alice (Aihua) Chen and Katie Capitulo



Celebrating the achievements of Julie (Yajuan) Weng and Alice (Aihua) Chen, our outgoing Chinese EB members. Left to right: Julie (Yajuan) Weng, Alice (Aihua) Chen, Laurent Chabal, Ron Capitulo, Katie Capitulo, Fiona Bolton, Angela Bocarra, Denise Hibbert and Susan Barber

Opening Ceremony



Laurent Chabal (WCET® President) Opening Congress 2024



Angie Perrin (ASCN-UK Acting Chair), Welcoming Delegates to the UK



Alison Crawshaw (Congress Coordinator) welcoming delegates to Scotland and reviewing the agenda for Congress



Professor Christine Norton MBE giving the opening Norma N. Gill Keynote Presentation on Continence in Inflammatory Bowel Disease: A Neglected Issue

Parade of Nations

The Parade of Nations is always spectacular, we thank Dee Waugh, Alison Crawshaw and the IDs and members who made it such a massive success.



Dee Waugh (Past Congress Coordinator) introducing the Parade of Nations



Left to right: Claire Ryan and Gill Castle, keynote speakers at the opening session



Country IDs and representing members paraded onto the stage to lively energising music, Angie Perrin carrying the UK flag and Alison Crawshaw carrying the Scottish flag bringing up the rear to raucous applause.

Gill was the first person with a stoma to swim the English Channel, Gill has a colostomy after suffering a perineal injury during child birth. Claire is a stoma nurse who supports a charity founded by Gill named Chameleon Buddies, aimed at social inclusion among people living with a stoma and childbirth injury, both in the UK and in Kenya. Gill discussed her own trauma during child birth and the suffering that followed, which moved us to empathise, to tears and to a sense of shame when health services let her down. She then went on to discuss what inspired her, and what it was like to train, to swim the English Channel, and about her passion, the Chameleon Buddies. She shared her story as, not only a survivor of a perineal tear, recotvaginal fistula, sepsis, stoma surgery and subsequent post traumatic stress disorder, but as a champion for others. You can follow Gill and her work on Facebook or Instagram.



IDs and representing members, in their national dress, carrying flags, from over 60 countries filled the stage



IDs and representing members, in their national dress, carrying flags, from over 60 countries filled the stage



IDs wearing their amazing national costumes, what an effort!



Everyone made such an effort, Sandra Guerrero Gamboa, Colombian ID



Dr Katie Capitulo in her ancestral tartan, with Dr Elizabeth A. Ayello, Dr Jenny Prentice, and Dr Gary Sibbald



Heidi Hevia Campos, Chilean ID



To end the spectacular Parade of Nations the WCET® and ASCN-UK EB led the IDs into the exhibition hall to open the Congress 2024 Exhibition. Left to right: President Laurent Chabal with WCET® flag, Denise Hibbert, Fiona Bolton and Maddie White, escorting the IDs to the exhibition



Anita Jelar representing member from Slovenia a proud moment



Enthusiastic welcome for the IDs



Do you recognise them? Laurent and Denise WCET® flag bearers during opening of the exhibition



One of many WCET® collaborative business meetings: Left to right Laurent Chabal, Cathy Harley (CEO NSWOC), Denise Hibbert, Sam (Louise Samuel) incoming Congress Coordinator, Alison Crawshaw and Fiona Bolton: Signing agreements for Congress 2026

WCET® Meetings



NNGF® Committee: Laurent, right, and Denise, left, saying thank you to Alice (Aihua) Chen (2nd left) outgoing NNGF® Committee Chairperson and Welcoming Katie Capitolo (3rd left) as incoming NNGF® Committee Chairperson

Oral and poster presentors

A Congress is not possible without researchers willing to submit for oral and poster presentations. Thank you to all, I am sorry I do not have space to picture you all here but please keep sending your articles for the bulLETin.



Left to right: Congress Speakers Hiske Smart, Elizabeth A. Ayello and Gulnaz Tariq (Ms Smart and Mrs Tariq Represent IIWCG)



2020–2024 Executive Board reporting at the General Business Meeting



Dr Gary Sibbald, Plenary Speaker



Dr Katie Capitolo, Engaging, Empowering and Leading



So many wonderful posters, I hope you had the chance to review all and speak with presentors, so much that we can learn from each other



Hiske Smart and Dr Elizabeth A. Ayello

Setting up the booths



Left to right, Vishti Livingstone, Dr Katie Capitolo, Dr Elizabeth A Ayello and Diana Gallagher



Left to right Dr Katie Capitolo and Diana Gallagher at the NNGF® Raffle Booth



Left to right Diana Gallagher, Fiona Bolton, Denise Hibbert, Alison Crawshaw, Julie (Yajuan) Weng at the WCET® Booth



When WCET®-ASCN-UK conference crossed paths with Comic-Con at the Scottish Events Campus, Stormtrooper in Kilt with Dr Katie Capitolo and Dr Elizabeth A. Ayello

Visiting at the exhibition and saying thank you for your support



Greg Dixon Calmoseptine CEO with WCET® Members



Laurent Chabal visits Welland

Delegates enjoying the exhibition



Coloplast at the exhibition



Laurent Chabal visiting Convatec



Hollister and Dansac: Karen Spencer (left) with Laurent Chabal



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Association booths



Society of Brazilian Enterostomal Therapists (SOBEST)*



Nurses specialised in Stoma, Wound, Continence Canada (NSWOCC)

Social



At the Science Center, Left to right Julie (Yajuan) Weng, Laurent Chabal and Alison Crawshaw



Australian Association of Stoma Therapy Nurses (AASTN)



At the Congress dinner, learning traditional Scottish dancing



International Skin Tear Advisory Panel (ISTAP)



Watching the experts, it looks so easy!!



Watching the experts, it looks so easy!!



Delegates networking



Entertainment the much beloved Scottish bagpipes



2024 Scholarship recipients

New ETNEP/REP Program certificates presented by Laurent Chabal and Julie Weng



Laurent and Julie



With Mohd Rahime, UM-ETNEP, Malaysia



With Ulla, Finland's Stoma REP



With Jianning Wang of Nanchang ETNEP China

Awards



Dr Elizabeth A. Ayello being honoured as a WCET® Life Member



Alison Crawshaw being honoured as a WCET® Life Member



Professor Christine Norton receiving her WCET® Norma N Gill President's Award



Louise Forest Lalande receiving her WCET® President's Award



Dr Kerlyn Carville receiving her WCET® President's Award



Patricia White receives the Pat Black Award for her literary work on assessing and documenting dark skin tones, presented by Angie Perrin and Maddie White (ASCN-UK) and (right) Sean Boyle (right), editorial manager, Gastrointestinal Nursing BJNI



Dr Jennie Burch receiving a Special Acknowledgement Award from ASCN-UK and WCET®



Cathy King (right) is presented with the Philip Salt Stoma Care Nurse of the Year Award in the UK by Robert Salt (left), director of Salts Healthcare Ltd.



ASCN-UK presents Terri Porrett with the Chairperson's Award



Laurent Chabal (Center) with newly honoured WCET® lifetime members, Alison Crawshaw (left) and Dr Elizabeth A. Ayello (right)



Angie and Laurent our fearless leaders, we thank them for their hard work and leadership



WCET® and ASCN-UK members of Organising and Scientific Committee, thank you

Closing ceremony



Laurent Chabal and Angie Perrin led the closing ceremony

Goodbyes



2022-2024 WCET® Executive Board, a job well done



Bailie Hanif Raja, Glasgow City Council, representing Glasgow Lord Provost Jacqueline McLaren



Thanking WCET® Scientific Chairs, Dr Jennie Burch and Julie (Yajuan) Weng

Best in Poster Presentations are listed below, unfortunately not all were available to receive their certificate on stage:

Stoma: L. Hamadi

Continance: MP Valença, ES Silva, LN Damasio SRPCValente, JCS Filho, ICRV Santos

Wound: M de M Coelho, TAC Menezes, VMV Cavalcante, MC Martins, PSF Nogueira and RGB Barbosa

Wound Care: FA da Costa, VMV Cavalcante, M de Mendonça, F Coelho, RL Cabral, EP Beserra, BM de Freitas

Education: C Silva, A Silva, P Peixoto, S Martin, S Costa, SM Costa



Laurent and Angie presenting Best Poster Awards



Laurent welcoming Louise (Sam) Samuel as incoming Congress Coordinator



WCET® handing over WCET® flag after announcing Vancouver as the Congress 2026 destination and NSWOC as Congress partners

Happy Birthday Mr President

Photos below of the EB wishing Laurent a very happy birthday!!























Our flight home reflecting on a wonderful global gathering














Norma N Gill Foundation Committee Report: Role of Honour as of 12th November, 2024

Norma's Circle founding members: renewals 2023

<p>Diane Krasner, USA</p> 	<p>Kathleen Capitulo, USA</p> 	<p>Aihua (Alice) Chen, China</p> 	<p>Hua Zhang, China</p> 
<p>Laurent Chabal, Switzerland</p> 	<p>Joy Schank, USA</p> 	<p>Jie Chen, China</p> 	<p>Honglian Xu, China</p> 
<p>Denise Hibbert, Saudi Arabia</p> 	<p>Deidre Anne Waugh, South Africa</p> 	<p>ETs of Sun Yat-Sen University Cancer Center, China</p> 	<p>No. 21 Class, Sun Yat-Sen University ET School, China</p> 
<p>Elizabeth A. Ayello, USA</p> 	<p>Zhejiang TOP-MEDICAL Medical Dressing Co, LTD, China</p> 	<p>Shenyang ET School of China Medical University, China</p> 	<p>Ying Piao, China</p> 
<p>Diana Gallagher, USA</p> 	<p>Fiona Bolton, Australia</p> 	<p>Xi'an ET School, China</p> 	<p>Wendy Harris Jicman, USA</p> 

Norma's Circle founding members: renewals 2024

<p>Laurent Chabal, Switzerland</p> 	<p>Denise Hibbert, Saudi Arabia</p> 	<p>Aihua (Alice) Chen, China</p> 	<p>Elizabeth A. Ayello, USA</p> 
<p>Kathleen Capitulo, USA</p> 	<p>Fiona Bolton, Australia</p> 	<p>Catherine Milne, USA</p> 	<p>Diane Krasner, USA</p> 
<p>Vashti Livingston, USA</p> 	<p>Auriane Alencar, Brazil</p>  		



Norma N. Gill Foundation®
Roll of Honour Industry 2024

The following companies have very generously given donations to help fund NNGF® scholarships:



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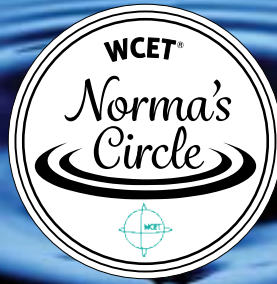
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Norma's Circle – new members 2024 (paid £200)

Ling Wu (China)

Jolanda Janse van Noordwyk (South Africa)

Renewals of Founding Members 2024 (paid £100)

Laurent Chabal (Switzerland)

Catherine Milne (United States)

Denise Hibbert (Saudi Arabia)

Diane Krasner (United States)

Aihua(Alice) Chen (China)

Vashti Livingston (United States)

Elizabeth Ayello (United States)

Auriane Alencar (Brazil)

Kathleen Capitulo (United States)

Wendy Harris Jicman (USA)

Fiona Bolton (Australia)



NNGF®

Members' donations 2024

The following members have very generously given donations to help fund NNGF® scholarships:

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Joe and Betty Garofalo Cutrofello Memorial Scholarship

Denise Hibbert (Saudi Arabia)

John Kozack, USA

AASTN

James Kozack, USA

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Lillian Medolla, USA

Mideast Region of WOCN® Society

Catherine Milne, USA

Elizabeth A Ayello, USA



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PID 9922

Reports from around the world

News From the Brazilian Association of Enterostomal Therapy - SOBEST®

Adriane Aparecida da Costa Faresin
RN, ETN [TiSOBEST]; **Sandra Marina Gonçalves Bezerra, PhD, RN, ETN [TiSOBEST]; Silvana Prazeres PhD, RN, ETN [TiSOBEST], Vera Lucia Conceição de Gouveia Santos, PhD, RN, ETN [TiSOBEST Emerit]; Sônia Regina Pérez Evangelista Dantas, PhD, RN, ETN [TiSOBEST] and Maria Angela Boccara de Paula PhD, RN, ETN [TiSOBEST Emerit]**

Participation of Brazilian nurses in the 23rd Biennial Congress of the World Council of Enterostomal Therapists® (WCET®)

September 28th to October 1st 2024

The participation of Brazilian nurses in the 23rd Biennial Congress of the World Council of Enterostomal Therapists® (WCET®) held in Glasgow was both significant and impactful. The event, which brought together professionals from over 60 countries under the theme *Weaving Culture and Experience to Deliver the best Patient Care*, highlighted the importance of continuous improvement in the management of stomas, wounds, and continence.



Brazilian nurses at the opening ceremony of the WCET® Congress

Brazilian nurses contributed with 25 posters and 17 oral presentations, demonstrating their commitment to excellence and innovation in the field. This substantial participation not only reinforces Brazil's position on the international stage but also promotes a rich exchange of knowledge and practices. Among the highlights, professors Manoela Mendonça from Ceará and Marília Valença from Pernambuco were presented with awards, underscoring the quality of Brazilian scientific production.

The presence of Brazilian professionals at the Cfongress provided valuable opportunities to establish connections with influential figures in the field, empowering participants to offer even more specialised and qualified care. The diversity of contributions from various regions of Brazil, such as Piauí, Ceará, Rio Grande

do Sul, São Paulo, Pernambuco, Paraná, Brasília, and Rio Grande do Norte, underscores the richness of nursing practices in the country. This involvement has solidified Brazil as a leader in enterostomal therapy, fostering the exchange of knowledge that enriches professional



Brazilian nurses and friends at the Social dinner ceremony of the WCET® Congress

23rd WCET® World Stomatherapy Congress with ASCN-UK 2024



The congress in Glasgow, Scotland, brought together professionals from more than 60 countries at the Scottish Event Campus.

SOBEST® was represented by the President Dr Sônia Regina Pérez Evangelista Dantas and the Vice-President Prof. Sílvia Angélica Jorge, also present were Prof. Dr Vera Lucia Santos, precursor of stomatherapy in Brazil and Prof. Dr Angela Boccara, Chair of the WCET® Education Committee. A very special moment among the congress activities was the presentation of the work *Choosing Wisely: infections located in difficult-to-heal wounds*, by Dr Sônia Regina Pérez Evangelista Dantas, a SOBEST® initiative to encourage health professionals about what "we should NOT do" because it represents waste in healthcare. Access *Choosing Wisely: infections located in difficult-to-heal wounds* at <https://sobest.com.br/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Choosing-Wisely-Brasil-Ingles.pdf>

SOBEST® Communication and marketing department role in disseminating enterostomal therapy in Brazil through digital media



The Department of Communication and Marketing (DECOM) has five stomatherapists who report to the executive board of the Brazilian Association of Stomatherapy (SOBEST®) and disseminate stomatherapy in an ethical and effective way throughout Brazil.

The director of DECOM and RN ETN [TiSOBEST] Adriane Faresin was present at the 23rd WCET® World Stomatherapy joint Congress and ASCN-UK 2024 and presented in oral format the department experience report on the SOBEST® actions developed between 2021 and 2023 through digital media to promote stomatherapy in Brazil.

Digital media prove to be a valuable resource in disseminating scientific knowledge, assisting in the teaching-learning process and sharing information. As a result, 1249 publications were generated on the sobest.com.br website, which were published on SOBEST® social networks, which have an average of 416.33 posts per year.

A significant increase in the number of new followers on Instagram (@sobest_oficial) was achieved, reaching 22,744 and an increase of 612.28% in the reach of publications in three years. During this period, the group's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/SOBEST.oficial>) showed an increase of 66.75% in page views. On LinkedIn (www.linkedin.com/company/sobest-oficial), between 2021 and 2023 we had 2538 followers and 1249 publications were published, taking the content across the country.

The increase in the number of accesses and followers on social media used by SOBEST® demonstrates that

the expansion of communication has been effective in Brazil. In the future we aim to intensify educational content through live social media events, podcasts, videos and courses created by the society.

Save the date XV BRAZILIAN congress of stomatherapy - CBE 2025 SOBEST®

The city of Florianópolis is preparing to host the XV Brazilian Stomatherapy Congress, the biggest event of the Brazilian Stomatherapy Association (SOBEST®). It will take place from October 15th to 19th, 2025, and registrations opened on October 12th, 2024 (for Congress activities and submission of works). On September 12th, at Shopping Frei Caneca in São Paulo, SOBEST® and Tribeca met with partner companies to present the XV CBE 2025, which has as its theme: *Integration and Transition of care between Stomatherapy contexts*. Mark this date on your calendar, plan your and your family's vacations, get organised and come to be part of CBE 2025!



SOBEST® Section Pará

Meeting with friends of Enterostomal Therapy – Norma N. Gill Day®

On June 27th, 2024, the Pará SOBEST® Section celebrated the memory of Norma Gill, founder of World



Left to right: Regina Ribeiro Cunha, PhD, RN, ETN [TiSOBEST]; Lisiany Carneiro de Santana Moreira, RN, ETN; Anne Carolline Flores de Souza Barbosa, RN and Odenilce Vieira Pereira, Ms, RN, ETN [TiSOBEST]



The members of Pará SOBEST® Section, Mrs Edna Maria Gonçalves de Azevedo, President of Pará Ostomy Association – AOPA, Enterostomal Therapists and Participants

Enterostomal Therapy®, in a pleasant environment located in the city of Belém-PA, Brazil. The moment was important not only to remember her legacy to enterostomal therapy, but also to build a bond of trust between nurses and patients. On this occasion, projects aimed at improving the wellbeing of stoma, wound and incontinence people were discussed, an initiative expressing the commitment to meeting our responsibility to the healthcare of the Amazonian citizens. The members of Pará SOBEST® Section.

SOBEST® SECTION Rio Grande do Sul

SOBEST Rio Grande do Sul holds various events throughout the year, both in-person and online, to keep stomatherapists integrated.



SOBEST® Section Piauí

The strategy adopted by the Piauí section to keep the group of stomatherapists integrated and more participative consisted of creating a schedule with monthly classes and activities. These classes cover a variety of topics, such as diabetic foot, stomatherapist assistance in complex wounds, and incontinence. Additionally, a monthly class is held in a restaurant, providing a pleasant environment for studying issues related to wounds, ostomies, and incontinence. In May, the section supported the Respiratory Ostomy Symposium, which included discussions on tracheostomies and laryngectomies. The event had a significant social impact and led to improvements in the care provided to individuals assisted by the public health system.



Stomatherapy specialisation course

the UNISINOS Stomatherapy Specialisation Course has been training Stomatherapists since 2010, qualifying care for people with wounds, incontinence and ostomies. UNISINOS is one of the institutions where the Specialisation Course in Stomatherapy Nursing is certified by SOBEST and WCET®, being the only one with this certification in the state of Rio Grande do Sul.

Graduates of this course enter the job market qualified to provide assistance to users who need assistance in specialised services in Porto Alegre and other cities in the state. The performance of our graduates in Health Services is important in the care of people with stoma, incontinence and skin lesions.

This year UNISINOS is completing the training of students in the XI class. In October this year, the practical activities took place at Hospital Conceição.



SOBEST® Open Doors SOBEST's

The *Open Doors Educational Program* remains firm in its purpose of bringing knowledge monthly, in an online format, to all professionals in Brazil. Educating these nursing professionals with topics relating to care for people with tracheostomies, care for people with nipple injuries, the applicability of thermography in stoma therapy and care for people with malignant neoplastic wounds can change the care scenario



offered to the general population, both in public services and private. To this end, highly qualified and dedicated professionals actively participate, in a synchronous format, in this educational program, contributing to technical-scientific content focused on quality and patients' safety. Access the content at <https://sobest.com.br/tipoevento/portas-abertas/>

SOBEST® connection - podcast

The podcast is an innovative and powerful communication tool, and now another opportunity to promote and publicise topics relevant to the area of Stomathotherapy in Brazil. This valuable tool expands the reach of important information for specific audiences, whether they are professionals or people with ostomies, wounds or incontinence. Podcasts on *The use of thermography in the clinical practice of Stomach Therapists*, led by ETN Rosângela Aparecida de Oliveira, and *Course accreditation: is it a differentiator?*, led by PhD, RN, ETN [TiSOBEST] Sônia Regina Pérez Evangelista Dantas, as well as other content are available on the SOBEST® platform in Makadu. SOBEST® is building a strong community around the SOBEST® podcasts with the aim of gaining the trust of our followers and providing everyone with robust and reliable content that provides security and quality. Find out more by accessing the link <https://makadu.live/instituicao/sobest/>



Laudas SOBEST®

A page can be defined in different ways, but, generally, it constitutes a text with 30 lines, 1200 to 2000 characters (including spaces) or 250 to 350 words.

Reports written for the SOBEST® website are texts created by highly qualified stoma therapy nurses,



based on their clinical practices and technical-scientific knowledge regarding the topics covered in the areas of stomatherapy: wounds, ostomies and incontinence. These texts become precious educational contributions that will be disseminated throughout Brazil, reaching the hands of countless professionals.

The reports must have up-to-date scientific references, processes that value safety and quality in patient care, and they must be clear, objective and didactic.

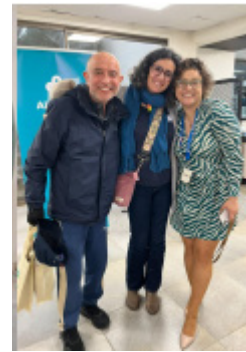
Every month, professionals are invited to write reports and after validating the content, these reports are published on the website and shared on social networks. Discover the pages by reading the current events on the website <https://sobest.com.br/noticias/atualidades/>

Report From Chile: Commemoration of the Ostomy Patients in Chile

Clinica Alemana, Hospital, Valdivia
 Written by, *Andrea Lira BSN*



On October 3rd, in Valdivia, an event was held organised by Andrea Lira, a nurse specialist in ostomies. More than six patients and their families attended a cocktail event with recreational activities. The most touching part was the sharing of health experiences, which generated emotions and mutual admiration, culminating in the creation of a new self-help community. Although the clinic does not have a specialised unit for ostomy patients, the surgical and nursing teams have implemented a humanised care protocol tailored to each patient's needs. Additionally, the patients organised themselves to form a support group.



Patients and families at the Cocktail Event, Andrea far right

San Juan de Dios de Los Andes, Hospital, Los Andes
 Written by *Monica Suarez BSN*



At our Hospital de Los Andes we promote the holistic integration of ostomised patients, ensuring quality care throughout their adaptation process to this new condition. We are committed to providing appropriate education and care, and we have already held our fourth training session for our patients.



Ostomy Awareness Monica Suarez (far left in the first photo)

VI Chilean scientific association of stomas, wounds and continence international conference



The VI International Congress ACCHIEHC took place on October 10th and 11th, 2024, in Santiago, Chile, with the theme *Together Changing Paradigms: Scientific Update on the Comprehensive Management of Wounds, Stomas, and Continence*. Over 500 professionals attended, focusing on the latest international recommendations in these areas.

The event included a 16-hour Pre-Congress on compression therapy, led by Dr Eduardo Da Matta and RN Claudia Ramírez. Notable international speakers included experts from Brazil and Colombia, while national speakers represented various fields. The congress facilitated knowledge sharing and networking among nurses from Brazil, Uruguay, and across Chile.



ACCHIEHC participants

Top: ACCHIEHC president Claudia Ramirez, the board of directors and the organising committee

Castro Hospital, Chiloé



Written by Carolina Pino BSN

The first meeting of ostomy patients was organised at the southern tip of Chile, on the island of Chiloé. The activity allowed us to share inspiring experiences, support education, and highlight the



Ostomy Patients Meet

importance of specialised care. On this occasion, we had the support of Braun. Educational sessions were held for professionals and members of health teams, organised by the Chiloé Health Service, which helped raise awareness for ostomy patients.

Ostomy patients of the Fourth Region of Coquimbo

Written by Carolina Molina BSN



The ostomy patient group in Coquimbo, led by Victoria Robledo and Carolina Molina, conducted activities to raise awareness about ostomy conditions and inform hospital staff and the public about Law 21.559. A key initiative was the inauguration of the photographic exhibition *Beyond Ostomy: Portraits of Resilience*, which features real testimonials from ostomy patients to highlight their experiences. This travelling exhibition will be displayed in various hospitals across the region and throughout Chile in 2024 and 2025.



Ostomy patient group



Day of commemoration of the International Day of the Ostomy Person, University of Valparaíso



Testimonials from participants

Kenia Daniela Cortés BSN

I am a nurse in the Los Lagos region, caring for patients with ostomies in both rural and urban areas. I appreciated the opportunity to present a clinical case of a rural patient, highlighting how nursing interventions and family support can lead to significant changes in their lives. I also want to thank Ms Heidi Hevia for inviting me to the event at the University of Valparaíso. It was a valuable experience for sharing knowledge and professional insights, which are essential for nurses to enhance their skills in patient care.



Daniela Cortés, RN from Puerto Montt



World Ostomy Education event at the University of Valparaíso

Public relations, meeting Carla Abatte

Written by Ximena Meneses BSN

I had the pleasure of participating in a conference dedicated to ostomy at the School of Nursing at the University of Valparaíso. I want to thank the organisers and professionals who made this event such an enriching experience. I learned a lot about the care and attention related to ostomy. Sharing my testimony was a special moment, and I am grateful for the opportunity to help demystify and raise awareness of our reality. Together, we continue to build a path of knowledge and support. Thank you, Heidi, for the warmth and space you provided me!



Organisers and participants from the School of Nursing at the University of Valparaíso

Left: Carla Abatte (ileostomate), Heidi Hevia, Tomas Valenzuela (Carla's Husband) and Zita Lagos

Right: Carla Abatte, a patient who shared her life story



This meeting provided nurses and patients with the opportunity to share meaningful and emotional experiences, fostering a space for reflection and mutual support that enriched the understanding of the challenges and triumphs in healthcare



Ana María Rodríguez, Paola Puebla, Heidi Hevia, Ximena Meneses and Zita Lagos



Organisers and participants from the School of Nursing at the University of Valparaíso

**The first pediatric ostomised polyclinic in Chile
Rehabilitation Unit with comprehensive clinical
care, URACI**



Written by Barbara Baeza BSN

October 29th, 2024, the first anniversary of the pediatric ostomy clinic was celebrated at the Dr Roberto del Río Hospital, in the comprehensive rehabilitation unit URACI. Led by pediatric nurse Bárbara Baeza Romero, the clinic serves over 80 patients aged 0 to 15 with various types of ostomies. In a special session, doctors discussed the most common complications of pediatric ostomies, while the nursing team highlighted the importance of care management, quality, procedural safety, and efficiency in the use of public resources. The event had a great turnout and was disseminated throughout the hospital community.



*First anniversary of the pediatric ostomy clinic
Top Left: Barbara Baeza with a pediatric patient*

**Interventions coloproctology unit of the Clinical
Hospital of the UC CHRISTUS**



*Nursing Sessions at the Coloproctology Congress,
Puerto Varas.*

On August 30th and 31st, the nursing sessions of the Coloproctology Congress were held in the city of Puerto Varas. The event brought together leading nurses in the care of ostomy patients from across the country. The program featured speakers from various clinical areas, including nutritionists, physiotherapists, and nurses, who focused their presentations on skin care, nutrition, and continence management, supplemented by clinical cases and practical workshops.



Coloproctology Congress

A recipe book for individuals with ileostomy

A multidisciplinary team composed of nutritionists, chefs, and specialised nurses has created a recipe book of traditional Chilean cuisine adapted to the needs of individuals with ileostomy. This book is distributed free of charge to all users across the country.



Recipe Book for Ileostomates by: nutritionists Daniela Segovia, and Alejandra Parada, RNs Ana María Rodríguez and Ximena Meneses and chef Sebastian Tobar

The WCET®-ASCN UK 2024 Joint Congress in Glasgow

Written by Ximena Meneses BSN

As nurses specialised in the care of patients with ostomies, we had the opportunity to participate in the WCET®-ASCN UK 2024 World Congress of Enterostomal Therapy held in Glasgow this year. This engaging event brought together nurses from around the world, addressing common, innovative, and essential topics for professional development.



Parade of Nations and Opening Ceremony

Commemoration of the day of the hospitalised patient at Clínica Las Condes, Hospital



Written by Valentina Mora BSN

For the third consecutive year, Clínica Las Condes celebrated the commemoration of ostomy patients, under the direction of Valentina Mora, the nurse responsible for the ostomy program.

The ceremony, filled with emotion, brought together patients from various healthcare institutions, both public and private. During the event, important topics such as nutrition, physiotherapy exercises, and nursing care were discussed. These types of activities will continue to be held annually with the aim of raising awareness, fostering empathy, and providing support to the community of ostomy patients.



Ostomy Awareness

Congress experience WCET®-ASCN UK 2024

Written by Heidi Hevia PhD, BSN

This year, a group of nurses from Chile, Ana María Rodríguez, Ximena Meneses, Ilia Merino, and Heidi Hevia, had the opportunity to attend the WCET®-ASCN UK 2024 the World Congress of Enterostomal Therapy in Glasgow, for some of them it was the first time. It was an unforgettable experience, where we could exchange insights, and connect closely with opinion leaders in managing ostomies, wounds, and continence. The congress was filled with emotions as we reunited and embraced friends from all over the world, many of whom we had known for a long time. I feel that WCET® is like a big family where everyone fights for the same goals. We are united by a deep love for ostomy patients and persons with wounds and continence issues. The passion that Norma taught us is the driving force that brings us together. I thank God for the opportunity to belong and attend WCET® and to meet so many friends motivated by the same passion. Being able to participate both as a speaker and as a session moderator was both exciting and deeply enriching. I hope we can hug each other again in Vancouver.



Opening ceremony and Parade of Nations



Heidi presenting a scoping review on skin tears (left) and with Dr Demetri Beekman and Dr Kimberley LeBlanc (right)



Heidi with Ilea Merino in the Conference Hall



Heidi moderating a session with Zarah Perry-Woodford



Outside the SEC in Glasgow



At the NSWOCC Booth (they will host the next joint WCET® congress in Vancouver)



With friends at the Exhibition Hall



At ISTAP Booth with front Samantha Holloway and Dr Kimberley LeBlank front and back Denise Hibbert



With WCET® President Laurent Chabal and WCET® Flag

Jiangsu Province Wound Ostomy Continence Case Reports (English) Seminar ended successfully



Zhu Shoulin
Vice-director of Jiangsu Nursing Association Wound Ostomy Continence Professional Committee

On the afternoon of September 9th, 2024, Jiangsu Nursing Association Wound, Ostomy, Continence Committee successfully held a Nursing Case Reports

(English) Seminar at Nanjing Gaoloumen Hotel, drawing a successful end to this four months of preparation.



Case Report presenters with organisers and Professors

The activity has been in full swing since June of this year. The scope of case collection includes wounds, ostomy, continence and lymphedema nursing cases. After strict screening, 12 great cases stood out and we had the opportunity to report and display them among the 46 English carefully-produced nursing case videos for the whole province.

The event was hosted by Ms Xue Hui from Jiangsu Cancer Hospital, and was reviewed by a number of internationally renowned wound ostomy nursing experts, including Professor Vicki Patton from Curtin University and Royal Perth Hospital in Australia, Professor Takashi En from Nagano Nursing University in Japan, as well as Weng Yajuan, the outgoing Chairman of the WCET® Education Committee and the Director of Jiangsu Province Wound, Ostomy, Continence Professional Committee, chief expert Wu Ling. The four vice-directors are Yang Lifang, Zhao Jing, Li Jingru, Zhu Shoulin.

Twelve case presenters came from 11 hospitals in Jiangsu Province respectively. They vividly explained the treatment concepts, strategies and remarkable results of their respective cases in fluent English, covering multiple frontier areas, such as complex neonatal ostomy treatment, management of malignant wounds, integrated mind-body treatment for urinary incontinence, and multi-center combined treatment of wounds complicated with lymphedema. Dr Vicki Patton, Qiao Yan, Weng Yajuan, Wu Ling and other experts not only highly praised the professional performance of the presenters, but also put forward valuable suggestions on the highlights and shortcomings in the cases, and constantly promoted the growth and promotion of professional nursing staff.



Case presentation

This exhibition activity had a variety of forms, including personal statements, team-worked defenses, and on-site interactive questions, presenting a professional knowledge feast on wound, ostomy, continence for the audience and students. The excellent skills and professionalism of the Jiangsu nursing team have won high recognition and praise from international experts in Australia and Japan.

At the end of the event, Ms Weng Yajuan, the director of Jiangsu Nursing Association Wound Ostomy Continence Nursing Committee, made a concluding speech that pushed the atmosphere of the scene to a climax. She praised the significant improvement in the quality of cases in this competition, highlighting the remarkable progress made by the presenters in terms of innovation in expression, evidence-based nursing practice, interdisciplinary teamwork and attempts to integrate traditional Chinese and Western medicine.



Ms Weng Yajuan

The success of this event not only highlights the high level of wound, ostomy continence professionalism in nursing in Jiangsu Province, but also provides a valuable platform for the majority of nursing staff to present themselves, exchange and learn, and inspire their infinite vision and enthusiasm for professional development.

A story from Croatia



Marija Hegeduš Matetić, Bac. med. techn., ET

Every year on the first Saturday of October, people worldwide celebrate Ostomy Awareness Day. This is an attempt to raise awareness that ostomies are life savers and to help erase stigma.

In Croatia every year ILCO societies, regional ostomy clubs, also celebrate the Day of People Living with a Stoma. This is an opportunity to introduce people to what an ostomy surgery is, why it is performed, why it is important to respond to the National Bowel Cancer Early Detection Programme or to register for a screening on time.

On that day, we gather together with ostomates, socialising and with media coverage focused on:

- spreading ostomy awareness
- dispelling myths
- increasing education on ostomy care

The activities are aimed at providing better care for all and good outcomes, and towards improving the quality of life of ostomates.

This year, some of our ostomy patients from Koprivnica, Rijeka, Varaždin and Split, marked the Ostomy Awareness Day on October 3rd with a trip to the beautiful town of Rastoke.



Ostomy Awareness Day at the Sveti Duh Clinical Hospital

In Zagreb, we marked the Ostomy Awareness Day at the Sveti Duh Clinical Hospital with interesting presentations and stories shared by ostomy patients. In addition, we promoted a leaflet on *Where to Look for Information Provided by Health Professionals*, that was requested by patients.



Ostomy Awareness Day at the Sveti Duh Clinical Hospital

I would like to inform you that from January 1st 2025 I will no longer be a WCET® International Delegate for Croatia. I wish you all success, both in your work and in your private lives. Special thanks to dear Laurent and dear Denise. It was an honour to work with you, thank you for everything.

I am proud to conclude that Enterostomal Therapy in Croatia has found its way, that a lot has improved in stoma, wound and continence nursing, and that we will continue to advance and improve our patient care.

NNA-Kenya launches the Wound Continence and Enterostomal Therapy Nurses: a new NNA-Kenya Chapter as the Moi Teaching & Referral Hospital in Eldoret celebrates its inaugural Norma N. Gill Day®

The National Nurses Association of Kenya (NNA-Kenya) is a professional association representing all cadres of nurses in Kenya drawn from public and private clinical practice settings, nursing education, and research institutions. NNA-Kenya was established in 1968 and is duly registered under Cap 108 of the laws of Kenya and is a member of the International Council of Nurses. Currently led by the President Collins Ajwang and Vice Chairs Dennis Mbithi and Pauline Ngala, NNA-Kenya has branches in all the 47 counties across the country, promoting excellence in nursing and midwifery practice.

NNA-Kenya fosters nursing specialisation as per area of training and interest by adopting specialty nursing groups as NNAK-Chapters. Wound, Continence and Enterostomal Therapy Nursing group has been launched as the 15th Chapter of the association as follows:

1. Ophthalmic Nurses Chapter
2. Critical Care Nurses Chapter
3. Reproductive Health Chapter
4. Mental Health Nurses Chapter
5. Community Health Nurses Chapter
6. Peri-operative Nurses Chapter
7. Disaster and Emergency Nurses Chapter
8. Pediatric Nurses Chapter
9. Registered Nurse Anaesthetists Chapter
10. Eastern Central Southern African College of Nursing and Midwifery (ECSACONM)
11. Infection Control Nurses Chapter
12. Leadership for Change (LFC) Nurses Chapter

13. Private Nurse Practitioners Chapter
14. Student Nurses Chapter
15. Wound, Continence and Enterostomal Therapy Nurses Chapter

The inception of the NNA-Kenya Wound Continence and Enterostomal Therapy Nurses Chapter would have never come at a better time than during the commemoration of Norma N. Gill Day® celebrated on June 26th worldwide in honour of her legacy in enterostomal therapy, continence and wound care.

During the launch at the NNA-Kenya National Executive Committee (NEC) Meeting on June 21st 2024 at the Nurses Complex in Nairobi, the NEC members collectively supported the milestone, reporting that there is a gap in chronic wound care, incontinence and ostomy management in Kenya and urged the members to embark on modern wound care training and research with an initial focus on hospital-acquired pressure injuries in public hospitals in Kenya.

Wound Continence & Enterostomal Therapy Nurses NNA-Kenya Chapter



NNA-Kenya National Executives with officials of Wound Continence & Enterostomal Therapy Nurses- NNA-K Chapter.



Presentation on Wound Continence & Enterostomal Therapy care at NNA-K Headquarters



- WCETN NNA-Kenya officials with NNA-Kenya Vice Chair Ms Pauline Ngala 2nd from the right and ECSACONM Kenya representative Ms Carren Ombewa on the right



- WCETN NNA-Kenya Chapter Chairperson Mrs Margaret Mungai making a presentation on the Chapters Vision and Mission aimed at improving wound continence and enterostomal therapy care in Kenya and beyond



- NNA-Kenya President Mr. Collins Ajwang, 5th from the left, WCETN-NNA-Kenya Chapter Chairperson Mrs Margaret Mungai, 6th from the left with other NNA-Kenya National Executive Officials, the WCETN NNA-Kenya Chapter Treasurer Ms Nancy Boinnet 3rd from the left and Secretary Ms Grace Wairimu 4th from the left during the chapter Launch



- WCETN NNA-Kenya Chapter launch at the NNA-K Complex in Nairobi

The NNA-Kenya president emphasised the need for NNA-K Chapters to foster global collaborations to ensure they keep an update on their area of specialisation with evidence-based practice in the dynamic profession of nursing.

Moi Teaching & Referral Hospital members of the Wound Contenance and Enterostomal Therapy Nurses Chapter of NNA-Kenya marked their inaugural Norma N. Gill Day® at the institution on June 26th 2024 at the adult surgical wards and the Shoe for Africa Children’s Hospital of Moi Teaching & Referral Hospital in Eldoret Kenya. These are nurses specialised in the care of patients with chronic wounds, urine and stool incontinence challenges, as well as those with artificial surgical openings for urine and stool elimination.

The event was in honour of Norma N. Gill born in Ohio in 1920, whose contribution to enterostomal therapy is celebrated worldwide as the founder of enterostomal therapy nursing. Norma N. Gill, as an as ostomate herself, worked closely with her surgeon Dr Turnbull and started the Cleveland Ostomy Association in 1960 after developing the enterostomal therapy specialisation in the late 1950s. This involved nursing training, as well as patient education and support to manage ostomies on their own and adjust to the ostomate life after surgery.

Enterostomal therapy is the care provided to people with artificial openings surgically created onto the skin for drainage of body waste products referred as ostomies. This may be for drainage of stool or urine or both due to various indications. There are various ostomy types: ileostomy – from small intestines to the abdominal skin; colostomy – from large intestines to the abdominal skin and urostomy – from the urinary tract /ureters to the abdominal skin for urine drainage.

Some of the common indications of ostomy creation in children include congenital malformations like spinabifida and anus-rectum malformations. Infections causing perforation of the large and/or small intestines, traumatic episodes including sexual violence (rape/sodomy), spinal cord injury, intestinal obstruction due to intussusceptions where the intestines turn inside or

fold back on itself causing swelling and blockage and may be gangrenous if left unattended unaddressed.

Ostomy creation affects patients’ quality of life and this specialisation of care is not well adopted by many health workers and health facilities. A great number of health workers are uncomfortable providing ostomy care while the ostomates have difficulties adjusting afterwards. This greatly affects patients’ undertaking of the daily activities of living, family roles and even work.

There is a lot of stigma associated with ostomates, as well as great economic burden to buy the ostomy supplies, like ostomy bags, skin protection supplies and diet supplements.

Wound continence and enterostomal therapy nursing is a relatively new specialisation at the hospital led by Margaret Mungai (Deputy Director Nursing/ Wound Care Nurse) as a chapter of NNA-Kenya for professional growth in the country and beyond. The wound continence and enterostomal therapy nurses and student nurses visited both adult and paediatric ostomates, patients with chronic wounds, as well as others with urinary/stool incontinence challenges. They addressed wound, continence and ostomy concerns as well as gifting them with fruits.



Moi Teaching & Referral Hospital Wound Contenance & Enterostomal Therapy Nurses. Left to right: Moureen Adhiambo, Susan Koskei and Margaret Mungai during the Norma N. Gill Day® celebrations on June 26th 2024.



Team members visiting an Ostomate at the adult female surgical ward: Margaret Mungai (second from left), Joyce Rotich (third from left) and Susan Koskei (in spectacles) with Nursing students and patient relative during the Norma N. Gill Day® celebrations on June 26th 2024



Nurses and student nurses at Moi Teaching & Referral Hospital hold the Inaugural Celebration of Norma N. Gill Day® for wound, continence & enterostomal therapy nursing



Wound and Ostomy Team nurses Patrick Kimutai and Lillian Okore gifting wound patients at the Male Orthopaedic ward



Wound continence and enterostomal therapy nurses, child life therapists in red and white scrubs and student nurses in blue scrubs gifts young Ostomates and parents during the session.



Nurse Manager Paediatric and child health Directorate Sarah Kimetto gifts an Ostomate during the session.

Further the team visited young ostomates at the Shoe for Africa Hospital for a health education and support session together with the children's parents/guardians. The interactive session enabled parents to share their stories of having an ostomate child, which is usually attributed to witchcraft and/or 'evil eyes' in the African culture. They shared the challenges experienced due to inability to carry out their day-to-day activities to take care of the ostomate children. Others shared how they had sought herbal medication for a long time without it providing any help.

The parents sought to understand the duration taken before a reversal of the ostomy is done, which was well elaborated by Andrew Maiyo the Nursing Officer in charge of the Paediatric Surgical ward, as each ostomy differs depending on the age the child is brought to the hospital, as well as the underlying condition.

The parents were taken through handling the complications they experience including blockage, prolapsed ostomies and peristomal skin excoriations by ensuring diet rich with roughage, water intake and use of peristomal skin care preparations like moisture barrier ointments and powder.



The team conducts a young Ostomates and parents health education and support session at the Shoe for Africa Children's Hospital with parents sharing experiences as the fathers of two of the young ostomates are doing and encouraging others

The hallmark of the event is to create awareness of ostomates' experience at the health facilities and in the communities, calling for social acceptance and support by reducing the accompanying stigma. It is a call to citizens to seek health care as soon as they have wounds, incontinence and finances; for focus on human resources for health training in the specialisation of wound continence and enterostomal therapy nursing; and for enhanced multidisciplinary care teams geared towards achieving universal health coverage in the country.

We were given permission by MTRH CEO to share our experience and we had written consent from patients and parents to use their photos for ostomy experience awareness creation/dissemination and education.



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1. Based on evaluations completed in France, Germany, Canada, US, Australia, UK, Belgium, New Zealand, and Switzerland; Hollister Data on File, ref-02530, May 2021. Types of ostomies evaluated: Ileostomy (42%), Colostomy (29%), Urostomy (25%), Other/Multiple (4%). Patients evaluated ranged from post-op to 20+ years living with an ostomy; 50% had been living with an ostomy for less than 4 weeks.

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Malaysia – How I started: Struggles and challenges are a gifts for my wish to come true. I can do it. You can do it too!



**Mariam Mohd Nasir, Cert HRDF(TTT) Mal, Cert ICW (Hamburg, Germany), Cert GNLI (Geneva, Switzerland), MBA(Uitm) Mal, BSC(Hons) Mal, WOCNEP (Hong Kong) RN(Mal), RM(Mal).
Program Director, METNEP,
Vice President Malaysian Ostomy Association
Chairman APETNA 2025
Founder/Owner/CEO/Nurse Consultant, M&T Network Consultancy Services Sdn Bhd.**



I like to dream, and dream big, especially after I completed my Wound, Ostomy, Continence Education Program in Princess Margaret Hospital, Hong Kong, in Aug – October 1995. It has been 29 years, but my memories, struggles, difficulties, many happy moments, learning experiences, not to mention my sadness at leaving my three little children aged two and seven years old, are still fresh in my mind.

Friends said to me, are you crazy? Leaving your young children behind and pursuing your ambition which you, yourself are not sure of? Well, I started thinking is it worthwhile? Is this what I want to explore and do?

After, 29 years I can proudly say that IT IS WORTHWHILE!

But somehow, since the day I graduated and became an ET I have never looked back, and not only have I looked forward but always for something new and challenging. In my opinion, being an ET is the best thing that happened in my life, regardless of whatever I have to face.

I came back to Malaysia in October, after the completion of the program, and deep in my heart and mind, I knew I was going to open my ET Clinic, no matter what. I remember Norma and Marilyn saying: "No matter what, you must start the service. It is okay to take time but you must do it." Those words haunted me till I came back in Malaysia.

What I did after that is all in the history.

The day that I will never forget is Thursday May 11th 1996. The day I proudly and officially had my own clinic, and seeing the patients that I longed to help. Dreams do come true!

The door of opportunity is always open, but we need to walk through it to see what it is on the other side! No one should, or probably no-one could, drag you through it.

I was given a small room in the out-patient surgical clinic after much self-promotion, getting support from

my Colorectal Surgeon, Professor Dr KW Chang, trying hard to convince the doctors and nursing to refer cases to me.

It is not that I was highly confident at that time, but I told myself I need to do this and prove to them I can do it, and YES, I DID IT! I knew I needed to struggle a lot, and it was not going to be easy, doing dual roles without any extra budget, or staff to assist. Basically, it is a single-handed job and I started everything with and from nothing!

As Sir Winston Churchill said, "Success is not final, failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts".

Or as Steve Jobs said: "If you are working on something exciting, that you really care about, you don't have to be pushed, the vision pulls you."



The clinic where my ET Services started in 1996.



My clinic, signage which was sponsored by Convatec, including some of the teaching materials. I now had my clinic code for patients to be given appointments via the medical records system.



My proudest moment, running my clinic officially



This is how the clinic changed within the first few years



In 1996, we still used television for teaching, I got a tape for teaching and a couch for my treatment room. It is a one room clinic for both counselling and stoma care.



I then had an assistant who was also a trained ET, Staff Nurse Azura, trained locally in our ET program and we expanded further. I worked so hard to prove to the hospital management that we need more ETs.

(Patient and husband consented for the photographs).



I had posters that I photocopied in black and white when I was in Hong Kong and some new ones from the Malaysian traders

Even though, it was not luxurious, I am so happy and proud to have this clinic and I can say out loud, look I have my own clinic to practice my role as an ET.

Many did not have confidence in me when I told them, I am going to have my own clinic soon and some of them did say, you are dreaming, it will not come true.

I continue doing my job as a Nursing Sister in one of the busiest wards with solid tumours, gastrointestinal diseases, cardiothoracic conditions and general surgery, but my love for ETN is undescrivable, I want to do more and I want to improve more, especially my clinic.



Our journey continues and our ET family is growing. Left to right, seated: staff nurse Azura, myself and staff nurse Rozita Mohamad. Standing from left: staff nurse Nursehha and Sister Kalsom Supi.

In conclusion, we expanded further and later I was promoted as the Chief Nursing Officer but still seeing my patients until I retired, and I now continue with my own training centre to train many more nurses to become enterostomal therapist nurses (ET nurses).

This year is our six year anniversary, and we have been given recognition by WCET® until 2028. We hope to continue the training and at the same time help other hospitals in Malaysia to start their own training centre for ETNEPs. I hope to do much, much more.

“It has always seemed impossible until it is done. No short cut, just the right cut,” Mariam Mohd Nasir.



PROUD to be an ET.

Celebrating World Ostomy Day in Malaysia



Muhammad Afiq bin Mohd Azlin
Enterostomal Therapy Nurse, Penang Adventist Hospital
Secretary of 11th APETNA Conference 2025
Assistant Secretary Persatuan Ostomi Pulau Pinang (POPP)
Committee Member of Malaysian Ostomy Association (MOsA)

Every year on the first Saturday of October, the global ostomy community comes together to commemorate World Ostomy Day. In 2024, Malaysia proudly participated in this important event, hosting celebrations at both the state and national levels.

State-level celebration

On October 5th, 2024, the state of Penang held its World Ostomy Day event at the Auditorium of the Penang General Hospital. The event was organised by the Penang Ostomy Association (POPP), the state’s ostomy association.

The celebration began with a welcome speech from the POPP President, Dato’ Rahman, himself an Ostomate. This was followed by an exercise session for Ostomates led by local instructors. The highlight of the event was a giveaway ceremony, where all attendees received gifts and supplies to help alleviate the burden of living with an ostomy.

The event concluded with a cake-cutting ceremony attended by all the Ostomates present.



Me, as Master of Ceremonies of the event



Dato Rahman, President POPP giving his welcoming speech



With committee members and Ostomates

National-level celebration

At the national level, Malaysia hosted the Ostomate, IBD & Colon Cancer Seminar and Gathering on October 20th 2024. This event was organised in conjunction with the Malaysian Enterostomal Therapy Nursing Education Programme 2024, and was hosted by M&T Network Consultancy, led by CEO Mariam Mohd Nasir.

The event began with opening remarks from Mariam and Saravanan Nagappan, the President of the Malaysian Ostomy Association (MOsA).

The educational program featured talks by several distinguished speakers:

- Hizami Amin Tai, a General and Colorectal Surgeon from the Hospital Pengajar Universiti Putra Malaysia, spoke on the *Principles of Ostomy Creation, Care, and Reversal*.
- Mr Kanesh, a Urologist from the University Malaya Medical Centre, presented on *Urinary Diversion*.
- Malaysian Enterostomal Therapists (ETs) and Enterostomal Therapy Nurses (ETNs) Hizri (Hospital Pakar Universiti Sains Malaysia), Cindy (Penang Adventist Hospital), and Ms Wong (Freelance Speaker, Continence Foundation Malaysia) covered topics on *Diet Management, Quality of Life after Ostomy Surgery* and *The Evolution of Stoma Care Products*.

The full-day event was attended by Ostomates, colon cancer survivors, allied health practitioners, and pharmacists, providing a valuable platform for education, networking, and community building.



Participants Listening to the Speakers



ETN Cindy from Penang Adventist Hospital delivers her talk



Madam Mariam (Director METNEP 2024, CEO M&T Network Consultancy) presents the lucky draw



Mr Saravanan (President of MOsA) delivering his welcome speech



All participants



With ETNs from Indonesia



The Student Malaysian Enterostomal Therapy Nursing Education Programme (METNEP) 2024



Mr Saravanan with Madam Mariam



Myself with my ETN colleague Kanniyah and Cindy, ET from Penang Adventist Hospital



Madam Mariam and her excellent M&T Team

These World Ostomy Day events in Malaysia are crucial for raising awareness and support for the ostomy community. Ostomy awareness in Malaysia is still relatively low, and many ostomates feel isolated and unsupported. By organising these celebrations, the ostomy associations aim to:

1. Increase public understanding and acceptance of ostomies, dispelling misconceptions and reducing stigma.
2. Provide a supportive network for ostomates, allowing them to connect with others who share similar experiences and challenges.
3. Educate ostomates, their families, and healthcare professionals on the latest advancements in ostomy care and management.
4. Advocate for better access to quality ostomy products and services, as well as improved insurance coverage and government support.

Through these efforts, the Malaysian ostomy community hopes to empower ostomates, improve their quality of life, and ensure they know they are not alone in their journey.

The celebration of International Ostomy Day in Portugal



Ana Margarida Pinto Braga,
Member of Portuguese Association of Stomatherapy Nurses (APECE)

In celebration of the International Day for People with Ostomies in Portugal, a nationwide effort brought together healthcare professionals, individuals with ostomies, their families, and the public to promote education, support, and awareness. A variety of training and awareness-raising sessions were held across the country, highlighting the importance of comprehensive care and societal understanding for people living with ostomies.

The Portuguese Association of Stomatherapy Nurses (APECE) collaborated with the various activities, emphasising its mission “to ensure the development of Stoma Therapy Nursing in Portugal through its commitment to promoting knowledge, innovation and excellent training for stoma therapy nurses in different contexts and at different levels of academic differentiation”.

These sessions focused on several key objectives. One major focus was training healthcare professionals, ensuring they are well-prepared to provide both clinical and emotional support to ostomy patients. Equally important were the educational workshops designed for people with ostomies and their families. These sessions equipped participants with practical tools and information, helping them manage day-to-day life, enhance self-care, and foster a greater sense

of independence and confidence. Families were also offered resources to better support their loved ones, creating a stronger network of care at home.

Additionally, raising awareness among the wider public through media, was a crucial part of the campaign. By educating civil society about ostomies and the unique challenges faced by those with this condition, the initiative aimed to reduce misconceptions and stigma. Living with an ostomy is often misunderstood and the goals are to build a society that supports and understands the experiences of ostomates, paving the way for greater acceptance and inclusion.

This year's observance of the International Day of People with Ostomies highlighted the importance of coordinated efforts across healthcare, patient education, and public outreach to improve the quality of life for people with ostomies and ensure they can thrive in an inclusive society.



Awareness-raising session at the São Francisco Xavier Hospital in Lisbon given by Cláudia Silva, president of APECE



Celebration of the anniversary of the Stoma Therapy Consultation at the Trás-dos-Montes e Alto Douro Local Health Unit and the International Ostomy Day.



Workshop promoted by the Stoma Therapy Nurses from the Local Health Unit of Leiria, attended by people with ostomies and their families



Ana Braga, Member of APECE's Social Bodies, was interviewed on television as part of the celebration of the Internacional Ostomy Day, with the aim of making the general population aware of the challenges of living with an ostomy.



People with ostomies, health professionals and the industry gathered at the Lisbon half marathon to raise awareness among civil society

WCET® represented at booth along with HEdS (High School of Health Geneva) and SAFW (Swiss Association for Wound Care)



Left to right: Lucie Charbonneau, EPUAP trustee, SAFW Romande Présidente, Noémie Metzener, WCET® member and SAFW secretary, Pascal Monney, past Convatec wound care representative, and Sophie Groux, member of the Skin Ostomy Wound Care Research & Implementation Group at HEdS as Lucie



Dr Elizabeth A. Ayello & Dr Joan Enric Torra



24th Annual Meeting of the European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel (EPUAP)

USA – returning to our roots, recognising excellence, growing the specialty



Kelly Jaszarowski, MSN, RN, CNS, ANP, CWOCN, WOCNF

WOCNext 2024 was held in Cleveland, Ohio from June 9th to 12th, attendees had the opportunity to learn where the specialty began with more than 20 education sessions offered and over 40 contact hours available. Sessions were offered in 60 and 90 minute increments with content reflective of evidence based practice. The educational format varied from podium lectures to ePoster presentations. Other offerings included sponsored symposia and an Innovation Hub. The Exhibit Hall allowed attendees to see firsthand new products and the opportunity to interact with exhibitors and manufacturers, as well as to network with other WOC healthcare professionals. Personal invitations to attend the 2024 WCET®-ASCN UK Joint Congress in Glasgow, Scotland September 28th to October 1st, were handed out to those visiting the exhibit hall and the WCET® booth.

The conference kicked off with the WOCNext welcome party which was held on Saturday at the Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame. Participants were able to walk through the museum and to learn about the history of rock and roll. The WOCN® Board of Directors performed, singing "We Will WOC You". Overall, the event allowed for networking, reconnecting and making new connections. A great start to the conference!



The WOCN® Board of Directors at the Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame

Sunday afternoon, the Norma Gill Lecture was presented on bladder diversions with the speakers focused on sharing a process for maximising outcomes through a structured, standardised approach. Dr Scott Steele of the Cleveland Clinic was the speaker for this year's Rupert B. Turnbull, Jr. MD Lecture. This lecture was an update on rectal cancers providing the attendee with new knowledge in the advances of a comprehensive, multidisciplinary team approach.

Paula Erwin-Toth, MSN, RN, FAAN was presented with this year's WOCN® President's award during the opening session. This award recognises those that have made a significant contribution to the WOCN® Society and/or in the field of WOC nursing specialty. Paula, while retired, is a well-known author, lecturer, and patient advocate in the US and abroad. She is a previous program director for the R. B. Turnbull, Jr Md School of Enterostomal Therapy. She also has a personal relationship with Norma and her family. Pictured here is Paula with WOCN® President Vicky Pontieri-Lewis, MS, RN, ACNS-BC-CWOCN®. The jacket Paula is wearing in this photo belonged to Norma!



Left to Right Paula Erwin-Toth and WOCN® President Vicky Pontieri-Lewis

The WOCN® Fellow Program recognises excellence and is the most prestigious recognition bestowed upon WOC nurses. Fellows are recognised for their contributions to the WOC nursing specialty as WOC nursing professionals or their WOCN® Societal contributions or both. Individuals are considered based upon their clinical expertise, leadership, scholarly experience and contributions. Their contributions to the WOC nursing practice are noted in the areas of education, research, public policy and advocacy, membership engagement and quality improvement contributing to the overall knowledge and expertise while shaping WOC nursing practice (WOCN®, 2024).

The second class of WOCN® Fellows was inducted during the WOCN® Fellows Gala! This year's class consists of nine individuals representing various expertise and contributions to WOC nursing and its body of knowledge. The WOCN® Fellow Class of 2024 along with WOCN® President Vicky Pontier-Lewis are pictured below and identified from left to right with the bolded inductee names being WCET® members:

- Linda Droste, MSN, RN, CWOCN, CBIS, WOCNF
- **Catherine T. Milne, MSN, APRN, ANP/ACNS-BC, CWOCN-AP, WOCNF**
- Ferne Elsass, MSN, RN, CPN, CWON, WOCNF
- **Kelly Jaszarowski, MSN, RN, CNS, ANP, CWOCN, WOCNF**
- **Bonnie S. Rolstad, MS, RN, CWOCN, WOCNF**
- Vicky Pontieri-Lewis, MS, RN, ACNS-BC, CWOCN (WOCN President)
- Kate Lawrence, MSN, RN, CWOCN, WOCNF
- Kevin Emmons, DrNP, RN, APN, AGPCNP-BC, CWCN, CFCN, WOCNF
- Joyce Pittman, PhD, RN, ANP-BC, FNP-BC, CWOCN, FAAN, WOCNF
- Ann Marie Nie, PhD, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC, CWOCN, WOCNF



WOC education opportunities continue with eight WOCN® accredited WOC Nursing Education Programs. These programs focus on educating the entry level nurse while providing a variety of avenues to obtain the education. Some programs are asynchronous, offered online and/or in person education with all offering hands on clinical experiences. Clinical opportunities are offered all across the USA. One program offers WOC education in Vietnam and the Philippines. The focus of all the WOCNEPs is not only on education, but on educating future certified WOC nurses in an effort to grow the specialty while creating healthcare professionals to meet the needs of individuals with

select disorders of the gastrointestinal, genitourinary and integumentary systems. While in Cleveland, the WOC Nursing Education Program Directors met to discuss shared interests and efforts in promoting the WOC nursing specialty. Those unable to attend were able to Zoom in to the meeting.



Left to right: Front row Joann Catanzaro, Zoom attendees (Lori Borja, Susan Mason, Patricia Slachta, Vivian Wong) Michelle Quigel. Back row Charleen Singh, Dr Janice Beitz, Kelly Jaszarowski, JoAnn Ermer-Seltun, Debra Netsch, Dawn Carson.

All programs were represented during the meeting:

- Cleveland Clinic R. B. Turnbull, Jr MD WOC Nursing Education Program
Kelly Jaszarowski, MSN, RN, CNS, ANP, CWOCN, WOCNF
Patricia Slachta, PhD, RN, APRN, ACNS-BC, CWOCN
- Emory University Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nursing Education Center
Lori Borja, MSN, RN, CWOCN, CFCN
- International Wound Ostomy Continence Nursing Education Program
Charleen Singh, PhD, RN, MBA, FNP-BC, CWOCN
- LaSalle University Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nursing Education Program
Michelle Quigel, MSN, RN, AGPCNP-BS, CWOCN
Dawn Carson, MSN, RN, AGPCNP-BS, CWOCN
- Rutgers University School of Nursing-Camden Wound Ostomy Continence Nursing Education Program
Janice Beitz, PhD, RN, CS, CNOR, CWOCN-AP, CRNP, APNC, MAPWCA, FAAN, ANEF and Joann Catanzaro, MSN, RN, CS, CWOCN, DAPWCA.
- The Wound and Ostomy Education Program at the Valley Foundation School of Nursing, San Jose State University
Vivian Wong, PhD, RN, CNS, CWON
- Web WOC Nursing Education Program
JoAnn Ermer-Seltun, MS, RN, ARNP, FNP-BC, CWOCN, CFCN, WOCNF and Debra Netsch, DNP, CNP, FNP-BC, CWOCN, CWOCN-AP, CFCN
- Winona State University Wound, Ostomy, & Continence Nursing Education Program
Susan Mason, DNP, RN, FNP, CWOCN, CFCN

35 US delegates attended the 2024 WCET®-ASCN-UK Joint Congress in Glasgow, Scotland, including myself as the US delegate! Pictured here are some of those attendees:



Presenters were from all over the world providing attendees with many perspectives and educational opportunities focusing on ostomy/stoma care, wound care, continence care, research, and innovations. Presented abstracts covered a variety of topics, such as confidentiality in stoma care and impact of palliative wound care on patients and families. In addition to the educational sessions, attendees had the opportunity to review 213 posters. Many of these posters were submitted by US members.

In addition to WOCN® and WCET®'s conference, other educational opportunities this fall include WOCN®'s Ostomy Education Day and Wound Education Day. Ostomy Education Day 2024 was held in October as a live, virtual event with over 4000 registrants worldwide. This education was aimed at celebrating ostomy awareness, dispelling myths, and increasing ostomy education to improve patient outcomes. November's Wound Education Day was aimed at advancing wound care through education and equipping wound care professionals with the most current evidence-based knowledge to teach, prevent, and effectively heal even the most challenging wounds. Many local chapters of WOCN® offered fall conferences, another great opportunity for education and networking. WOC Nursing Education Programs are growing the specialty and educating future WOC nurses, preparing them for entry level practice and certification. WOCN® provides additional opportunities for evidence-based education as well as for networking. Excellence is recognised through various awards and the WOCN® Fellows program. Growth and recognition in the city where the specialty began, Cleveland, Ohio, as well as other locations. [WOCN. \(2024\). Fellow Program. https://www.wocn.org/wocn-fellow-program/](https://www.wocn.org/wocn-fellow-program/)

Upcoming education events

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to announce that the 12th Dilemmas & Debates in Colorectal Surgery Conference (DDCRS) will be held on January 9th and 10th 2025 at Bush House, King's College London, WC2R 2LS. This year's conference is organised in collaboration with The International Society of University Colon and Rectal Surgeons (ISUCRS)



For more information
<https://www.ddcrs.org>



For more information
<https://www.apfc2025.org>



For more information
<https://ewma.org/2025conference/>



For more information
<https://stomaltherapy.au/conferences/>



For more information
<https://www.nswocconference.com>



For more information
<https://www.wocn.org/events/wocnext/>

Helsinki 2025 ICN Congress

NURSING POWER 9-13
to Change the World JUNE

For more information
<https://www.icn.ch/events/icn-congress-2025-helsinki>



EPUAP Annual Meeting 2025



More about EPUAP events:
<https://epuap.org/events-awards/>

NPIAP 2025 Annual Conference



Since November 16th, 2023, (Worldwide Pressure Injury Prevention Day), the NPIAP/EPUAP/PPPIA have been pleased to provide the e-versions of the full Clinical Practice Guideline and the Quick Reference Guide for free download from the International Guideline website <http://internationalguideline.com> until the fourth edition of the guideline is available in 2025.

For more information
<https://npiap.com/events/register.aspx?id=1878933>



For more information
<https://www.apetna2025.com/about-us>



For more information
<https://www.ics.org/2025>



For more information
<https://ascnuk.org/ascnuk25/>



The WCET® International Delegates list

For all the countries that we are missing an International Delegate (ID), please help us by letting us know who would be your next ID so we can update this list.

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Please read the last received IDs Biennial Country Reports under: <https://wctn.org/general/custom.asp?page=MemberLibrary>



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