

IMIA NI NEWSLETTER March 2026

March brings a sense of change and renewal across the IMIA Nursing Informatics community. This edition of the newsletter marks an important transition as we welcome a new Chair and Vice Chair to the IMIA NI Board. Leadership transitions are significant moments for any international network, offering an opportunity to recognise past contributions while looking ahead to the next phase of our shared work.

Nursing Informatics continues to evolve rapidly as digital health technologies reshape healthcare systems, education, and research around the world. As a global community, our strength lies in the diversity of expertise, perspectives, and collaborations that allow us to respond to this change with insight and purpose.

We look forward to supporting our new leadership as they guide the continued development of IMIA NI, and we thank all members of our community for the commitment and professionalism that sustain this important work.

[Executive Committee 2025-2029](#)

Chair: Gregory Alexander

Vice-Chair Admin & Finance: Ulla-Mari Kinnunen

Vice-Chair Membership: Hana Ibrahim Abu Sharib

Vice-Chair Advisory Panels: Dawn Dowding

Vice-Chair Communication: Helen Almond



1 - Chair: Gregory Alexander



2 - Vice-Chair Admin & Finance: Ulla-Mari Kinnunen



3 - Vice-Chair Membership: Hana Ibrahim Abu Sharib



4 - Vice-Chair Advisory Panels: Dawn Dowding



5 - Vice-Chair Communication: Helen Almond

Purpose: Guided by its values of inclusivity, ethics, and compassion, IMIA NI advocates for nurses worldwide and collaborates to advance good digital health practices. IMIA NI empowers individuals and communities to use innovative technologies to enhance health, healthcare, and patient outcomes

Introductions & Updates from our Chair and Vice Chairs



Introducing our new Chair

Dr. Alexander is the Centennial Professor on Health Policy and Director of the Center for Health Policy at the Columbia University School of Nursing New York NY, USA. Alexander's background is in human factors, informatics, gerontology, patient safety, quality measures, survey development and psychometrics. Alexander is currently completing a third national

U.S. study assessing the impact of information system maturity on nursing home quality measurements and care environments where nurse practitioners work.

Introducing our new Vice Chair - Membership

Hana Ibrahim Abu Sharib is a highly experienced nursing professional and informatics leader from Abu Dhabi, UAE, with more than 20 years of experience in healthcare. Beginning her career after completing a Diploma in Nursing at the Abu Dhabi Institute of Nursing, Hana later earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Sharjah and a Master's in Public Health Management Excellence from Hamdan Bin Mohammad Smart University.

Throughout her career, Hana has progressed from clinical nursing roles in maternal and child health to become a recognised leader in nursing informatics. She has held several key positions within the Abu Dhabi health system, including Senior Nurse Informatics roles at Sheikh Khalifa Medical City and SEHA Headquarters. She currently serves as a Nursing Administration Specialist at Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City (SSMC), where her work focuses on strengthening the integration of informatics and data to support nursing practice and healthcare revenue management.

Hana has been actively involved in numerous professional committees and international collaborations, including work with the International Medical Informatics Association (IMIA) Nursing Informatics community, the HIMSS Middle East Steering Committee, and the GCC eHealth Workforce Development initiatives. She has also contributed to research and conference presentations across the region, promoting the advancement of nursing informatics in the UAE.

Her leadership in projects such as emergency department standardisation and nursing revenue initiatives has helped demonstrate the value of integrating informatics into everyday nursing practice. Hana's ongoing work continues to support the development of digitally enabled nursing practice and health system improvement across the region.

Update from the Vice-Chair – Administration, Finance and Acting Vice Chair Membership (2025-2026)

My substantive role as Vice-Chair for Administration and Finance is balancing and reporting our finances and preparing the meeting memos for our Board and General Assembly meetings, helping ensure our discussions and decisions are well documented.

In addition to my role, I have also been supporting our membership matters since May 2025. Over this time, I've been working behind the scenes to update our membership lists and keep in touch with members when needed.

As many of you know, the monthly IMIA NI Newsletter is also distributed by email, so coordinating these mailings has become part of my routine. It has been very encouraging to receive positive feedback from members who are enjoying the updates and staying connected with the activities of our community.

That said, some email addresses in our records are no longer active, which means we occasionally lose contact with valued members. If you have recently changed your email details, please consider updating your contact information so we can keep you informed.

Thank you to everyone who continues to engage with IMIA Nursing Informatics — your connection and participation are what keep our global community strong. **Ulla-Mari Kinnunen**

Update From the Vice-Chair – Advisory Panels

Our Advisory Panels (AP) continue to meet regularly, bringing together expertise from across the global IMIA Nursing Informatics community. These meetings provide an important space for discussion, collaboration, and alignment of panel activities with the broader IMIA NI strategy.

Given the international nature of our network and the many professional commitments of panel members, progress occurs steadily over time through thoughtful discussion and shared insight. The panels continue to work with the AP Chair to shape priorities and identify areas where their expertise can best support the strategic direction of IMIA Nursing Informatics.

We are grateful for the commitment of our panel members, whose voluntary contributions ensure that the panels remain an important source of advice, knowledge sharing, and international collaboration within the IMIA NI community. **Dawn Dowding**

Update from the Vice Chair – Communications

March brings an important moment of transition for the IMIA Nursing Informatics community as we warmly welcome Gregory Alexander our new Chair and Hana Ibrahim Abu Sharib Vice Chair to the IMIA NI Board. Leadership renewal provides an opportunity to build on the strong foundations established by our predecessors while continuing to strengthen our global Nursing Informatics network.

As Vice Chair for Communications, I continue to encourage greater engagement from our members in shaping this newsletter. The IMIA NI Newsletter is a shared platform for our international community to highlight innovations, research, education initiatives, regional activities, and emerging ideas in Nursing Informatics.

We warmly invite members to contribute short updates, project highlights, event reports, or reflections from practice and research. Your contributions help ensure the newsletter reflects the breadth and diversity of work taking place across our global community.

Together, we can continue to strengthen communication, collaboration, and knowledge sharing across IMIA Nursing Informatics. I look forward to hearing from many of you in future editions. **Helen Almond**

Spotlight



Vision: Globally nurses are empowered and included to develop and use innovative and effective digital tools and technologies.

Global Nursing Informatics: Highlighting emerging evidence shaping the future of Nursing Informatics.



1. Artificial Intelligence Literacy Among Nursing Professionals

Artificial intelligence is rapidly becoming embedded in healthcare systems, yet many nurses report limited formal preparation in AI concepts and digital decision-support tools. A recent scoping review in *BMC Nursing* examined the global literature on AI literacy among nursing professionals. This review highlights a growing need for structured education in AI, data interpretation, and digital ethics to ensure nurses can safely engage with emerging technologies. It also emphasises that strengthening AI literacy is essential for nurses to contribute meaningfully to technology governance and implementation.

Read the paper: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s12912-026-04448-8>

2. Nursing Informatics and Undergraduate Nursing Curricula: A Scoping Review

As digital health becomes embedded in clinical practice, undergraduate nursing education is under increasing pressure to ensure graduates are digitally competent. A 2026 scoping review published in *Nursing Reports* explores how nursing informatics is currently integrated into undergraduate curricula internationally. The study highlights gaps in digital literacy training, inconsistent curriculum frameworks, and the need for stronger integration of informatics competencies to support safe, data-driven clinical practice.

Read the paper: <https://www.mdpi.com/2039-4403/16/2/42>

3. A Blueprint for Integrating Nursing Informatics into Undergraduate Nursing Programs

This international study involving Australian and South African programs proposes a practical blueprint for integrating nursing informatics across undergraduate curricula. The authors emphasise that structured frameworks are needed to ensure graduates develop competencies in digital health, data use, and technology-enabled care, preparing nurses for increasingly technology-driven health systems. Read the paper:

<https://researchonline.jcu.edu.au/90472/1/90472.pdf>

Why this matters

Together, these papers highlight three major global priorities for Nursing Informatics in 2026:

- Building digital and AI literacy across the nursing workforce
- Strengthening informatics integration in undergraduate nursing education
- Developing structured frameworks that support technology-enabled nursing practice

As always invite IMIA NI members to share newly published research, regional studies, and emerging innovations for future Spotlight editions.

Wellbeing Without Borders

March — Reset and Renewal

A reminder that progress does not require perfection. Small resets help sustain energy and perspective.

Reset, don't restart

This time of year often brings momentum and new demands. Instead of expecting a full restart, consider a small reset. What is one thing that would make your work or day feel more manageable or meaningful?

Notice small progress

In complex work like Nursing Informatics, change rarely happens all at once. Progress often appears in small steps — a shared idea, a solved problem, a connection made across time zones. Take a moment to acknowledge these quiet achievements.

Stay connected to purpose

Our work sits at the intersection of care, technology, and people. Reconnecting with the purpose behind that work — improving care, strengthening systems, supporting colleagues — can help sustain motivation and perspective.

IMIA NI values in action

This monthly reflection recognises the diversity of our global community and encourages sustainable ways of working. By supporting balance, reflection, and connection, we help strengthen both individual wellbeing and our collective capacity to lead and innovate in Nursing Informatics.

Society Membership



A society member of IMIA NI is an active participant in the International Medical Informatics Association – Nursing Informatics community. Members meet eligibility criteria, engage in the society’s activities, and contribute to advancing nursing and health informatics. They benefit from networking, professional development, and opportunities to shape the field, reflecting a commitment to innovation, collaboration, and the mission of IMIA NI.

IMIA NI - the global representative body for nursing informatics

This is your space to connect with colleagues - In 2026 take the time to introduce yourself and grow your digital health, nursing informatics networks!

IMIA NI Advisory Panels

The IMIA Nursing Informatics (NI) Advisory Panels are part of the International Medical Informatics Association's global initiative to advance nursing and digital health. There are four panels — **Education, Governance, Practice, and Research** — each bringing together international experts to share knowledge, set priorities, and guide innovation in their respective areas. Together, these panels help shape the global direction of nursing informatics and strengthen collaboration across education, practice, policy, and research.

Consider contributing to the future of nursing informatics through our specialised panels

Education Advisory Panel (Chair: Max Topaz)

Governance Advisory Panel (Chairs: Laura-Maria Peltonen, Zerina Lokmic-Tomkins)

Practice Advisory Panel (Chairs: Janette Gogler, Clair Lunt)

Research Advisory Panel (Chairs: Charlene Ronquillo, Aaron Conway)

How to Join Visit: **IMIA NI Advisory Panels** and complete the form.¹

Global Nursing Informatics & Digital Health Conferences in 2026



6 - Save the Date

Please note that some events may have multiple sessions or tracks focusing on different aspects of nursing and healthcare. For detailed information on each conference, including registration, abstract submissions, and specific themes, it's advisable to visit the respective websites.

- **EFMI — Medical Informatics Europe (MIE 2026)**

When / Where: 25–28 May 2026 — Genova (Genoa), Italy.

¹<https://imia-medinfo.org/wp/imia-ni-advisory-panel-form/>

Why relevant: EFMI's flagship European medical informatics meeting; includes tracks on education, digital health, AI, interoperability and opportunities relevant to nursing informatics.

Source: EFMI / MIE2026 pages. EFMI MIE2026²

- **AIDH / HIC2026 (Health Informatics Conference)**

When / Where: 3 – 4 August 2026 - Sydney International Convention Centre, Australia.

Why relevant: Australasia's peak digital health conference — strong local relevance for Australian nursing informatics, education, workforce and implementation topics.

Source: AIDH (digitalhealth.org.au) event/HIC pages. AIDH³

- **ICN NP/APN Network Conference 2026 (hosted by a university)**

When / Where: 14–17 September 2026 — Nashville, Tennessee, USA (hosted by Vanderbilt University School of Nursing; endorsed by ICN NP/APN Network).

Why relevant: Although this is the ICN NP/APN network conference (advanced practice nursing focus), it is ICN-affiliated and university-hosted — good for practising nurses and nurse leaders working with informatics in advanced practice settings.

Source: ICN event page and the conference site (Vanderbilt host). ICN - International Council of Nurses⁴

- **IMIA (noting 2026 IMIA activity — General Assembly / IAHSI / regional meetings)**

When / Where: IMIA lists **General Assembly and IAHSI plenary meetings in October 2026 (Buenos Aires)** and other IMIA regional events in 2026; **MedInfo** (IMIA's large congress) is scheduled for **2027**

Why relevant: IMIA is the global body for biomedical & health informatics and IMIA-NI is the recognised nursing informatics — IMIA events and working group meetings are the most authoritative places for nursing informatics activity.

Source: IMIA NI official site⁵ (calendar, MedInfo, IMIA NI pages).

²<https://mie2026.efmi.org/>

³<https://digitalhealth.org.au/>

⁴<https://www.icn.ch/events/icn-npnpn-network-conference-2026>

⁵<https://imia-medinfo.org/wp/sig-ni-nursing-informatics/>

Your experiences, ideas, and successes help shape our global community

Member Feedback

“The IMIA NI Newsletter has become a valuable resource for our community. I regularly share it with colleagues in our nursing informatics network, and members consistently express strong interest in the insights and updates it provides. It’s a great way to stay connected with developments, initiatives, and perspectives from the global Nursing Informatics community. Thank you to everyone involved in producing such an informative and engaging publication.”

— Nursing Informatics Community Member

This is your space. Our community is at its strongest when we learn from one another. We’d love to hear your stories, successes, and experiences — big or small — from wherever you are in the world. Have something you’re proud of, a project you’re working on, or a lesson you’ve learned along the way?

We welcome your feedback on previous newsletters, events, or ideas you’d like to see featured. Please take a moment to share your news with us — your story may be included in an upcoming edition and help inspire others across our global NI community.

Web <https://imia-medinfo.org/wp/sig-ni-nursing-informatics/>⁶

LinkedIn [IMIA NI - the global representative body for nursing informatics](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/6716836/)⁷

⁶<https://imia-medinfo.org/wp/sig-ni-nursing-informatics/>

⁷<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/6716836/>