

SHIELD

FUTURE OF PERIOPERATIVE NURSING

SAFETY
HEALTH
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EQUITY
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DIVERSITY



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#PatientSafetyFirst



AORN LOS ANGELES CHAPTER 0507

**ANNUAL PERIOPERATIVE PATIENT
SAFETY SEMINAR**

&

4th MINI-CONVENTION

SEPTEMBER 20, 2025

USC Arcadia Hospital,

Arcadia, CA, 91007

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Morning Sessions

TIME	ACTIVITY
PART 1: Perioperative Patient Safety Seminar	
0730 – 0810 Lewis Hall	Registration/Light Breakfast/Vendor’s Fair
0810 – 0815 Samual Vance Auditorium	Opening Remarks Nur Saldivar - Chair, Education Committee
0815– 0915	Presenter: Tony Yap - Education Committee Member “Elevating Excellence through DEIB Synergized Leadership” Speaker: Dr. Daphny Peneza DNP, RN, CNOR, CSSM, FAORN Vanderbilt Hospital Manager, Perioperative Services Neurosurgery & Neuro Interventional OR
0915-1015	Presenter: Christian Dela Cruz – Education Committee Member “Incivility Vs. Bullying: Navigating the Fine Line Between Conflict and Respect” Speaker: Karen Edwards MBA, BSN, RN, CSSM, CNOR Houston Methodist Hospital Director, Perioperative Services Main 3 OR and Dunn 6 OR
1015-1035	Raffles: (2 winners) 1-year AORN Regular/Standard Membership Registration or Renewal /Vendor’s Fair/Refreshments
1035– 1135	Presenter: Tony Yap - Education Committee Member “Clinical/Cultural Principles & Administrative Management for Transfusion-Free Patient Care” Speaker: Randy Henderson USC- Director, Transfusion-Free Patient Care
1135 - 1200	Lunch Pick up – Lewis Hall



AORN LOS ANGELES 0507
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Afternoon Sessions

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND MEMBERS 2025-2026

EDUCATION:

Chair: Nur Saldivar

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Tony Yap

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EVENTS ORGANIZER:

Chair: Myra Familara

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SOCIAL MEDIA & HISTORICAL:

Ronalyn Calalang
Marell Hazel Garcia
Dorothy Wang

TIME	ACTIVITY
1200 - 1300	Presenter: Christian Dela Cruz – Education Committee Member <i>“Hemostasis and Patient Safety: Expanding Knowledge of the Perioperative Team”</i> Speaker: Michele Young MMS, PA-C Corza Medical Medical Science Liaison, Biosurgery
1300-1320	<i>Raffles/Vendors’ Fair/Refreshments:</i>
1320-1420	Presenter: Tony Yap - Education Committee Member <i>“From Burnout to Balance: Cultivating Well-Being in Clinical Practice”</i> Speaker: Dr. Uttam K. Sinha, MD, MS, FACS Keck Medicine of USC Professor & Director, Head and Neck Center
1420-1520	Presenter: Christian Dela Cruz – Education Committee Member <i>“Care for Adult Patients after Gender Affirming Surgery – What is Important to know in the Perioperative Space”</i> Speaker: Dr. Polina Reyblat, MD, FPMRS Kaiser Permanente – LA Medical Center Chief, Urology Department
1520 – 1540	<i>Afternoon Refreshments</i>
1540 - 1640	Presenter: Tony Yap - Education Committee Member <i>“Evolution of Living Donor Liver Transplantation and How to Expand Responsibly”</i> Speaker: Dr. Juliet Emamallee MD, PHD, FRCS, FACS, FAST Keck Medicine of USC Associate Professor of Surgery
1640 - 1645	Presentation of Evaluation/CE requirement Romart Clark Telar, Co-Chair, Education Committee
1645 - 1650	Closing Program Nur Saldivar, Chair, Education Committee



Dr. Daphny Peneza
DNP, RN, CNOR, CSSM, FAORN

Dr. Daphny Peneza is a Perioperative Manager at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Ms. Peneza's collaborative ventures include being Project Head of a COVID-19 Task Force and lead author for the Perioperative Chapter of the Core Curriculum of Neuroscience Nurses. She centers her advocacy on building strong teams, sustaining engagement as a nursing professional organization leader, and shaping perioperative practice as one of the 20 Fellows of the Association of Perioperative Registered Nurses.

Topic: *Elevating Excellence through DEIB Synergized Leadership.*

Objective: **1.** Articulate the significance of diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEIB) in nursing. **2.** Integrate DEIB principles into nursing practice, education, and leadership. **3.** Enumerate collaborative techniques to support a diverse perioperative team.

Brief Description/Summary:

Diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEIB) are crucial in nursing to create an inclusive environment. Integrating DEIB fosters a culturally competent workforce. Nurse leaders address diverse needs through experiential learning and community partnerships. Advancing DEIB ensures equitable care and a safer healthcare system. Continuous improvement and evaluation of DEIB initiatives are essential. This presentation outlines DEIB strategies and shares a DEIB fellowship journey to improve care.

Lighting the Pathway

Our annual surgical conference unites perioperative nurses from around the globe for an exhilarating four-day experience filled with education, innovation, inspiration, and networking. Be part of this transformative event dedicated to advancing perioperative nursing and elevating your practice. Be the first to know when registration opens in October.

AORN Global Surgical Conference & Expo

New Orleans, LA, April 11-14, 2026



SAFE SURGERY TOGETHER



SAVE THE DATE

AORN LA CHAPTER 0507 HOLIDAY CELEBRATION & MORNING CE EVENT

Morning CE will be at the auditorium
Lunch & PM Holiday celebration at
Conference Room 3

DECEMBER 6

UCLA SANTA MONICA
AUDITORIUM AND
CONFERENCE ROOM 3

Karen Y. Edwards has over 36 years of experience in perioperative services. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of South Florida, Tampa, and an MBA in Health Care Management from Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, Texas. A member of AORN for 34 years, Karen has made significant contributions to advancing patient safety and quality of care in the perioperative setting. Nursing Director Perioperative Services at the Houston Methodist Hospital.

Karen Edwards
MBA, BSN, RN, CSSM, CNOR



Topic: *Incivility Vs. Bullying: Navigating the Fine Line Between Conflict and Respect.*

Objective: 1. Understand bullying in the workplace versus conflict. 2. Describe difference between bullying vs. incivility 3. Awareness of the risk of bullying in the workplace. 4. Describe strategies to prevent and implement workplace bullying creating a safe and respectful work environment for all employees.

Brief Description/Summary:

In this presentation, we explore the critical distinctions between incivility and bullying in the workplace, emphasizing the need for awareness and understanding to foster a respectful environment. Incivility encompasses low-intensity behaviors that may be disruptive or disrespectful, while bullying involves more severe, targeted actions that can lead to a toxic work atmosphere. We will discuss the impact of both behaviors on employee morale, team dynamics, and overall organizational culture.



Randy Henderson

Randy's background is in business development, physician relations and patient advocacy and has been at the forefront of implementing programs at several hospitals in Los Angeles County since 1996. He has also provided consultation for other hospitals in the U.S. and has been an associate member of the Society for the Advancement of Blood Management (SABM) since 2002. He is a member of the Transfusion Committee and Ethics Resource Committee at the Keck Medical Center of USC.

Topic: *Clinical/Cultural Principles & Administrative Management for Transfusion-Free Patient Care.*

Objective: 1. Core legal principles related to refusal of blood and patient autonomy. 2. The rationale behind refusal of blood based on religious beliefs. 3. Clinical guidelines related to conscientious patient blood management.

Brief Description/Summary:

This presentation explores the clinical, cultural and legal aspects of providing medical and surgical care without blood product support.



AORN

LOS ANGELES CHAPTER 0507

CHAPTER EVENT
NOVEMBER 8, 2025



Chapter inaugural launch of
**PERIOPERATIVE
HANDS ON SKILLS**

“Behind the Scenes in Scrubs:
Real-Time Skills that Save Lives”

in collaboration with
**Keck Medicine of USC
Education Department.**

Let's launch together. Learn, Lead.



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LET'S MAKE HISTORY-TOGETHER.

Dr. Uttam K. Sinha MD, MS, FACS



Dr. Uttam K. Sinha is a distinguished expert in Head and Neck Surgery, serving as Director of the USC Head and Neck Center and Watt Family Endowed Chair. He leads a multidisciplinary team focused on improving cancer care, reconstruction, and rehabilitation.

His research includes early cancer detection using nanotechnology and liquid biopsy, cancer immunology, and personalized therapies. Dr. Sinha's lab developed BION, a neuromuscular stimulation platform for swallowing restoration. He fosters global collaborations and created hncsupport.org to support patient wellness and survivorship.

Topic: *From Burnout to Balance: Cultivating Well-Being in Clinical Practice.*

Objective: **1.** Identify the key contributors to burnout, with an emphasis on high-stress clinical environments and systemic challenges in healthcare **2.** Examine evidence-based strategies to enhance personal and team resilience, including institutional supports, peer connections, and boundary-setting. **3.** Apply practical tools and daily practices to promote well-being, improve work-life integration, and foster a culture of psychological safety in clinical settings. **4.** Discuss the role of leadership and organizational culture in driving long-term solutions for mental health and job satisfaction.

Brief Description/Summary:

Dr. Uttam Sinha discusses the causes, effects, and solutions to burnout using practical, evidence-based approaches. This session covers how to recognize burnout, adopt sustainable well-being practices, and improve fulfillment at work. Participants will learn strategies to build resilience, enhance workplace culture, and bring greater purpose to their daily routines.



**Dr. Polina Reyblat
MD, FPMRS**

Dr. Polina Reyblat was born and raised in Riga, Latvia. She currently serves as a Chief of Urology at Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles and Elected Board Member of the Southern California Permanente Medical Group. She earned her undergraduate degree

from UCLA. She obtained her medical degree, completed urology residency and fellowship in Reconstructive Urology at USC. Her focus is on reconstructive, prosthetic and neuro urology. She dedicates a portion of her practice to gender care.

Topic: *Care for Adult Patients After Gender Affirming Surgery – What is Important to Know in the PeriOperative Space.*

Objective: **1.** Understand types of gender affirming surgery and how they are performed. **2.** Learn about common complications after gender affirming surgery. **3.** Understand the anatomy of patients who underwent gender affirming surgery. **4.** Learn key points in providing safe care to patients after gender affirming surgery.

Brief Description/Summary:

This session will provide definition of various types of surgeries, surgical steps, common complications, how to provide safe and comfortable care catheterization, and what perioperative nurses needs to know about anatomy after reconstructive surgery of patients who underwent gender affirming surgery.

Chapter Bylaws Amendment 2025

Please use QR Code to vote



**Part 2: 4th Mini-Convention & Chapter Business Meeting
Agenda
1700 - 1745**

Call to Order	Jean Santiago <i>President</i>
Review of Minutes	Dorothy Wang <i>Secretary</i>
Treasurer's Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Month to Date Report • Quarterly Report 	Miguel Aventino <i>Treasurer</i>
Presentation of AORN National Board Candidates	Jean Santiago <i>President</i>
Awarding Ceremony:	Jean Santiago <i>President</i>
New Business: Bylaws Approval	Members at Large
Announcements:	Faye Ong <i>Vice-President</i>
Adjournment:	<i>Next meeting: November 8, 2025</i>



Dr. Juliet Emamaullee
MD, PhD, FRCSC, FACS, FAST

Dr. Juliet Emamaullee is an Associate Professor of Surgery and Immunology (Clinical Scholar) at USC and an attending liver and kidney transplant surgeon at Keck Hospital and Children's Hospital-Los Angeles. She is a surgeon-scientist with an NIH-funded translational immunobiology lab, exploring immunological phenotypes associated with liver transplant recipients.

Topic: *Evolution of Living Donor Liver Transplantation and How to Expand Responsibly.*

Objective: **1.** To learn the history of solid organ transplantation and living donation. **2.** To learn the history of living donor liver transplantation. **3.** To understand current approaches to expand living donor liver transplantation responsibly.

Brief Description/Summary:

This presentation will provide an overview of the history and current practice of living donor liver transplantation.



Michele Young
MMS, PA-C

Michele Young is the Medical Science Liaison for Corza Medical. She is a Surgical PA with 15 years of experience in many surgical specialties including adult and pediatric general and trauma, bariatric, HPB, cardiothoracic, neurosurgery, orthopedic, urologic, colorectal, transplant, GYN and robotic surgery. She is highly respected in the surgical community and has taught many national and international courses for all levels of perioperative staff. In 2025, Michele joined Corza Medical as the Medical Science Liaison for US Biosurgery.

Topic: *Hemostasis and Patient Safety: Expanding Knowledge of the Perioperative Team.*

Objective: 1. Identify risk factors for perioperative bleeding and recognize signs of bleeding in the perioperative patient. 2. Differentiate between mechanical, energy-based, and chemical methods of surgical hemostasis. 3. Compare the various categories of topical hemostatic products. 4. Identify key factors to consider in the selection of hemostatic products.

Brief Description/Summary:

Bleeding in the surgical patient is an important concern for surgical teams and can lead to increased complication rates and health care costs. This activity will assist the perioperative team in understanding the risks, causes, preventative strategies, and management techniques of perioperative bleeding. The normal process of coagulation and intraoperative techniques to manage surgical bleeding including thermal/energy-based methods and topical hemostatic agents will be explored.

CE Evaluation Form



Please allow 2-3 weeks for receipt of Continuing Education Certificates.

**Any questions, please reach out via email to:
contactaornla@gmail.com**