

**UCI Health**

Advanced Practice Providers Program

# ADVANCED PRACTICE NEWS



**WINTER 2021 ISSUE 3**

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# Advanced Practice News

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## OUR VISION STATEMENT

The UCI Health Advanced Practice Providers Program aims to be a leader in **patient-centered care, research, and “top of the license practice.”** We believe that when APPs are used to their fullest potential, the entire healthcare system benefits.

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# A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF ADVANCED PRACTICE PROVIDERS

VASCO DEON KIDD, DHSC, MPH, MS, PA-C



**H**appy New Year! I would like to warmly welcome you to the third edition of the APP quarterly newsletter.

As you all are aware, 2020 was a very challenging year and 2021 is off to a rocky start but I am encouraged that our brightest days are still ahead. Our health community has responded to this pandemic with remarkable innovation, compassion, resourcefulness, and resolve amid this

unprecedented public health and economic crisis. As this new year unfolds, I wanted to take a moment, to celebrate National CRNA Week. UCI Health Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) are highly respected and an integral part of the anesthesia care team. According to the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) 2019 Member Profile Survey, CRNAs safely administer more than 49 million anesthetics to patients each year in the United States. Our superb CRNA workforce has been essential in improving operating room productivity, efficiency, and throughput. Additionally, the CRNA group has provided training to countless numbers of nurse anesthesia students. Please join me in acknowledging and celebrating National CRNA Week.

Lastly, we are moving full steam ahead with more APP initiatives in 2021 to support research, medical education, and “top of the license practice”. Moreover, we are partnering with the Chartis Group and senior leadership to elevate the role and performance of APPs at UCI Health. Please take a moment to peruse the newsletter and learn more about the exciting initiatives currently underway. Please stay safe and healthy.

Best regards,

*Vasco Deon Kidd*



# HAPPY NATIONAL CRNA WEEK

MICHAEL MARINO, FNP-C, CRNA

The word “Anesthesia” was first coined by writer and physician, Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr. in the 19th century. Prior to the discovery of basic anesthetic techniques, surgeons resorted to bloodletting, suffocation, hitting patients on the head, or inebriating them with alcohol. Luckily, it has evolved over the years! Anesthesia was first widely administered by nurses on the battlefields of the American Civil War. Catholic nuns played a prominent role in providing anesthesia as routine care in many of the country’s earliest hospitals. The first recorded example of a nurse anesthetist was Sister Mary Bernard in 1887. Agnes Magaw, “the Mother of Anesthesia,” advanced the profession with her drip mask method of administering ether and chloroform. Working closely with Dr. Charles W. Mayo, Jr., they developed the Mayo Clinic and built it into an international forum for advanced anesthesia and surgical techniques.

CRNAs work in a variety of settings such as traditional hospital operating rooms, obstetrical delivery rooms, critical access hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, dentist offices, ophthalmologist offices, plastic surgery suites, and pain management centers. In the military, CRNAs continue to be the primary providers of anesthesia in combat zones.

The practice of anesthesiology for CRNAs includes, but is not limited to:

- Patient care before, during and after surgery
- Patient care before, during and after labor and delivery
- Diagnostic and therapeutic procedures
- Trauma stabilization and critical care interventions
- Acute and chronic pain management
- Management of systems and personnel that support these activities

The education and training required to become a CRNA is extensive. It takes many years of coursework and clinical hours to attain a master’s or doctoral degree in nurse anesthesia. During that time, students accrue 9,000 hours of clinical experience. CRNAs are the only anesthesia professionals required to have clinical experience prior to entering an anesthesia program as well as being board certified prior to providing anesthesia. The minimum requirements to practice as a CRNA are: a BSN or graduate degree in nursing, an unencumbered license as an RN or APRN, one-year experience as an RN in a critical care setting, graduate with a master’s degree from an accredited program, and pass the National Certification Examination (NCLEX).

Managed care plans recognize CRNAs as providing high quality care with reduced expenses to patients and insurance companies. Because of this, healthcare facilities depend on CRNAs to serve the most patients for the least cost while positively impacting our nation's growing healthcare cost crisis. This is referred to as an anesthesia care team model and is what is practiced here, at the University of California, Irvine Medical Center.

At UCI we currently have 59 CRNAs with a wide range of backgrounds and training. In addition to the 20 operating rooms in Douglas Hospital, UCI's CRNAs are also essential for outpatient procedures, labor and delivery, interventional radiology, cath lab, GI suites at the Chao Digestive Center, Chao Cancer Center, pre and post-operative patient assessments, as well as responding to codes throughout the campus. Many of UCI's CRNAs are involved in academia by teaching and proctoring student nurse anesthetists. Our department is involved in many aspects of our profession and we are grateful we can provide excellent care and service to our patients.

Happy CRNA Week!

Michael Marino, FNP-C, CRNA  
Advanced Practice Council - Chair  
Department of Anesthesiology & Perioperative Care  
UC Irvine Health

# CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF NURSE ANESTHETISTS (CANA)

NILU PATEL, CRNA (PRESIDENT OF THE CANA)

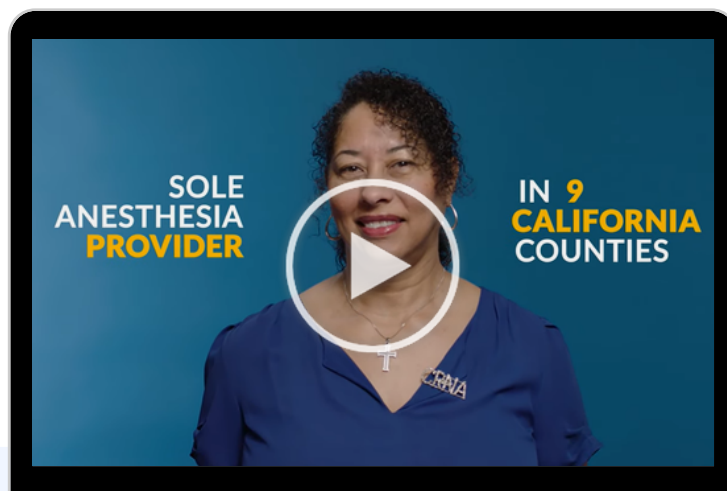
The California Association of Nurse Anesthetists (CANA) advances patient safety, fosters access to the highest quality anesthesia services and supports the nurse anesthesia profession in California. CANA represents over 2,500 practicing CRNAs (certified registered nurse anesthetists), and student RNAs at the 5 doctoral-level educational programs in the state.

The history of CANA dates to 1931. CANA became the first state association of nurse anesthetist in the country. Through CANA's legislative achievements, California CRNAs can practice independently and to the full scope of their education in all settings where anesthesia is delivered. CANA strives to make anesthesia services available to all communities, in both urban and rural centers. CRNAs are the sole anesthesia providers for 9 of the 51 counties in the state.

CANA facilitates the following services:

- provides patient information about anesthesia and related healthcare services
- monitors CRNA practice and health care legislation
- works with lawmakers and regulatory agencies in its government relation activities
- consults with educational institutions that graduate CRNAs
- provides current educational information for CRNAs in practice
- promotes partnerships with community and other health care professionals to provide quality care for all Californians.
- offers educational conferences twice yearly

To learn more about California CRNAs, click on the video below.



# UCI LEADING WITH INTEGRATIVE CARE

MOLLY NUNEZ, MSN, APRN, ACNP. DIRECTOR CLINICAL OPERATIONS, UCI SUSAN SAMUELI INTEGRATIVE HEALTH INSTITUTE

## What is Integrative Health?

Integrative health is a comprehensive approach to care that considers multiple influences that contribute to patients' unique health profile in order to determine the most appropriate treatments for achieving optimum health and wellbeing. It involves an extensive history intake that examines lifestyle factors such as nutritional, psychological, environmental and social influences; in addition to utilizing advanced diagnostics and laboratory assessments.

Integrative Health care plans typically offer a hybrid of conventional medical approaches as well as encourages patients to be active participants by offering education and counseling which promote the innate capacity for health and healing such as nutritional counseling, herbal or nutritional supplements recommendations, and instruction on yoga, tai chi, and mindfulness. Other modalities suggested to promote health may also include: acupuncture, massage or manual therapy, biofeedback, and medical devices.



Integrative Health Model of Care

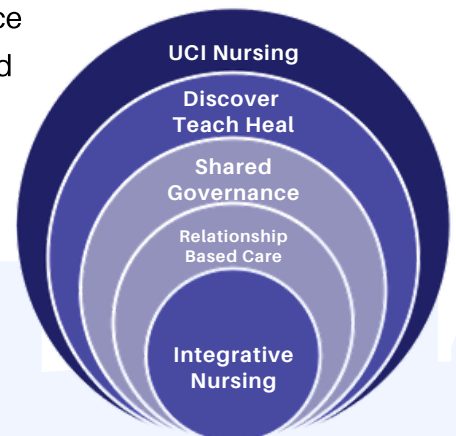
## What is Integrative Nursing?

The core of nursing emphasizes the importance of the relationship between patient, caregiver and environment. Integrative nursing provides a framework to support this relationship through the philosophy of caring for the whole person – mind, body and spirit.

## APP and Integrative Health at UCI

At UCI Health, the Integrative Nursing Initiative initially focused on supporting the clinical nurse's ability to utilize evidenced-based nursing practices which start with the least invasive or intensive and move to more invasive or intensive depending on need or context.

The upcoming focus of Integrative Nursing and integrative health will be to educate Advanced Practice Providers (APP) on how to incorporate integrative care strategies into clinical practice through formal and informal educational programs as well as through implementation of clinical practice guidelines.



UCI Nursing Professional Practice Model

# APP PRODUCTIVITY DASHBOARD

In 2020, one of UCI Health Advanced Practice Providers Program's strategic initiatives is to develop a Productivity Dashboard that will allow UCI Health PAs and NPs access to their individual clinical productivity metrics. This pertains to inpatient and outpatient billing. We are proud to announce this project is now live! The APP Productivity Dashboard will allow each individual APP access to see:

- patient encounter billing data (including charges, payments, and WRVUs)
- inpatient/outpatient data
- payer mix data

To access your individual APP Productivity Dashboard, please follow the following steps:

1. Connect to the UCI Health HS Domain (i.e. UCI Medical Center or UCI Health Science Campus). You will login with your UCInetID and password.

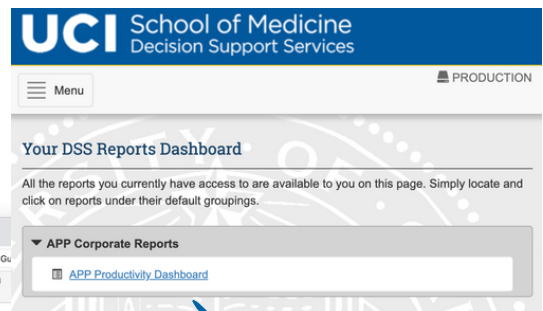
- If you cannot access the UCI Health HS Domain, you will need to connect via VPN/Duo.
- Instructions on how to connect to UCI Health can be found on UCI Health IT Website:

<https://it.health.uci.edu/Network>

2. Once you are connected to the UCI Health HS domain, go to SOM Decision Support Services (DSS) Reports page: <https://dss.hs.uci.edu/DSS20/Reports>

3. Click on **APP Corporate Reports**  
 ↳ **APP Productivity Dashboard**

4. You should now be able to access the Dashboard



Workbook: SOM Clinical Billing | x +

Not Secure | dstableau.hs.uci.edu/views/SOMClinicalBillingAPP-DepartmentDashboard/APPDashboard?embed=yes;toolbar%3D...

APP Dashboard | APP Charges Payments WRVUs...

View-Original | Share | Download

APP Productivity Dashboard

Data thru Dec 2020

Fiscal Year: (All) | Include months thru: December | Performing Provider Department: (All) | Performing Provider Division: (All) | Performing Provider Subdivision: (All) | Performing Provider Name: (All)

Charges, Payments, and WRVUs						
Summary of the total charges, payments, and WRVUs						
Quarter	Charge		Payment		WRVU	
	2019_20	2020_21	2019_20	2020_21	2019_20	2020_21
1st Quarter	5,903,646	6,127,378	1,615,253	1,917,614	15,183	16,364
2nd Quarter	5,715,049	6,777,139	1,498,743	1,998,496	15,393	19,432
3rd Quarter						
4th Quarter						
Grand Total	11,618,695	12,904,516	3,113,996	3,916,110	30,576	35,796

Inpatient / Outpatient						
Summary of the total charges, payments, and WRVUs						
Inpatient / Outpatient	Charge		Payment		WRVU	
	2019_20	2020_21	2019_20	2020_21	2019_20	2020_21
Inpatient	4,794,946	4,394,349	1,004,205	1,053,686	8,126	9,006
Outpatient	6,822,732	8,510,167	2,109,608	2,862,425	22,446	26,789
unknown	1,018	0	184	0	4	0
Grand Total	11,618,695	12,904,516	3,113,996	3,916,110	30,576	35,796

Payer Mix				
Payer	2019_20		2020_21	
	Amount	% of Total	Amount	% of Total
Cal-Optima	103,757	3%	18,795	0%
Capitated	7,598	0%	18,195	0%
Case Rate/Grant	4,433	0%	32,121	1%
CCS	18,404	1%	5,427	0%
Commercial-Contracted	1,112,660	36%	1,750,173	45%
Commercial-Non Contracted	106,439	3%	107,335	3%
County	10,559	0%	12,578	0%
Liens/Workers Comp	15,743	1%	11,890	0%
Managed Cal-Optima	309,054	10%	433,833	11%
Managed Commercial	180,083	6%	209,993	5%
Managed Medi-Cal	48,493	2%	110,369	3%
Managed Medicare	377,133	12%	293,646	7%
Medi-Cal	127,565	4%	142,955	4%
Medicare	664,078	21%	752,550	19%
Non-Insured	27,998	1%	17,251	0%
Grand Total	3,113,996	100%	3,916,110	100%



*Note: If you are having trouble with access, please revisit the page at a later time as we are enrolling APPS in the Dashboard program.*



# NEW APPS FY2021

We are pleased to welcome the new advanced practice providers to our team in FY2021.

## **Anesthesiology & Perioperative Care**

- Dallas M. Bessette, CRNA
- Carol K. Lee, NP
- Ghazal Noory, NP
- Norma G. Orellana, NP

## **Family Medicine**

- Jihyun Jang, NP

## **Medicine**

- ThuyVi T. Pham, NP

## **Surgery**

- Wendee H. Montes-Rodriguez, NP



# SPOTLIGHT ON APP ACHIEVEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 2020/JANUARY 2021



The purpose of this section is to recognize any achievements of the APP workforce during the months of December 2020 and January 2021. Future newsletters will continue to highlight APP awards, research publications, book chapters, poster presentations, and leadership nominations in your professional associations or at UCI Health. We firmly believe in giving spotlight to our amazing and dedicated APP workforce.

## **Kimberly Navaro, NP, PhD(c)**

- **Kimberly Navaro** was invited to be a keynote speaker at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health's Women in Leadership (WIL) event titled "Maternal Health Disparities in the Era of COVID-19."

## **Molly Nunez, MSN, APRN, ACNP**

- Horie, M., K. Hecht, **Nunez, M.** (2020). Teishin treatment in the inpatient setting: gentle touch of contact needle. Journal of Acupuncture and Integrative Medicine. Vol 29(1). 9-12.  
[https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:34de93bc-ea39-43dd-a900-af2e8dc7b2b4](https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:34de93bc-<u>ea39-43dd-a900-af2e8dc7b2b4</u>)

## **Kristen Ko, PHN, FNP-BC, CCTC**

- **Kristen Ko** earned her CCTC (Certified Clinical Transplant Coordinator) certification through the American Board for Transplant Certification. This certification gives CCTCs the primary responsibilities for the coordination of processes related to solid organ transplantation both live and deceased donors, and transplant recipients.

# GRAND ROUND SPEAKERS

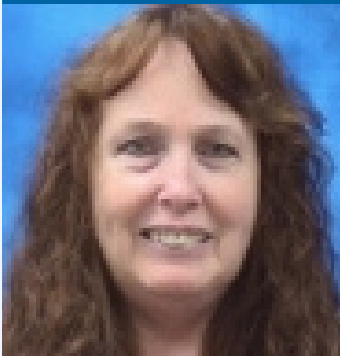
We are excited to report that our Grand Rounds Committee has secured speakers for the remainder of the year. This is a monumental achievement, and this educational series will provide a forum for active discussion and dissemination of up-to-date information of relevant medical topics. All presentations will be recorded and available upon request. However, we encourage FULL participation in this event to show our gratitude to speakers who are volunteering their time and expertise to participate in our grand round's educational series.

The inaugural kick-off presentation is from Kathy LaPierre, an expert in billing/compliance. She will be sharing the new CMS changes around E/M coding for office/outpatient E/M visits that went into effect January 1, 2021. You don't want to miss this presentation.

Lastly, we would like to express sincerest appreciation and thanks to Kristen Ko, NP, Janette Villalon, PA, and Arielle Bivas, NP, for their OUTSTANDING work in moving this initiative forward.

More details on upcoming Grand Round Speaker events will be made available on our website at: <https://app.health.uci.edu/grandrounds/>.

Kathy LaPierre



Compliance  
Audit Officer

### **Billing/Coding Updates**

Monday, February 8, 2021

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Zoom link TBD.

Dr. Sunil Verma



Associate  
Clinical Professor

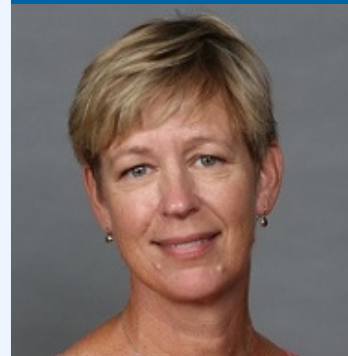
### **Tracheostomy 101**

Monday, March 8, 2021

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Zoom link TBD.

Dr. Miriam Bender



Associate  
Professor

### **Implementation Science**

Monday, April 12, 2021

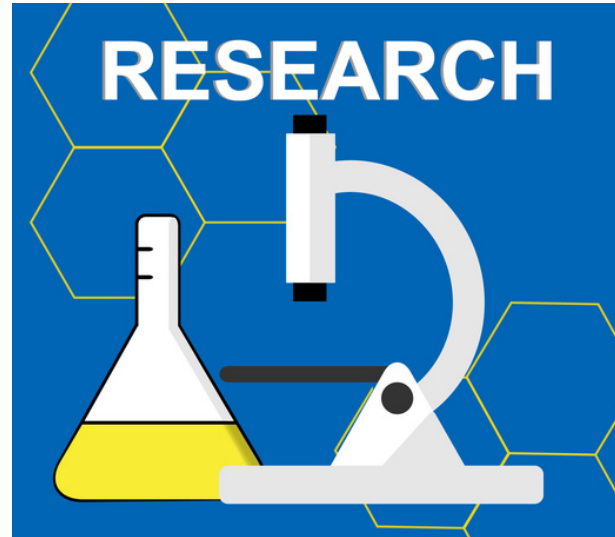
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Zoom link TBD.

# APP RESEARCH HUB: MENTORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We had our inaugural kick-off meeting and I want to thank all those who attended the event. It was great opportunity to learn about your present and future research interests.

The research hub is committed to facilitating and supporting APP research projects. The research hub is a springboard for ideas and collaboration and will serve as a point of contact for those looking to advance their research agenda.



In support of this initiative, we have added an additional resource page to help identify needs related to your research projects on our website at: <https://app.health.uci.edu/research-hub/ongoing-research-projects/>

**UCI Health**  
Advanced Practice Providers Program

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**PROTECTING FRONTLINE HEROES THROUGH INNOVATION**

### Ongoing Research Projects

To submit your research projects, please fill out the form field below.

Author Name \*

Author First Name  Author Last Name

Co-Author Name(s)  
Co-Author Name(s)

Research Project Title \*

Research Project Title

Project Aims \*

While we may not be able to support every research endeavor, we will do our best to accommodate as many projects as possible. Stay tuned for regular updates from the Research Hub. Be safe and stay strong.