

GAPNA *eAlert*

Meet the Candidates

Meet your candidates for the upcoming 2020 GAPNA election. Voting takes place May 4-29, 2020. Members will receive important information regarding the voting process soon.

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Foundation Awards Available

The GAPNA Foundation is awarding \$8,000 in grants to provide financial support for research and educational opportunities. Application deadline for these clinical and research grants is May 15, 2020.

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Call for Excellence Award Nominations

The awards are: Emerging Chapter Award, Established Chapter Excellence Award, Special Interest Group Excellence Award, Excellence in Clinical Practice Award, Excellence in Community Service Award, Excellence in Education Award, Excellence in Leadership Award, and Excellence in Research Award. Deadline is June 1, 2020, and self-nominations are welcome!

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Reach for Excellence

Are you an advanced practice nurse providing care to older adults? This specialty certification distinguishes APRNs who possess expert knowledge, experience, and skill in managing the complex health needs of older adults. Submit your application for the APRN Gerontological Specialist Certification exam by July 22, 2020 for the September Computer Based Testing month.

[Read the Article](#)

Upcoming Events



[GAPNA Pharmacology Conference](#)

April 20-24, 2021
Hilton Hawaiian Village
Honolulu, HI

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COVID-19 Nursing Home Guidance

On April 3, 2020, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), in consultation with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), issued critical recommendations to state and local governments, as well as nursing homes, to help mitigate the spread of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) in nursing homes. The recommendations build on and strengthen recent guidance from CMS and CDC related to effective implementation of longstanding infection control procedures.

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Statement Regarding NP Students and Direct Care Clinical Hours

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, 14 national organizations reaffirm that all nurse practitioner (NP) students are required to complete a minimum of 500 supervised direct patient care clinical hours over the course of the NP program. In addition, clinical hours are distributed to support competency development that represents the needs of the chosen population. If additional clinical hours are required by the institution or a certification organization (above the minimum 500 supervised direct patient care clinical hours), these additional hours may be completed as simulation, if students have completed the direct patient care clinical hours that are necessary and required for them to be fully prepared to practice as an NP in the population focus area.

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New Resource for Healthcare Professionals on COVID-19 Communication Skills

This primer is a COVID-19 communications resource to help healthcare clinicians with their conversations with patients and families. VitalTalk, which trains clinicians in effective communications, crowdsourced this primer to provide practical advice on how to talk about difficult topics related to COVID-19.

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Social Isolation and Loneliness in Older Adults

The National Academies of Sciences Engineering Medicine has released a new report, "Social Isolation and Loneliness in Older Adults." The report evaluates the evidence for the impacts of social isolation and loneliness on mortality and morbidity, assesses the role of the healthcare system, the current state of research, and the risk and protective factors for social isolation and loneliness. Recommendations are given specifically for healthcare clinical settings to identify those who suffer the resultant negative health impacts of social isolation and loneliness and target interventions to improve their social conditions.

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Hospitals, Clinicians Can Make Healthcare Safer by Working with Patient Safety Organizations

Hospitals and clinicians that want to make healthcare safer for patients can benefit from working with a Patient Safety Organization (PSO). These entities were created as part of the Patient Safety Act of 2005 and encourage individual providers and healthcare organizations to voluntarily report quality and safety information confidentially and without fear of legal discovery. A large majority (80%) of hospitals that work with a PSO found the feedback and analysis from PSOs to be helpful in preventing future patient safety events, a recent survey found. Access a [list of PSOs](#) certified by the Agency for Healthcare Quality and Research (AHRQ). Access a [new brochure](#) from AHRQ that explains the benefits of working with a PSO.



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The Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association (GAPNA) is the organization of choice for advanced practice nurses who want to pursue continuing education in gerontological care and who seek peer support from experienced clinicians.

