

IMIA NI NEWSLETTER April 2026

April marks a shift into action across our IMIA Nursing Informatics community. Following recent leadership changes, we now look ahead with a shared focus on strengthening our global network, advancing our strategic priorities, and deepening engagement across regions and areas of practice.

As Nursing Informatics continues to evolve within increasingly complex digital health environments, our collective role remains critical — shaping how technologies are designed, implemented, and used to support safe, person-centred care. This month's newsletter reflects that momentum, highlighting emerging research, ongoing panel work, and opportunities for members to contribute and connect.

As always, the strength of IMIA Nursing Informatics lies in its people. We encourage you to engage, share your work, and contribute to the conversations that continue to shape our global community.

[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



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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

Updates from our Chair and Vice Chairs



Update from the Chair

Following the transition in IMIA NI leadership, the strategic priorities for 2026 center on strengthening governance, enhancing member engagement, and modernizing organizational infrastructure. A key priority is the review and alignment of bylaws to clarify leadership roles, membership eligibility, and board representation. Alongside governance reform, improving communication systems is critical, with emphasis on updating the outdated

website, streamlining membership data management, and establishing centralized document storage to support transparency and collaboration. Engagement strategies will expand through more inclusive participation models, such as webinars and observer roles, while advisory panels will be guided toward greater cohesion and impact through increased cross-panel collaboration. Externally, IMIA NI aims to strengthen its global presence by supporting international conferences, including contributions to the Slovenian conference and early planning for a dedicated nursing informatics track at [MEDINFO 2027 in Dubai](#). Finally, the establishment of regular monthly meetings and improved documentation practices reflects a commitment to continuity, accountability, and sustained organizational momentum under the new leadership. **Gregory Alexander**

Update from the Vice-Chair – Administration and Finance

IMIA NI continues to strengthen its operational foundations to support the delivery of its strategic priorities and the work of its global community. Over coming months, there is a focus on enhancing transparency, consistency, and sustainability across processes.

A gentle reminder, some contact details in our records are no longer current, which can result in us losing connection with valued members. If you have recently changed your email address, we encourage you to update your contact information to ensure you continue to receive important communications and updates.

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 our Vice Chair - Membership

Strengthening Engagement in IMIA Nursing Informatics

A key priority for IMIA Nursing Informatics is to support active and meaningful engagement of our members across national and international contexts. As our community continues to grow, we are focused on ensuring that opportunities to connect, contribute, and lead are clear and accessible to all.

Membership in IMIA NI is diverse and inclusive — spanning bedside nurses, informatics specialists, academics, researchers, and digital health leaders. Engagement can take many forms, including participation in working groups, contributions to conferences and publications, and involvement in surveys, standards, and position papers.

We are also working to strengthen alignment between IMIA NI activities and national priorities, including digital transformation, AI, and data-driven healthcare initiatives. Supporting members to build capability is central to this, with opportunities for mentorship, leadership development, and scholarly engagement.

Recognising and celebrating member contributions remains important, as does ensuring sustainable engagement through national coordination and ongoing communication of impact.

We encourage all members to consider how they might engage with IMIA Nursing Informatics — whether by contributing, collaborating, or stepping into leadership opportunities within our global community. **Hana Ibrahim Abu Sharib**

Update From the Vice-Chair – Advisory Panels

IMIA NI continues to advance its global agenda through the work of four Advisory Panels, each leading key areas of priority for the international nursing informatics community:

- **Education** (Chair: Max Topaz)
- **Governance** (Chairs: Laura-Maria Peltonen and Zerina Lokmic-Tomkins)
- **Practice** (Chairs: Janette Gogler and Clair Hunt)
- **Research** (Chairs: Charlene Ronquillo and Aaron Conway)

Collectively, these panels are driving forward initiatives aligned with the IMIA NI Strategy endorsed at the 2025 General Assembly. A central focus for 2026 is strengthening global collaboration and engagement, including the delivery of a series of webinars on topics of contemporary relevance to the nursing informatics community.

The Advisory Panels remain open and inclusive, and we actively encourage members from across regions and practice settings to contribute. This is an important opportunity to shape international priorities, share expertise, and strengthen the collective impact of our field.

Members interested in participating are invited to contact the relevant Panel Chairs directly. In addition, suggestions for emerging priorities or areas of focus are welcomed and can be directed to the Vice Chair for Advisory Panels, Dawn Dowding (dawn.dowding@manchester.ac.uk).

Your engagement is critical to ensuring that IMIA NI continues to reflect and represent the diverse perspectives of our global community. **Dawn Dowding**

Update from the Vice Chair – Communications

April marks a shift from transition to action in how we connect and communicate as a global IMIA Nursing Informatics community. Following recent leadership changes, our focus is on strengthening communication channels, increasing member engagement, and ensuring the newsletter continues to reflect the breadth of work across our international network.

The IMIA NI Newsletter remains a key platform for sharing research, innovation, and perspectives from practice, education, and policy. We are committed to making this a more

inclusive and representative space, and we warmly encourage members to contribute updates, publications, and insights from their regions.

Thank you to everyone who has engaged with recent editions — your feedback and contributions are what continue to shape and strengthen this global conversation. **Helen Almond**

Country and Regional Updates



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

Congratulations go to

Mykkänen Minna, Ikonen Johanna, Kinnunen Ulla-Mari, Saranto Kaija, Vehko Tuulikki. **Assessment of Nursing Documentation Quality: Enabling the Secondary Use of Data**. *Comput Inform Nurs*. 2026 Feb 2. doi: 10.1097/CIN.0000000000001488. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 41623096. [Assessment of Nursing Documentation Quality: Enabling the Secondary Use of Data - PubMed](#)

High-quality nursing documentation is essential for the effective secondary use of data in healthcare. This study of nearly 3,000 nurses in Finland highlights significant gaps between data collection and its use in practice. Over half of respondents reported that documentation quality is not routinely assessed, and in many cases, results are neither reviewed nor used to inform decision-making.

The findings also reveal variation across sectors, with private healthcare demonstrating greater use of nursing data for management compared to public hospitals. Notably, nursing

managers reported higher engagement with data use than frontline nurses, reflecting differences in roles and access to information.

These insights reinforce a key challenge for Nursing Informatics: ensuring that data collected in practice is not only accurate, but actively used to support quality improvement, decision-making, and patient care.

And congratulations go to

Essential Knowledge and AI in Nursing Informatics (8th Edition)

Eds. Kathleen McCormick & Carolyn Harmon | McGraw Hill (Available September 2026)

The forthcoming 8th edition of *Essential Knowledge and AI in Nursing Informatics* marks an important step forward in integrating artificial intelligence into nursing informatics education and practice. This updated text brings together foundational informatics concepts with emerging AI applications, reflecting the growing impact of intelligent technologies across healthcare.

A key strength of this edition is the seamless integration of AI throughout the book, rather than treating it as a standalone topic. From health information systems and mHealth to clinical decision support and data management, AI is positioned as part of everyday nursing practice. New and updated chapters also explore areas such as the data lifecycle, human-computer interaction, and the use of health data to address equity and social determinants of health.

Importantly, the text maintains a strong focus on responsible innovation, addressing ethical, legal, and cybersecurity considerations alongside system design and quality improvement. With contributions from global experts across academia, practice, and industry, this edition provides a comprehensive and practical resource for nurses preparing to lead in digitally enabled healthcare environments.

UAE – Nursing Informatics

The UAE continues to make significant progress in advancing Nursing Informatics at a national level. The UAE Nursing Informatics Society has recently revised its membership structure to include an academic category alongside bedside nurses, strengthening collaboration between practice and education.

National priorities for Nursing Informatics have also been aligned with the [UAE National Nursing Strategy](#), with particular emphasis on artificial intelligence and data management as core areas of practice.

Importantly, the Ministry of Health has formally recognised Nursing Informatics as a nursing specialty within the National Qualification Requirements.

Together, these developments represent a strong step forward in enhancing professional standards, supporting workforce capability, and advancing the UAE's broader digital health transformation.

Global Nursing Informatics: AI Governance, Digital Workforce Capability & Data-Driven Care



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

1. Community Health Nurses' Knowledge and Perceptions of AI in Canada: National Cross-Sectional Survey

This study in *JMIR Nursing* explores how nurses understand and engage with AI in practice. Findings show that nurses with stronger AI knowledge report more positive perceptions, but also express concerns about trusting AI recommendations and their role in decision-making. The study highlights the need for **education, governance, and nurse involvement in AI implementation** to support safe adoption.

Read the paper: <https://nursing.jmir.org/2026/1/e78560>

2. Developing a Best Practice Guideline for Clinical Practice in a Digital Health Environment: Systematic Reviews Based on the Grading of Recommendations, Assessment, Development, and Evaluation Approach

This evidence-based guideline synthesises multiple systematic reviews to provide recommendations for integrating digital health into nursing practice. It emphasises **ongoing workforce education, peer-supported learning models, and the use of predictive analytics**, reinforcing that capability building must be continuous and embedded across practice environments.

Read the paper: <https://nursing.jmir.org/2026/1/e74942>

3. Advancing Nursing Data Integration Through a Nursing Minimum Dataset for the Conceptual and Technical Development of a “Fall Prevention” Data Module: Development Study

This study focuses on the development of a structured nursing dataset to improve data standardisation and usability, particularly for AI and research applications. It demonstrates how better data integration enables **more effective analytics, decision support, and quality improvement**, reinforcing the critical role of nursing data in digital health systems.

Read the paper: <https://www.imir.org/2026/1/e82417>

Why this matters

These 2025- 2026 papers highlight three key priorities shaping Nursing Informatics globally:

- Strengthening **AI governance and nurse engagement** in emerging technologies
- Building **digital capability and workforce readiness** through structured education
- Advancing **data-driven care** through standardised, high-quality nursing data

We invite IMIA NI members to share newly published research and global perspectives for future Spotlight features.

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.

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 MIE2026](#)

- **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. [AIDH](#)

- **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 Nurses](#)

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

When / Where: IMIA lists **General Assembly and IAHSI plenary meetings in 19 & 20 October 2026 (Buenos Aires, Argentina)** and other IMIA regional events in 2026; **MedInfo** (IMIA's large congress) is scheduled for **August 4 & 5 2027 (Dubai)**

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 site](#) (calendar, MedInfo, IMIA NI pages).

Wellbeing Without Borders



April's reflection for our global community

This month's focus: Resilience in Complex Systems

Working in Nursing Informatics often means navigating constant change — evolving technologies, shifting priorities, and increasing digital workloads. Across our global community, many are also balancing leadership responsibilities alongside these demands. It's no surprise that change fatigue can build, even in work we care deeply about.

Resilience in this context is not about doing more, but about working sustainably. Small actions — setting boundaries with digital work, prioritising what matters most, or pausing to reset — can make a meaningful difference.

This month, consider: what is one pressure you can ease, or one boundary you can strengthen?

IMIA NI values in action

This reflection recognises the complexity of our work and supports sustainable, compassionate approaches to leadership, collaboration, and digital health practice.

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



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/>

LinkedIn [IMIA NI - the global representative body for nursing informatics](#)