



Abstract Presenters Biography

Sharon Kermeci

Sharon Kermeci is a Registered Nurse and Nurse Practitioner with an extensive career spanning nearly two decades in perioperative and clinical practice. Sharon holds a Bachelor of Nursing degree as well as a Masters of Clinical Practice (PNSA) and a Masters of Nursing (Nurse Practitioner) qualification.

Sharon's expertise is primarily in the field of orthopaedics, where she has made notable contributions, including co-authoring publications and active membership in professional organisations. Currently based at the Brisbane Hip Clinic, Sharon operates within a clinical practice specialising in orthopaedics, with a focus on hips. Her responsibilities encompass a comprehensive spectrum of patient care, ranging from pre-operative assessments and nonsurgical management interventions to surgical assistance, wound care, and post-operative support and evaluation. In addition to direct patient contact, Sharon also works on the integration of nonsurgical interventions within her practice. This includes the establishment of best practices, formulation of internal policies, service provision, and ongoing research initiatives.

Victoria Perez

Victoria is a clinical nurse with nearly 20 years of experience, including over 15 years in the operating theatre.

Victoria has a passion for patient safety and perioperative care, especially in orthopaedic surgery, and has been enriched by working in diverse settings here and overseas and collaborating with nurses from various backgrounds. These experiences have greatly broadened her perspective. Lately, her two young kids have kept her busy, and those muscles from lifting orthopaedic trays helps her maintain the strength she needs to keep up with them.

Lesley Thomas

Lesley is an Orthopaedic Nurse Practitioner at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital – South Australia.

This role facilitates the journey for patients with osteoarthritis of the hip and knee from assessment of their condition in OPD, when they first enter the hospital system until discharge following joint replacement surgery.

Lesley has been passionate about orthopaedics for over 20 years.

She is the current Chairperson for ANZONA and the current Secretary of SAON.



Jacquie Austin

Jacquie has been in Orthopaedics for almost 17 years, developing a love for Orthopaedics and understanding the mechanics, advocating for patients and evidence-based practice. She has a passion for delivering high quality care, empowering the patients to reduce their risk of adverse events, maximising their care whilst in hospital and beyond by educating them and facilitating their recovery, alongside the multi-disciplinary team. Jacquie has been an educator at the Mater Sydney since 2015, and a practice nurse in a very busy shoulder practice in Sydney since 2017. Jacquie has developed a comprehensive understanding of the whole patient journey from first consult, conservative treatment, surgery to full recovery or long-term care. And continues to strive to deliver comprehensive high-quality care to all patients.

Anita Taylor

RN, OrthoNCert, GradDipOrtho, MNSc, MClInSc

Orthopaedic Nurse Practitioner (ONP), Orthopaedic & Trauma Services, Royal Adelaide Hospital, CALHN, South Australia. Scope of Practice – Fragility Fracture specialising in Hip Fracture.

Senior Lecturer – Clinical Teaching Specialist in MBP at Flinders University, South Australia

Anita is an Orthopaedic Nurse Practitioner with 30 years' experience working in the Orthopaedic & Trauma Service, Royal Adelaide Hospital, Central Adelaide Local Health Network (CALHN). As the "NOF Nurse" she aims to improve the integration of care for patients who present to ED with a proximal femur fracture and to ensure standards of care are in place. Her scope of practice extends to all other fragility fractures.

Anita is enthusiastic, committed, and passionate about sharing her knowledge and experience. She is an active leader in her area of specialty having taken on roles at a local, national & international level. She has been involved in the development of the ANZ Hip Fracture Guidelines and ensuing ACSQHC Clinical Care Standard. She is the current Co-chair of the International Collaboration of Orthopaedic Nurses (ICON). Her professional interests include a passion for orthopaedic nursing, fragility fracture & osteoporosis, and advanced nursing practice. These professional interests have seen her attend & speak at conferences overseas and throughout Australia. She is published in medical & nursing orthopaedic journals and reviews manuscripts for the peer reviewed International Journal of Orthopaedic & Trauma Nursing (IJOTN).

It has always been a professional interest of Anita's to 'give back' to advanced nursing practice and has enjoyed her part-time academic role since July 2023 to now.

She loves 'her boys'; enjoys a wine, a show, the gym & cycling.