

SECOND QUARTER 2025

Encouraging Passion and Participation  
with DNA President Nina Harry

Focusing on Life and Career with DNA  
Grant Winner Briana Wischnack

In the Leadership Corner  
with Delaney Stratton

Nurse Practitioner Spotlight  
with Madison Mizenko





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

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3	DNA President's Message
5	Welcome New DNA Members
6	Board of Directors Minutes
8	Financial Oversight Report
10	Education Advisory Council
13	DNPCB Updates
16	Nurse Practitioner Spotlight
18	DNA Grant Winner
21	Leadership Corner
22	Chapter Corner
24	Important Upcoming Dates



DERMATOLOGY NURSES' ASSOCIATION®

## **Mission Statement**

The Dermatology Nurses' Association is a professional nursing organization comprised of diverse individuals who are committed to quality dermatologic care to provide exceptional patient outcomes through sharing knowledge and expertise.

## **FOCUS, Second Quarter, 2025**

Dermatology Nurses' Association

## **DNA Board of Directors**

### **President:**

Nina Harry, MSN, FNP-BC

### **Immediate Past President:**

Robin Inabinet, BSN, RN, AMB-BC

### **Treasurer:**

Karisa Son, MSN, APRN, NP-C

### **Secretary:**

Joan Pohutsky, DNP, APRN, NP-BC

### **Directors:**

Mary Fish, RN

Maura Flynn, MPP, RN, DNC

Olando Hathaway, FNP-BC, MSN

### **Executive Director:**

Linda Markham, BSN, RN, DNC

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

NINA HARRY, FNP-BC

A few years ago, I started the process of seeking certification as a Dermatology Nurse Practitioner, a step that led me to discover the Dermatology Nurses Association (DNA). Through the DNA, I found not only the educational resources I was seeking but also a vibrant network of dedicated professionals committed to advancing the quality of dermatologic care. From the start of joining the organization, I felt strongly aligned with the mission and values of the DNA and quickly became eager to get more involved. This year I stepped into the role as President for the organization, bringing with me an extensive background of Cosmetic Dermatology. I am excited to use this experience to help DNA expand its educational offerings and develop more courses tailored to the rapidly growing field of cosmetic and aesthetic dermatology.

We recently wrapped up our 43rd annual DNA Conference in Orlando, Florida where leading experts in dermatology shared valuable insights and updates across many aspects of dermatologic care. The event was not only an outstanding educational experience but also a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with longtime colleagues and warmly welcome new members attending for the first time.

The conference left us energized and optimistic as we look ahead to the coming year. As healthcare continues to evolve, we remain committed to advancing DNA's mission of education and expertise in dermatologic care for all providers and patients. Looking towards next year's conference, we are excited to explore the idea of expanding educational offerings with a diverse line up of speakers, more hands-on skills workshops, and enhanced content in areas like Cosmetic and Aesthetic Dermatology, to fully encompass all aspects of Dermatology. We also aim to reach new providers who are looking for a supportive network of experienced professionals, offering them mentorship, guidance and valuable resources as they grow in their practice.

The continued success of the DNA is only possible because of the passion, dedication and participation of members like you. We encourage you to keep spreading the word about DNA's mission and values, and to invite your colleagues to join this incredible community. But we don't have to wait until next year's conference to start making an impact. Right now, we have volunteer opportunities available and are encouraging members to find out about the different ways you can be involved. As we look ahead to next year's conference, we're excited to offer a fun, dynamic event, packed with opportunities to learn, grow and connect with colleagues from across the country. Together, we can strengthen our network, elevate dermatologic care, and ensure DNA remains a leading resource for all dermatology providers. We can't wait to see you and your colleagues there!



# 44th Annual Convention



**dna**

DERMATOLOGY NURSES' ASSOCIATION®

*Embracing Inclusive Care*

***Save the Date!***

Denver, Colorado | March 25th - 28th, 2026

[2026.dnanurse.org](https://2026.dnanurse.org)





## DNA WELCOMES OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Arnold, Janean, Mesa, AZ  
Assef, Tara, Palos Verdes Estates, CA  
Atzbach, Molly, Chelsea, MA  
Berg, Leah, Duluth, MN  
Bolick, Bethany, Durham, NC  
Burke, Kayla, Derry, NH  
Curran, Michelle, Burlington, MA  
Farrar, Olivia, Watertown, MA  
Farris, Taylor, Oak Harbor, WA  
Gizelis, Olivia, Boston, MA  
Gruskovak, Samantha, Sycamore, IL  
Hairrell, Hailey, Los Alamitos, CA  
Huggins, Jaimie, Fairfax, VA  
Keller, Shawna, Preston, ID  
Knox, Rachel, Greene, ME  
Lee, Dang, San Jose, CA  
Liley, Catherine, Durham, NC  
Locklear, Chelsey, Maxton, NC  
Marsh, Katie, Andover, MN  
McCabe, Julie, Atlanta, GA  
McCarthy, Riley, Westlake Village, CA  
Michetti, Jaci, Riverview, MI  
Mizer, Melissa, Columbia Station, OH  
Moreschi, Tricia, Paris, IL  
O'Haver, Ashley, Manhattan, KS

Parente, Lauren, Schaumburg, IL  
Queiroz, Alexandra, Roseville, CA  
Rincon, Esmeralda, Lancaster, CA  
Santa Maria, Nhi, Schiller Park, IL  
Shemesh, Lior, Somerville, MA  
Si, Alyssa, Cleveland, OH  
Smith, Tessa, La Vista, NE  
Thompson-Smith, Gina, Coral Springs, FL  
Ticzon, Ma Lyzza Aina, Fremont, CA  
Waits, Jamie, Hueytown, AL  
Ward, Ravinder, Victoria, BC  
Wilson, Shannon, Port Ludlow, WA  
Zagacki, Giamarie, Sewickley, PA

When you join DNA you become part of a growing nationwide network of dermatology nurse leaders who promote the highest standards of dermatologic nursing care.

**[Join the DNA online or print an application from our website by clicking here](#)**



### **On Tuesday, January 14, 2025, the DNA BOD held a virtual meeting.**

Those present were:

- Board Members:
- Robin Inabinet, Immediate Past President
- Jessica Simmons, Treasurer
- Joan Pohutsky, Secretary
- Blake Bryant, Director
- Angie Hamilton, Director
- DNA Staff:
- Linda Markham, DNA Executive Director
- Kara Briggs, DNA Administrative Coordinator

Those not Present:

- Nina Harry

There was a review of pending action items. The Nancy Smail memorial honoring our DNA Past President, who recently passed, was discussed, including donations and how to honor her memory. A motion passed to accept the goals and objectives for the 2025 strategic plan and revisit during consultant briefings and edit at that time.

A motion passed to add other derm NP organizations and their educational conferences to the key drivers of change for 2025. A motion passed to change the Vision of 2025 to “The DNA will be the global authority in knowledge and expertise for all health care professionals dedicated to advancing dermatology care.” The slate of candidates for the board was approved by the BOD.

### **On Tuesday, February 11, 2025, the DNA BOD held a virtual meeting.**

Those present were:

- Board Members:
- Robin Inabinet, Interim President
- Nina Harry, President-Elect
- Jessica Simmons, Treasurer
- Joan Pohutsky, Secretary
- Blake Bryant, Director
- Angie Hamilton, Director
- DNA Staff:
- Linda Markham, DNA Executive Director
- Kara Briggs, DNA Administrative Coordinator

Invited Guests:

- Maura Flynn
- Karisa Son

L. Markham reviewed a PowerPoint presentation, in detail, slide by slide for BOD orientation. She encouraged BOD members to ask questions and discuss items as needed throughout the presentation. She discussed that further information was already available on basecamp (or would be added to basecamp when finalized and applicable) – including the board roster, liaison communication/assignment list, action agenda items, the executive director/board relationships, volunteer/mentor manual, the organizational calendar, board responsibilities, legal duties of association boards, ambassadors, bylaws, and the strategic plan.

### **On Monday, March 4, 2025, the DNA BOD held an in-person meeting at the DNA annual convention in Orlando, Florida.**

Those present were:

- Board Members:
- Robin Inabinet, President
- Nina Harry, President-Elect
- Joan Pohutsky, Secretary
- Blake Bryant, Director
- Angie Hamilton, Director
- DNA Staff:
- Linda Markham, DNA Executive Director
- Kara Briggs, DNA Administrative Coordinator

Unable to Attend:

- Jessica Simmons, Treasurer
- Guest, Maura Flynn, Incoming Director
- Guest, Mary Fish, Incoming Director
- Invited Guests:
- Karisa Son, Incoming Treasurer
- Juliana Vernacchio
- Tom Greene
- John Folk
- Stephaine Kusibab

The meetings manager provided logistics information for convention. There were 25 registered booths in the exhibit halls. *(continued on next page)*



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

JOAN POHUTSKY, DNP, NP-BC, DNA SECRETARY

Exhibitors present versus not present for reasons of not responding to messaging or declining the invite were discussed. The boards schedule for convention was noted, and assignments were made to visit certain exhibitors. There was a review of pending action items in which edits were made to the Key Drivers of change and vision of 2025 documents, Nancy's memorial fund was highlighted, and there was discussion of requests for more networking opportunities in the NP forum. A discussion followed a presentation given by Minding Your Business (MYB), consultants who were hired by the DNA Board of Directors to perform an assessment of DNA's business model and growth potential in ways of four phases.

**On Friday, March 7, 2025, the DNA BOD held an in-person meeting at the DNA annual convention in Orlando, Florida.**

Those present were:

- Board Members:
- Nina Harry, President
- Robin Inabinet, Immediate Past President
- Joan Pohutsky, Secretary
- Karisa Son, Treasurer
- Mary Fish, Director
- Maura Flynn, Director
- DNA Staff:
- Linda Markham, DNA Executive Director
- Kara Briggs, DNA Administrative Coordinator
- Invited Guests:
- Tom Greene
- Juliana Vernacchio

The meeting manager and corporate relations provided updates about registration statistics and overall feedback about convention. In sum, the exhibition hall was better received than the previous year and attendees enjoyed the networking receptions. There were multiple comments about concern for lack of diversity in lecture topics, lack of surgical speakers/topics, attendees wanting more hands on workshops, and lower attendance to convention. Thereafter, board responsibilities were reviewed and a review of pending action items took place.



***Meet  
your 2025  
Board of Directors***





Q2 2025 Financials (January, February, March 2025)

Quarterly Financial Update	(as of December, 2024)
Gross Revenue	\$ 226,148
Gross Expenses	\$ 215,691
	=====
Net Operating Income (loss)	\$ (10,456)
Balance on hand	\$ 219,172
DNA Membership	897

SAVE UP TO 55% ON HOTELS  
TRAVEL BENEFITS FROM DNA



PASSWORD:  
**DNASAVINGS**



# Dermatology Nurses' Association Membership Portal

The Dermatology Nurses' Association (DNA) membership portal is a state-of-the-art system that offers DNA members a more seamless and empowering experience.

***If you have not visited the portal, please visit and update your professional profile and make sure your membership is current.***

## **Membership Management:**

The new portal allows members to easily manage their membership details, communicate with fellow members, and renew their subscriptions with auto-renewal functionality. It also provides tools to track and cultivate each member's journey within the association.

## **Online Community:**

Members will enjoy continuous engagement through instant connections with peers and DNA. The portal fosters networking opportunities and provides access to relevant content, including blogs, polls, surveys, and professional development resources—all in one place. With its mobile-responsive design, members can stay connected on the go.

## **Online Store:**

The new portal also features an improved online store where members can purchase DNA memberships, books, and other resources. It includes a user-friendly shopping cart and options for recurring payments to simplify the renewal process.

The DNA membership portal is designed to enhance member engagement, streamline management, and offer a centralized hub for all things DNA-related.

**[Visit the DNA Membership Portal](#)**



## Enhancing Melanoma Awareness and Screening Education in Dermatology Nursing

May is Melanoma Awareness Month, a timely reminder of the importance of early detection, prevention, and education in reducing the impact of one of the deadliest forms of skin cancer. As a dermatology nurse, you are on the front lines of skin cancer care and uniquely positioned to lead efforts in melanoma awareness, early detection, and patient education.

To stay up to date and enhance your skills, continuing education (CE) is important. The Dermatology Nurses' Association (DNA) offers CE modules, webinars, and annual conferences designed to support your learning. Participating in hands-on workshops and clinical shadowing opportunities can also deepen your understanding of melanoma prevention education. Make sure you are confident in applying the ABCDE rule (Asymmetry, Border, Color, Diameter, Evolving) and conducting thorough skin exams—especially for high-risk patients, such as those with a personal or family history of melanoma, numerous moles, or a history of tanning bed use.

DNA nurses are also at the forefront of patient education. You teach patients how to perform monthly self-skin checks, identify warning signs, and understand when to seek evaluation. Simple tools like diagrams, mirror techniques, and checklists can enhance understanding and compliance. Normalize routine skin checks as part of everyday preventive care. Additionally, take steps to ensure your education efforts are culturally appropriate, understandable, and accessible, especially for patients with low health literacy or language barriers. Your ability to communicate clearly and compassionately can make a lasting impact.

To deepen your melanoma knowledge, consider attending the Dermatology Nurses' Association's 44th Annual Convention, scheduled for March 25–28, 2026, in Denver, Colorado. This event offers a robust lineup of educational sessions, hands-on workshops, and networking opportunities tailored for dermatology-focused clinicians like you. Here, you can grow professionally and connect with peers who share your passion for advancing skin health.

Through continued learning and proactive patient education, you can help reduce melanoma-related morbidity and mortality. By staying informed and engaged, you strengthen not only your clinical skills but also your ability to deliver life-saving care to those at risk.

If you're passionate about advancing dermatology education, consider joining the Dermatology Education Advisory Committee. This committee works to develop, review, and promote educational content for nurses in dermatology settings, ensuring it is relevant, evidence-based, and aligned with current clinical practice. Your voice and experience can make a difference.



# ALL SIGNS POINT TO **dna** DERMATOLOGY NURSES' ASSOCIATION®

DNA members join because they have **passion...**

“ I love the profession and patients and I joined DNA because I want to be current on new dermatology practices. ”

DNA members join to stay **informed...**

“ DNA has kept me informed about new policies and legislation around skin care, as well as FDA approved treatments for my practice. ”

DNA members join for **professional** and **personal** development...

“ DNA has helped improve my self esteem by holding office in a local chapter. I am more confident in addressing colleagues and audiences related to healthcare, and I am returning to college now to further my career goals since I see the success of my mentors in DNA who have gone before me. I know that I can accomplish similar goals and hope to be able to offer the dermatology community some good in the future as well. ”

*Become a DNA member for professional and personal development. Members receive...*

- Discounts on DNA Meetings, Professional Certification and Publications
- National and Local Educational Programs with Continuing Education Opportunities
- Scholarships, Grants, and Awards
- *Journal of the Dermatology Nurses' Association (JDNA)*
- Membership for NPs in the Nurse Practitioner Society of DNA
- **And Much More...**

Discover What a  
**DNA Membership**  
Can Do for You.



## *Tell Your DNA Story!*

We invite our esteemed members to tell us their unique membership journey — why they chose to join DNA, the valuable benefits they've experienced, and the impact it's had on their professional growth. By sharing your story, you inspire others and showcase the numerous advantages of belonging to our vibrant community.

Join us in our conversation and be part of our collective commitment to excellence in dermatology nursing!

We call upon DNA members to express their membership story and the benefits of joining the Dermatology Nurses' Association:

**Written Testimonial:** Members can write testimonials detailing their personal experiences, highlighting specific benefits they've enjoyed.

**Social Media Posts:** We encourage members to share their membership stories on social media platforms.

**Video Testimonials:** Members can create short, 30 second video testimonials discussing their journey with the association.

**Blog Posts or Articles:** As a member, if you maintain a website, blog, or other news types of feeds, DNA encourages you to link to the DNA website.

**Email Campaigns:** Share our email campaigns!

Individual members can express the following points:

**Personal Growth:** Highlight how membership has facilitated your professional development and personal growth.

**Networking Opportunities:** Share the value of networking with your fellow dermatology nurses, experts, and leaders in the field.

**Community and Support:** Stress the sense of belonging and camaraderie within the DNA community.

**Advocacy and Influence:** Illustrate how membership empowers nurses to advocate for your profession and affect positive change.

**Exclusive Resources and Benefits:** Highlight the exclusive resources, benefits, and perks that come with your membership.

**Recognition and Leadership Opportunities:** Discuss how membership opens doors.

Your Stories can be emailed directly to:  
[dna@dnanurse.org](mailto:dna@dnanurse.org)

*Follow us on social media @DNANurses*

<https://www.dnanurse.org>

### DNPCB Updates

The Dermatology Nurse Practitioner Certification Board (DNPCB) is thrilled to welcome 2025 with a fresh perspective on recertification. Following the completion of the 2024 cycle, we are eager to build on our experiences and enhance the process for the year ahead. The 2024 recertification cycle presented challenges that tested our systems and processes. However, thanks to the resilience and cooperation of our applicants and team, we were able to identify and resolve these issues swiftly. As we continue to navigate the complexities of recertification, we kindly ask for patience and respectful interactions. We recognize the stress associated with maintaining certification and remain committed to providing support along the way.

### Key Updates for 2025 Recertification

We are pleased to announce a significant change to the 2025 DCNP recertification requirements. Previously, applicants were required to complete 60 education hours every three years, with a maximum of 30 hours from Continuing Medical Education (CME) and the remaining 30 from nursing-specific contact hours. This distinction often caused confusion for both applicants and reviewers.

Starting in 2025, we are simplifying this requirement. Applicants will still need 60 education hours, but there will no longer be a distinction between CME and contact hours. This streamlined approach is designed to ease the recertification process, making it more straightforward and manageable. We believe this change will provide greater flexibility and clarity for all dermatology nurse practitioners.

### Practice Analysis in 2025

In addition to the recertification update, we are excited to share our upcoming Practice Analysis. This is a research study crucial in examining the tasks and responsibilities of nurse practitioners. By identifying the knowledge, skills, and abilities required in the field, the practice analysis ensures the DCNP exam remains relevant and accurately reflects the evolving landscape of dermatologic care.

Your participation will be invaluable once the practice analysis is released. We strongly encourage all dermatology nurse practitioners to contribute their insights and experiences, as this feedback directly influences the content of future certification exams. As we enter 2025, we are excited about the positive changes on the horizon and are here to support you every step of the way.

Wishing you success and fulfillment in the year ahead.



# NURSE PRACTITIONER IN DERMATOLOGY

A nurse practitioner in dermatology is a clinician who offers holistic, high-quality care for their patients. They have advanced clinical training beyond their initial professional registered nurse preparation with a master's or doctoral degree and advanced education and training in the specialty. Many nurse practitioners also achieve dermatology nurse practitioner certification demonstrating a higher degree of professional competence. Nurse practitioners are highly-trained dedicated professionals who are trusted by both patients and other healthcare providers.

Expertise in dermatology is accomplished through specialty training or completion of a post-graduate internship program. In addition, the dermatology nurse practitioner participates in independent continuing education activities such as those offered by professional organizations such as Dermatology Nurses' Association (DNA).

Increasing health care needs are driving the growth of the profession. Nurse practitioners in dermatology provide high-quality comprehensive care for diverse patient populations, increase patient access to healthcare services and decrease wait times to care.

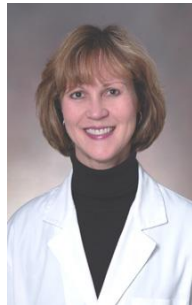
Nurse practitioners in dermatology emphasize the patient-centered holistic approach to dermatology through expert care, comprehensive examination, clear communication and continuity of care.

## Responsibilities

- Performs comprehensive examinations of the skin, hair, nails, and mucosa
- Orders and interprets diagnostic tests
- Prescribes medications
- Performs surgical procedures including biopsies and excisions
- Diagnoses and treats dermatologic conditions
- Provides counseling and education
- Works with other health care professionals to provide comprehensive care

### Other responsibilities may include:

- Phototherapy treatment
- Cosmetic procedures
- Laser procedures
- Telemedicine
- Policy development
- Dermatologic Research



*Role: Nurse practitioners in dermatology diagnose and treat a broad array of dermatologic conditions\**

*\*Scope of practice, regulations and prescriptive privileges vary by state*



*Nurse Practitioners in Dermatology work in a variety of settings including:*

*Group and private practices*

*Hospitals*

*HMOs*

*Academic centers*

*Community clinics*

*University health settings*

*Veterans hospitals and clinics*

*Nurse-managed clinics*



# NP Online Certification Review Course

## DCNP Course Description

### **COST:**

***\$500.00 for members***

***\$800.00 for non-members***

Welcome to the Dermatology Certified Nurse Practitioner (DCNP) online review course. This course was designed to provide the nurse practitioner with a concise study guide to help prepare for the certification examination. It represents the countless volunteer hours of PowerPoint authors, vetters, and pilot testers. The course consists of 11 modules. The subject matter for each module was derived from content mapping of the DCNP examination. There is no audio associated with the course to allow the learner to proceed at their desired pace and facilitate timely updates. Each module has accompanying review questions. Continuing education credit is obtained by successfully completing the review questions and attaining a score of at least 70%. Completion of the evaluation for each course is required to attain the continuing education certificate. Eligible for up to 38.27 NCPD/CE credits.

We wish you success in completing the certification examination.

If you previously received CE's for any content you may access and complete again but for license requirements you can only claim credit once per module.

### **Disclaimer**

The review questions at the end of each module may or may not be reflective of the certification examination questions. Completion of this course DOES NOT insure the participant will attain a passing score on the certification examination.

This package is only available for one year after purchase.

Commercial Support - Sanofi-Regeneron - Modules 1-10 only. No commercial support for Module 11.

**Visit the Courses Online at:**

**<https://dna.digitellinc.com/dna/>**

*The Dermatology Nurses' Association (DNA) is accredited as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.*



**What is your name?**

My name is Madison Mizenko, MSN, AGPCNP-BC.

**What setting do you work in?**

I practice medical and cosmetic dermatology at Essex Dermatology, located on the Connecticut Shoreline.

**How long have you been a nurse practitioner?**

I have been a nurse practitioner since 2023.

**How long have you worked as an NP in dermatology or a dermatology-related discipline?**

I am extremely fortunate to have begun my career as a nurse practitioner in dermatology. Since beginning my practice in 2023, I have worked in dermatology.

**Can you describe your role as an NP in your practice and the healthcare team?**

My role as a nurse practitioner in my current practice bridges both clinical dermatologic care as well as aesthetic enhancement. I assess, diagnose and manage a wide range of skin, hair and nail conditions across diverse patient populations. My dual focus in both medical and cosmetic dermatology allows me to focus on improving both skin health and appearance, empowering my patients to feel confident and cared for. I collaborate with my peers, which includes nurse practitioners as well as physicians.

**What kind of procedures do you do daily?**

One of the many reasons why I absolutely love my job is the variety of procedures I am able to perform from day to day! A typical day includes procedures such as shave and punch biopsies, electrodesiccation & curettage, cryotherapy, photodynamic therapy, extractions, neurotoxin and cosmetic lasers.

**What is your favorite part of your job as an NP in dermatology?**

There are so many aspects of my job that I absolutely love. I am extremely lucky to work in the field that I do. My favorite part of my job is my co-workers that I am so lucky to work with day in and day out. I work with extremely professional, enthusiastic and caring women who take pride in providing the absolute best care to our patients. Without having support from my co-workers, it would be extremely difficult to practice successfully.

**What advice would you give to aspiring dermatology nurse practitioners?**

I have so many pieces of advice that I would give to an aspiring dermatology nurse practitioner. I highly recommend building a strong foundation in general skills as a nurse practitioner. This means mastering the basics, such as assessment, diagnosis and clinical decision-making. Additionally, I recommend seeking out dermatology experience early on in your training. Whether this be shadowing in a dermatology office, working as a medical assistant in a dermatology office, seeking out dermatology clinical rotations or even creating close connections with a mentor who works in dermatology are all huge pieces that can help you to secure a job in the future. Lastly, continuing education is extremely important. Dermatology-focused continuing education courses and conferences will only help you to become a better provider, allowing you to provide exceptional care to your patients.





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Satisfaction for **your patient**.

## The Value of VisualDx

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- Quick access to therapy options
- Educate your patients

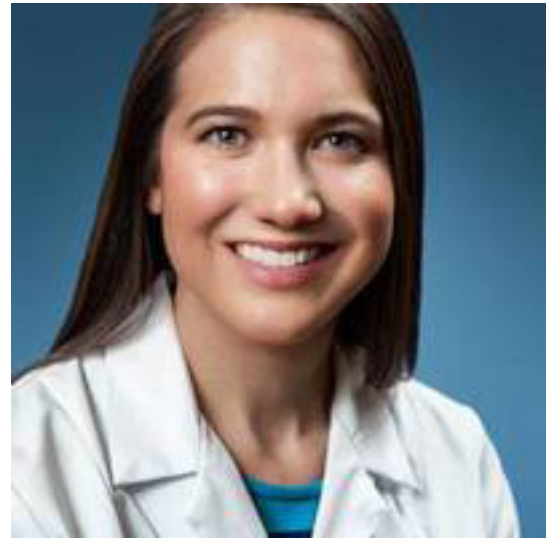
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I am a nurse practitioner in San Diego, CA and I have been practicing as an NP since March 2015. I have been married for 17 years and have two amazing girls, ages 6 and 8. I originally planned to be a chemist and went to the University of San Diego for my first undergraduate degree, where I majored in chemistry and minored in math. I started a career in research and development in the pharmaceutical industry, before transitioning to cosmetic chemistry, and finally pursuing a career in healthcare. I recall that during my nursing school interviews, I specifically said my goal was to become a nurse practitioner and work in dermatology. Thankfully, I was able to make that dream happen. I attended Azusa Pacific University for my next degree and graduated with a BSN. I was accepted into Scripps Health's New Grad program and began my first job as a night shift RN in the medical acute unit of the hospital. I was also simultaneously attending Azusa Pacific University's satellite campus full time in San Diego to earn my MSN. Needless to say, there was very little sleep to be had during this time. Eventually, I was able to transfer to Scripps Clinic Laser and Cosmetic Dermatology (LCD), which was my goal all along. When I graduated in December 2014, I was offered a job in LCD as the first NP in the entire division of dermatology, and I have been working there ever since. I am proud to report that we have hired our second NP and we currently have a team of 21 physicians, 2 NPs, and 7 PAs across 11 clinics. I am also on the Board of Directors at Scripps Clinic Medical Group (SCMG) as the second ever APC Representative, so I get to be a liaison between the several hundred APCs that SCMG employs and the physicians who make up the rest of the board. It is an extremely important role that we had to lobby for, as APCs didn't previously have any representation on the Board of Directors.



I am so grateful that I was selected to be the recipient of this award. I have been planning to take the certification exam for years now, but as they say, life got in the way. Now that my kids are old enough, I finally have time to study and sit for the exam. Being certified is a formal acknowledgement of my level of expertise and training. It helps my patients know that I am proficient in my field and also shows my colleagues that I take my career very seriously and that I strive to be the very best dermatology nurse practitioner that I can be.

My short term career goals are to serve the remaining two years on the Board of Directors at SCMG. As a part of my role in the Board of Directors, I am working with a wonderful group of NPs to re-write the standardized procedure documents for all of the NPs at SCMG. It is a very large undertaking and we are very proud of the work we have put in so far. For my long term career goals, I just hope to be able to go into work each day and continue to love my job. I truly enjoy the work I do, and I work hard to make sure that I surround myself with a great team and a panel of wonderful patients.

In ten years, I plan to still be at my current job. Perhaps I will be working more hours as my kids get older and need me less. Or maybe the teenage years will be even more challenging and I will stay at part time! Either way, I definitely plan to have more publications under my belt by that time. So far I have two published articles, and I would like to see that number continue to increase as I work with Dr. Ross to advance the field of laser technology. Research is really a fun aspect of my job. I enjoy spending time after clinic testing new lasers and pushing the limits on our devices to really see what we can accomplish.

## DNA GRANT WINNER

**BRIANA WISCHNACK, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC, DNC**

I have had a number of role models over the years and they have always been teachers that I connected with for one reason or another. In college I had a wonderful physics professor. He taught me to observe the world in a new way and instilled a sense of curiosity in me that I didn't realize I had before. I have also had wonderful role models in my nursing career. Professors Sarah Obermeyer and Dr. Sheryl Nespor are two wonderful nurses who manage to perfectly balance the skills and competencies of nursing with the humanity of being a nurse. I always looked up to them, and I try to model my own nursing practice after theirs.

My favorite part of being a DNA member is attending conferences. I typically go to the conferences on the west coast and I have really enjoyed meeting new people and learning new things. One year, I even helped as part of the planning committee. I found that to be very rewarding, and I encourage other DNA members to get involved and make the most of their memberships.

I have been a DNA member for over a decade, and I have contributed in several ways to the association. The first major way was when I was called out of the blue by past president Dave Schlichting. I distinctly remember that I was out for a walk along the beach (wearing my sunscreen, UPF clothing, and hat to be sure!) when Dave asked me to be a member of the planning committee for the 2018 conference in San Diego. It was so much fun to be part of that committee. I was also a part of the research committee for a short time and found that to be very rewarding as well. In the future, I hope to be able to run for a spot on the Board of Directors. Now that I am serving on the Board of Directors at SCMG, I see how much of an impact I can make. Perhaps when my role in that position is over, I will be able to transfer my knowledge over to the DNA Board of Directors in a similar capacity.

"Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." Matthew 6:34.

I first heard this verse in nursing school. I should preface this by saying that I went to a private Christian college for nursing school. It was my first semester and we were all worrying about an upcoming exam that was rumored to be very difficult. Our professor sat us down and read us the passage that precedes this quote. This quote helps me to remember that everything will work itself out. I can easily get bogged down in details and can get overwhelmed by the sheer number of things that need to be done, and this helps me to put things in perspective and see the bigger picture. Each day, I just need to focus on being the best wife, mother, and nurse that I can be. Everything else will sort itself out.





# AWARDS/ SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM



## Dermatology Nurses' Association Awards/Scholarships Program

The DNA Awards, Grants and Scholarship Program is designed to acknowledge and recognize our DNA members and volunteers. The Program is divided into three categories:

### Recognition Awards, Monetary Grants and Scholarships:

Awards recognize our member volunteers who lead and give back to their community.

Grant funds support contributions to the dermatology nursing field and certification.

Scholarship funds support those wishing to advance their nursing education.

\* \* \*

### Criteria for all awards, grants and scholarships include:

All candidates must be a current DNA member for a minimum of two completed consecutive years of membership.

A DNA member may not win the same award two years in a row and may only win one award per year. All winners will write an article for the Focus Newsletter on what receiving their award has meant to them.

The Awards, Grants and Scholarships application process will be open year round. Deadline for applications to be received and reviewed is October 1st of the year prior to receiving the awards or funds. Applicants for certification grants, convention and mobility scholarships will be informed of the chosen recipient(s) by year's end. Funded grants and scholarships will be given out in the year following application. The volunteer recognition awards will be announced at the annual convention.

### Hall of Fame Award

Purpose: To identify the "Best of the Best" in the dermatology nursing profession. The recipient(s) will be inducted into the DNA Hall of Fame and will receive a plaque.

Please direct any questions to the DNA National Office via email at [dna@dnanurse.org](mailto:dna@dnanurse.org) or call 800-454-4362.

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**<https://www.dnanurse.org/aboutdna/awards-scholarships-program/>**

## On the Job

### What is the biggest benefit you get from your DNA membership?

The most significant benefit that I get from my DNA membership is community. Networking has a positive, critical role in personal growth and career development. Cultivating a community of dermatology nurses who can share clinical experiences, best practices, and collective knowledge is valuable. I've genuinely enjoyed my time as a DNA Education Advisory Committee member, and I look forward to meeting new faces at this year's annual conference.

### What advice can you give people to get more involved with DNA?

Getting involved with the Dermatology Nurses' Association is a great way to expand your network, enhance your skills, and stay updated on evidence-based nursing. A few examples of becoming more involved with DNA include attending our annual conference and engaging with committee work. The Education Advisory Committee always looks for more pilot testers for our continuing education videos. We would be thrilled to have you!

### Describe your first experience with DNA.

My first experience with DNA was as a dermatology nurse coordinator and a graduate student. During my Nursing Policy class, we were instructed to post a message and tag a research journal of interest. Naturally, I chose to tag the Dermatology Nurses' Association. To my surprise, I received a prompt, enthusiastic response from the DNA, stating they were looking forward to my future research endeavors. Needless to say, I published my dissertation with them shortly after graduating.

### What is the most satisfying aspect of your job?

Beyond patient care, the most satisfying aspect of my job is mentoring future dermatology nurses. I find great joy and satisfaction in watching someone grow in confidence and skill. Mentoring also fosters a sense of meaningful and reciprocal connection. Mentorship also challenges me to stay updated and engaged with the current literature.

## On the Side

### What is the biggest benefit you get from your DNA membership?

I enjoy reading and listening to podcasts. I am a lifelong learner and appreciate learning more about the world around me.

### What's the most dangerous thing you have ever done?

The most dangerous thing I have ever done was skydiving in Hawaii. It was an incredible experience. I'm confident I will never sign so many waivers at once in my lifetime again (at least, I've promised my family this).

# CHAPTER CORNER

## ROCHESTER CHAPTER

INGRID MEYRIS, CHAPTER PRESIDENT

### Tell us about your Chapter:

The Rochester, NY Chapter was started in 2005, but it had a slight struggle and it was closed after a few years. The original members were determined to restart another nursing dermatology chapter for our area, and many hands helped to restart it. In 2015 it was reestablished under the DNA umbrella as the new Rochester, NY Chapter number #23 and I became the president in 2017.

### What ways do you grow your Chapter?

Memberships are difficult to come by, fortunately we are a teaching hospital, and, in our department, we have a Dermatology NP fellowship program. The DNA is a great tool for new hires, and membership is strongly encouraged within the organization. I like to include all dermatology departments within the establishment and around the county in the Email distributions when meetings and programs occur with hopes of new interest and memberships. This seems to be a successful way to meet new people.

### What impact does your Chapter make in your local area?

Our chapter has been quiet over the past few years post Covid. We have discussed ideas in the past to help educate the middle school/high school students with healthy skin care choices, such as sun protection, negative effects of tanning beds, and how to have fun in the sun and stay burn free. I think this would make a great impact in our area and is something, as president of the Rochester Chapter, that I would like to see happen for the coming school year.

### What impact does your Chapter have on DNA?

Our chapter is small but the few that belong to the group are committed to Dermatology. Their dedication for continuation of education, knowledge and dermatology advancements helps promote the benefits of belonging to the DNA. Using the CE center and attending the DNA yearly conference is a great benefit to the DNA as well as the members using the services.

### What are your members favorite part(s) of the Chapter?

The feedback that I receive from members of the Rochester Chapter is that we have CE events that bring education and socialization into one night. It is great when we can create a fun experience for members to attend.

### What do your Chapter members love most about the field of dermatology?

Dermatology nurses are so important to the dermatology field. We are utilized in every aspect of patient care. With the addition of certification for nurses, our knowledge of dermatology is such a benefit for the patients. We can answer questions about their treatment plans, help explain medications, and aid patients with information on new diagnosis that can be overwhelming for them. It is a wonderful feeling to be able to care for patients in this manner.

### What advice would you give to new and existing members?

The best advice for any chapter is to not give up if it is important to you. It is not easy finding members to join associations but if one can share experiences and enthusiasm about the DNA and how it has worked for you, excitement is contagious and maybe it will spark new interest.







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## **Interested in Leadership Opportunities?**

**DNA is always looking for volunteers to help us succeed in our goals! Are you interested in volunteering with the Dermatology Nurses' Association?**

**Contact Us today or visit our [Volunteer Section](#) for more information!**

**Contact the DNA National Office at [www.dnannurse.org](http://www.dnannurse.org) if interested or for more information.**

## July 2025

- UV Safety Month
- National Stay Out of the Sun Day - July 3rd

## August 2025

- Psoriasis Action Month
- Summer Sun Safety Month

## September 2025

- National Pediculosis Prevention Month
- National Skin Care Awareness Month
- Nursing Professional Development Week - Sept.14-20th
- National Eczema Week - Sept.14-21st





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Welcome to the Dermatology Certified RN (DNC) Online Review Course. This course was designed to provide the RN with a concise study guide to help prepare for the certification examination. It represents the countless volunteer hours of authors, vetters, and pilot testers. The course consists of 6 modules. The subject matter for each module was derived from content mapping of the DNC examination. Each module has accompanying review questions. Continuing education credit is obtained by successfully completing the review questions and attaining a score of at least 70%. Completion of the evaluation for each course is required to attain the continuing education certificate. Eligible for up to 11.5 Nursing Continuing Professional Development/Continuing Education (NCPD/CE) credits, which includes 1.00 ANCC Pharmacotherapeutic Contact Hour Credit.

Visit the CE Center Online:  
<https://dna.digitellinc.com/dna/>

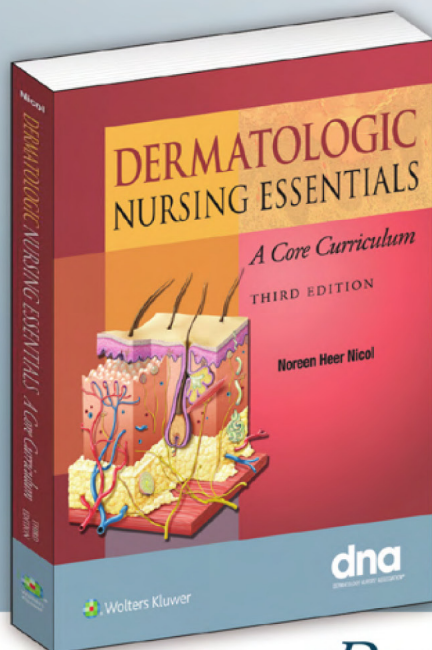


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*Promoting Excellence in Dermatological Care*



The Dermatology Nurses' Association is a professional nursing organization comprised of diverse individuals who are committed to quality dermatologic care to provide exceptional patient outcomes through sharing knowledge and expertise.

A background image showing a person in a white lab coat holding a smartphone. Overlaid on the image are various medical and technology icons, including a stethoscope, a laptop, a microscope, a heart with a plus sign, a magnifying glass, and a smartphone. The URL "www.dnanurse.org" is written in a large, blue, sans-serif font across the middle of the image.

[www.dnanurse.org](http://www.dnanurse.org)

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DNA is at the hub of a vibrant global network of dermatology care providers.

Health care professionals from around the world access DNA's knowledge and expertise in dermatology care through a wide variety of high quality educational resources including a premiere journal, international conferences, and cutting edge technology.

DNA members serve as content experts, educators, and advisors in collaborative health initiatives to assure inclusion of the dermatology nursing perspective.