

2 DAYS, 5 STREAMS

20  
25

# IVNA CONGRESS

May 24th & 25th 2025



Tullamore  
Court Hotel

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CVE CREDITS PENDING at time of printing—Saturday 5 credits pending, Sunday 6 credits pending. *All details in this programme were correct at the time of printing. The IVNA reserves the right to change or amend the arrangements without prior notice*

**IVNA, 13 The Courtyard, Kilcarbery Park, Nangor Road, Dublin 22**  
**www.ivna.ie enquiries@ivna.ie 086-787 0092**



# Welcome note



## Dear Veterinary Nurses & Student VNs,

We're thrilled to announce that the 15th Annual IVNA Congress will be taking place at the Tullamore Court Hotel.

This year, our focus is on exploring the latest advancements and updated guidelines in veterinary nursing, while also celebrating the passion and dedication of veterinary nurses across the industry.

We've also made an exciting change to how our practical sessions will run this year: delegates will now have the opportunity to attend all three streams, ensuring a richer and more diverse experience for everyone.

A central highlight of the weekend will be the Annual IVNA Veterinary Nursing Awards, where we'll honour those who have shown outstanding dedication and excellence in veterinary nursing. These awards are a true celebration of the remarkable individuals within our community, and we look forward to recognising their contributions.

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to our sponsors, Royal Canin® and Allianz, whose unwavering support is vital in making this event a reality. Their commitment to the growth and advancement of veterinary nursing is deeply appreciated.

We invite you to join us for what promises to be an inspiring, educational, and unforgettable weekend. Be sure to mark your calendars, spread the word, and we look forward to seeing you there!



*Kellie Fagan*

IVNA Chairperson

# Essential Information

## Registration

Delegates are encouraged to pre-register for the Congress in order to avail of the Early Bird Rates which run till April 15th 2025. You can either complete the Registration Form on the next page or online at [www.ivna.ie](http://www.ivna.ie). It is not possible to register on the day. **Discounts are available for IVNA members – non-members are welcome to join to avail of these discounts and save money!**

## Accommodation



### Tullamore Court Hotel

You can book directly with the hotel by phoning 057-934 6666 or email [sandra@tullamorecourthotel.ie](mailto:sandra@tullamorecourthotel.ie)

**Don't forget to quote promo code IVNA25 to avail of the discounted rates. Rooms are limited so book early**

B&B	FRIDAY NIGHT	SATURDAY NIGHT
Single Occupancy	€185	€185
Double Occupancy	€105 pps	€105 pps

## Gala Dinner & Veterinary Nursing Awards Ceremony

This year we will be hosting our Gala Dinner & Awards Ceremony on the evening of Saturday 24th May. Tickets are priced at €35 per person but cost less if purchased as part of a bundle with your Congress booking. Guests and partners are welcome and additional tickets can be booked when registering.

## Commercial Exhibition

The commercial exhibition takes place on Saturday 24th May and will provide delegates with information on the latest veterinary products, offers and competitions.

# Postal Registration Form

<b>Name</b>			
<b>Practice name</b>			
<b>Postal address</b>			
<b>Phone</b>		<b>Mobile</b>	
<b>Email</b>			
<b>IVNA Membership No.</b>		<b>VCI Reg. No.</b>	

Please circle corresponding box to confirm attendance choice

Registration costs	IVNA Members		Non-members**		TOTAL
Early Bird Rate DEADLINE 15 <sup>th</sup> APRIL	Early Bird	After 15/04/25	Early Bird	After 15/04/25	
Saturday only	€70	€85	€140	€170	
Sunday only	€75	€95	€150	€180	
Saturday & Sunday	€125	€160	€250	€300	
Saturday & Social	€95	€110	€170	€200	
Sunday & Social	€100	€115	€180	€210	
Saturday, Sunday & Social ticket	€150	€160	€280	€330	
Social ticket only	€35	€35	€35	€35	
<b>Congress Registration Total</b>					€

**\*\*JOIN THE IVNA TO AVAIL OF DISCOUNTED RATES AND SAVE MONEY\*\***

SATURDAY STREAM: Medical OR Surgical SUNDAY STREAM: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Post to: IVNA, 13 The Courtyard, Kilcarbery Park, Nangor Road, Dublin 22

**ONLINE REGISTRATIONS CAN BE MADE AT [WWW.IVNA.IE](http://WWW.IVNA.IE)**

For full T's & C's please visit our website or email [administrator@ivna.ie](mailto:administrator@ivna.ie)

# Postal IVNA Membership Form

Name

Address

Mobile

\*Email

\*Please include email address as all correspondence is forwarded electronically

**Qualified RVN** (existing IVNA member) – Fee €60.00  
(VCI registered nurses and QVN's with proof of qualification)

VCI Reg. No.

**Qualified RVN (NEW IVNA member)** – Fee €65.00  
(VCI registered nurses and QVN's with proof of qualification)

VCI Reg. No.

**Student VN - FREE**

Student No.

College

I enclose € \_\_\_\_\_ membership fee

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Post to IVNA, 13 The Courtyard,  
Kilcarbery Park, Nangor Road, Dublin 22

**ONLINE SUBSCRIPTIONS can be made at**  
**[www.ivna.ie/membership](http://www.ivna.ie/membership)**



# IVNA Awards 2024

## IVNA Veterinary Nurse of the Year 2024



Lizzie Schlick (Royal Canin) and Cheryl  
Quigley (Arra Vet Clinic)

## IVNA Student Vet Nurse of the Year 2024



Gabrielle Mein  
(Douglas Street Campus)

## NOMINATE ONLINE NOW FOR IVNA AWARDS 2025 [www.ivna-awards.com](http://www.ivna-awards.com)

Submit your online nomination to give your special veterinary staff member a chance to win this prestigious award!

There are 2 categories...

**Irish Veterinary Nurse of the Year** - Award trophy and €750 voucher

**Irish Student Veterinary Nurse of the Year** - Award trophy and €500 voucher




The winning nominator for each category will also receive a €100 gift voucher!

**Closing date for entries is April 15th 2025**

For full T's & C's please visit our website



# Congress Saturday Schedule

Saturday 24th May 2025 – MEDICAL STREAM (5 CVE credits pending)	
<b>0830-0900</b>	REGISTRATION
0900-1000	Don't kidney around! Critical nursing management of the AKI patient Eimear Geoghegan
<b>1000-1030</b>	TEA BREAK <span style="float: right;">sponsored by ROYAL CANIN® &amp; Allianz</span>
1030-1130	Cat Friendly Nursing Clare Meade <span style="float: right;"></span>
<b>1130-1230</b>	IVNA AGM
<b>1230-1330</b>	LUNCH
1330-1430	Elevating osteoarthritis management in your practice: The power of stem cells and integrative patient management Lauren Popiolek <span style="float: right;"></span>
1430-1530	Navigating chemotherapy: A guide to basics and safe practices Sandra Collins
<b>1530-1600</b>	TEA BREAK <span style="float: right;">sponsored by ROYAL CANIN® &amp; Allianz</span>
1600-1700	Beat by Beat: Cardiovascular Monitoring Overview Courtney Scales
Saturday 24th May 2025 – SURGICAL STREAM (5 CVE credits pending)	
<b>0830-0900</b>	REGISTRATION
0900-1000	Beyond the Basics – Applying the 2024 Guidelines and Optimising CRI Use in Practice Aisling Judge
<b>1000-1030</b>	TEA BREAK <span style="float: right;">sponsored by ROYAL CANIN® &amp; Allianz</span>
1030-1130	Critical care nursing of the surgical patient Alicia Reid <span style="float: right;"></span>
<b>1130-1230</b>	IVNA AGM
<b>1230-1330</b>	LUNCH
1330-1430	Breathe Easy, nursing the diaphragmatic hernia repair patient Gráinne Kelly
1430-1530	Getting to Know Your Multiparameter Monitor/Your Multiparameter Monitor is Lying To You Courtney Scales
<b>1530-1600</b>	TEA BREAK <span style="float: right;">sponsored by ROYAL CANIN® &amp; Allianz</span>
1600-1700	RECOVER CPR Guidelines 2024 - what's new? Alicia Reid



# Congress Sunday Schedule

Group 1	
1000-1030	REGISTRATION
1030-1130	Practical: Ready, Steady, Ventilate! - Courtney Scales
1130-1200	TEA BREAK
1200-1300	What's in the smear? Practical tips on blood smear preparation and evaluation - Ciaran Lloyd
1300-1400	LUNCH
1400-1500	East meets West: The use of Acupuncture in Veterinary practice - Gabrielle Haughton
1500	CONGRESS CLOSE
Group 2	
1000-1030	REGISTRATION
1030-1130	East meets West: The use of Acupuncture in Veterinary practice - Gabrielle Haughton
1130-1200	TEA BREAK
1200-1300	Practical: Ready, Steady, Ventilate! - Courtney Scales
1300-1400	LUNCH
1400-1500	What's in the smear? Practical tips on blood smear preparation and evaluation - Ciaran Lloyd
1500	CONGRESS CLOSE
Group 3	
1000-1030	REGISTRATION
1030-1130	What's in the smear? Practical tips on blood smear preparation and evaluation - Ciaran Lloyd
1130-1200	TEA BREAK
1200-1300	East meets West: The use of Acupuncture in Veterinary practice - Gabrielle Haughton
1300-1400	LUNCH
1400-1500	Practical: Ready, Steady, Ventilate! - Courtney Scales
1500	CONGRESS CLOSE

*Sunday streams have a limited number of places so book early to avoid disappointment.  
6 CVE credits pending*

# Congress Speakers

**COURTNEY SCALES**  
DipVN, NCert (Anaesth),  
PgCertVAA, RVN



Courtney is originally from New Zealand where she trained and qualified. She began her career in veterinary nursing in 2007 and worked in multiple clinics in New Zealand before moving to Australia in 2015 to pursue her passion for anaesthesia. In 2016, she moved to the United Kingdom where she most recently worked as an Anaesthesia Registered Veterinary Nurse at the Royal Veterinary College and also as a Clinical Educator in anaesthesia.

Courtney started Veterinary *Anursethesis* on various social media platforms throughout her studies and career to share anaesthesia tips with the veterinary community. She has written several journal articles and textbook chapters and enjoys face-to-face speaking, about the practical side of anaesthesia monitoring in practice, at CPD events and National Congresses.

**Eimear Geoghegan**  
BSc (Hons) RVN  
CertVNECC NCert  
(MedNsg)



Eimear graduated from University College Dublin with a Bachelor of Science (Hons) degree in Veterinary Nursing in 2018. She spent two and half years as a Veterinary Nurse in UCD veterinary Hospital rotating

through the various departments before joining the team at Veterinary Specialists Ireland in 2020.

Eimear was promoted to Deputy Head Nurse and Lead Internal Medicine Nurse in 2022. Eimear is committed to ongoing education and has sought advanced qualifications to broaden her knowledge. In 2022 she completed a certificate in Emergency and Critical Care and, more recently in 2024, earned her Certificate in Internal Medical Nursing.

In 2022, her article on nursing management of the acute pelvic trauma was published in the *VJ*. Eimear enjoys presenting at CPD events and has previously lectured at the annual Irish Veterinary Nurse Conference in 2023.

**CLARE MEADE**  
MVB, Cert VR,  
MANZCVS Feline  
Medicine, ISFM Adv  
Feline Behaviour



Clare is the head vet and founder of The Cat Hospital. After 15 years working with all companion animals she finally realised her ambition to open Ireland's first cat only hospital.

Clare has studied feline medicine extensively and completed her feline examinations in 2012. She is a member of the International Academy of Feline Practitioners and continues to dedicate her life to improving the lives of her feline patients.

# Congress Speakers

Sandra Collins  
RVN, BSC



Sandra graduated from University College Dublin (UCD) in 2013 with a bachelor's degree in veterinary nursing. After gaining valuable experience in a busy small animal practice in Dublin, she returned to UCD in 2017 as a small animal nurse in the Internal Medicine Department. It was during this time that her journey in oncology began.

At the forefront of the growing oncology department, Sandra was trained in administering chemotherapy while still working alongside the medicine team. In 2022, she was given the opportunity to join the oncology department full-time as head nurse, a role she now thoroughly enjoys. Sandra is deeply committed to caring for oncology patients, building meaningful relationships with their families, and teaching final-year veterinary students during their clinical rotations.

Sandra has a strong passion for continuing her education, particularly in feline care, having completed a certificate in feline nursing in 2022. Her love for cats, along with her dedication to ensuring a stress-free experience for all patients, is evident in her approach to chemotherapy care for both feline and canine patients. Sandra's next goal is to complete her oncology specialisation and to continue contributing to the growth and development of the oncology department at UCD.

Aisling Judge  
BSc.(Hons) VN,  
NCert(Anaesth), RVN



Aisling is a Senior Veterinary Nurse at UCD Veterinary Hospital, specialising in anaesthesia and analgesia.

She graduated from Letterkenny Institute of Technology in 2014 with a degree in Veterinary Nursing. She furthered her education by completing a top-up honors degree program through Edinburgh Napier University, graduating with first-class honors in 2017. She gained valuable experience in general practice before deciding to move towards working in specialised referral nursing.

Aisling holds a Certificate in Veterinary Anaesthesia since 2019, and has been a valued member of the Anaesthesia Department at UCD Veterinary Hospital since 2020. Passionate about providing the highest quality of patient care, Aisling is dedicated to keeping up-to-date with current practices and actively engages in sharing and gaining knowledge with colleagues and students.

Alicia Reid  
RVN BSc.(Hons)VN  
CertVNECC



Alicia graduated from University College Dublin in 2019. She then joined UCD Veterinary Hospital as a rotating veterinary

# Congress Speakers

nurse. While she enjoyed the variety that came with working across multiple departments, Alicia found she had a particular interest in the nursing care and management of critically ill patients. This drove her to pursue further study in this area, completing the VetsNow Certificate of Veterinary Nursing in Emergency and Critical Care in 2022.

In 2023, Alicia took on a new role as an emergency and intensive care veterinary nurse working solely in the ICU department of UCDVH. She is a RECOVER certified BLS and ALS Rescuer and is currently studying towards a Professional Certificate in Veterinary Education.

**Gráinne Kelly**  
BSc (Hons) Cert VN  
ECC PG Cert VAA RVN



Gráinne graduated with a BSc (Hons) in Veterinary nursing in 2013. Following a year as a rotating nurse in the University Vet Hospital in Dublin, she moved to Davies Veterinary Specialists where she gained her ECC certificate in 2017. She became Patient Care Supervisor with a focus on ECC and ICU cases with a particular interest in nursing multi-trauma patients and post-operative management of complex surgical cases. In 2019, she moved to Northern Ireland Veterinary Specialists and completed her certificate in Anaesthesia and Analgesia in 2023. In 2024, she joined Burtons Veterinary as their equipment consultant for Ireland

**Ciaran Llyod**  
BSc(Hons) Veterinary  
Nursing Cert ECC



The first step in my veterinary journey began at Killester College. I graduated from here in 2012 with a FETAC level 5 qualification in Animal Care. Following this, I went on to graduate from UCD with a BSc degree in Veterinary Nursing in 2016. Post graduation, I went on to work in the UCD Vet Hospital and developed a real interest in Small Animal Medicine and Emergency and Critical Care. I worked as an RVN in the hospital for 5 years and over that period I also worked regular weekend shifts in the Pet Emergency Hospital and in 2020 I obtained my Vets Now certificate in Emergency and Critical Care. In 2021 a job opportunity came up in the Clinical Pathology Lab in UCD and I made the tough decision to leave the hospital floor and take up a position behind the microscope. The world of laboratory diagnostics is a fascinating one and one that veterinary nurses can excel in. My next step on the educational ladder is to complete my MSc in Biomedical Science, which I hope to achieve by the end of 2025.

**Dr. Lauren Popiolek**  
DVM, BSA



Lauren earned her BSA in Animal Science, Dairy Science and Biological Sciences from University of Georgia



# Congress Speakers

where she worked in bovine reproduction completing embryo transfer research. Following her BSA, Lauren earned her DVM from Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine. Lauren has built up over 12 years of clinical practice experience including five years working for one of London's leading referral hospitals specialising in internal medicine and critical care. She also served as chief medical officer for a large animal shelter and opened her own house-call service while in the US.

Dr. Gabrielle Haughton  
DVM, MSc, Dip Eq Science, CVA, CFT, BHSAI



Dr. Gabrielle Haughton is an experienced veterinary surgeon with a passion for holistic, integrative care. With over two decades of experience in both the equestrian and veterinary fields, Gabrielle combines traditional veterinary medicine with Chinese Veterinary Acupuncture and Food Therapy to provide a comprehensive, patient-centred approach to animal health.

Gabrielle's journey began in 2001, qualifying as a \*BHS Riding Instructor (BHSAI)\* alongside completing a \*Diploma in Equine Science\*. She worked across Ireland and the UK as an instructor in various equestrian centres before becoming Head Girl at an international eventing yard in the South of England.

On returning to Ireland, Gabrielle pursued her passion for animal health, completing a \*PLC in Animal Care\* and securing a

as a trainee veterinary nurse at UCD. However, her ambitions led her to change course and begin her veterinary degree at \*Szent István University, Budapest, qualifying as a \*\*Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM)\* in 2013.

After qualifying, she gained extensive experience in \*mixed practice, companion animal clinics, and time with \*\*The Blue Cross\* and \*Dogs Trust, alongside locum work. Despite enjoying her work, she felt something was missing in the conventional veterinary approach, which led her to begin her studies in \*\*Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine (TCVM)\* with \*BEVAS in Belgium\*.

Gabrielle completed her \*IVAS (International Veterinary Acupuncture Society)\* certification in 2022 and founded \*FourGates Veterinary Acupuncture\*, offering acupuncture and Chinese Food Therapy alongside conventional veterinary care. She believes in treating each patient as an individual, blending Eastern and Western medicine to promote balance, healing, and overall well-being.

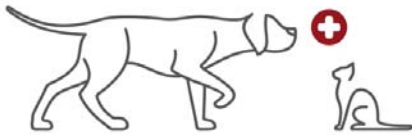


The IVNA would like to extend a sincere thank you to the above speakers for generously giving their time and sharing their expertise with us. Your contributions are truly appreciated, and we are grateful for the valuable insights you will provide.

# Our Sponsors



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