



Terms of Reference 2026

Statement

The Australian College of Neonatal Nurses (ACNN) is dedicated to the promotion of excellence in the care of neonates and their families. Its Special Interest Groups (SIGs) support this outcome by monitoring, informing, and making recommendations to the ACNN National Committee on many aspects of neonatal nursing care.

Purpose

Nutrition and feeding play an important part in the experience of families whose infant requires admission to a neonatal unit. Successful establishment of feeding is affected by various factors, such as prematurity, neurological impairment, congenital abnormalities, surgery, and/or maternal conditions and choices. The purpose of this SIG is to provide neonatal nurses and neonatal lactation consultants with education, resources, and opportunities to optimise feeding outcomes; including but not limited to:

- evidenced based information
- content expert advice on aspects relating to feeding
- links to national and international resources
- learning opportunities delivered in person or via online session

Operating Committee

The operating committee must consist of a minimum of five members. Positions are Chair, Secretary, Treasurer Liaison, Social Media Liaison and at least two ordinary members. Operating committee members hold the positions for a period of 12 months and can renominate each 12 months. The operating committee positions become vacant at the subcommittee annual meeting held in the last quarter of the calendar year. Members can nominate before the meeting or from the floor at the meeting. Ordinary members nominations are accepted throughout the year. Nominees are encouraged to attend two meetings as an observer prior to nomination.

Meetings

By Zoom every three months (February, May, August, November) on the second Wednesday of the month. All meetings are open to all ACNN members.

An AGM, open to all members, may be held, in addition to an education workshop/seminar, at the discretion of the National Executive. If the AGM is not held at the ACNN National Conference, it will be held on zoom at the November meeting.

Strategic Planning and Sustainable Committees Policy

The Nutrition and Feeding SIG will plan activities that align with the ACNN Strategic Plan 2026-2030 and Sustainable Committees Policy (P13). Activities planned by the SIG will be listed within the strategic plan, included on the annual report, and made available on the ACNN website. A representative of the SIG Committee will attend the Branch and SIG Forum every 2 months.

Generative AI use, IP and Copyright Policy

SIG members will be aware of Policy 17 and will ensure that documents and resources developed and/or authored within the SIG, SIG meetings and/or for events align to P17 requirements, including authorship details, rights and permissions.

Membership

Current financial members of ACNN are eligible to be members of the Nutrition and Feeding SIG. Nurses or midwives applying for ACNN membership may nominate to be a member of the SIG on the application form. Membership to the SIG becomes active once ACNN membership is approved and Nutrition and Feeding SIG membership is open to all financial members who are passionate about Nutrition and Feeding.

Reports to: ACNN National Executive committee.

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