

Upcoming Meetings

Data and audit leads meeting - 3rd Dec 2024 @ 10am

Sustainability meeting - 12th Dec 2024 @ 9am

Rehab and follow up meeting - 12th Dec 2024 @ 13:30pm

PNA meeting - 21st Jan 2025 @ 11am



Share your content in our next newsletter!

For example; forthcoming study days or completed or ongoing QI projects,

please send an email: medwayft.kssccn@nhs.net



Please remember to complete DoS twice a day (Morning by 9AM and evening by 9PM)

If you need any support with this please contact roxanne.burns@nhs.net

Welcome to the Kent, Surrey and Sussex adult critical care network quarterly newsletter

Network Annual Conference October 4th

The recent Kent, Surrey and Sussex Adult Critical Care, Operating Delivery Network Critical Care Conference was a resounding success, thanks to the enthusiastic participation of over 150 delegates. We extend our sincere gratitude to everyone who attended and contributed to the event's lively discussions and valuable insights.

The conference featured a diverse range of presentations covering a variety of critical care topics. Some of the highlights included:

- Patient Safety: Presentations on patient safety initiatives at Tunbridge Wells Hospital, including the importance of learning from failures and implementing safety measures.
- Martha's Rule and Call for Concern: An overview of the implementation of Martha's Rule at Medway NHS Trust and the challenges faced.
- Frailty Admissions: A panel discussion on the complexities of frailty admissions in critical care, including ethical considerations and resource allocation.
- The Check Out Campaign: A presentation on the Check Out Campaign, which aims to raise awareness of the psychological impact of trauma on healthcare staff and encourage them to seek support.
- Refractory Hypoxaemia: A comprehensive overview of the physiology, management strategies, and challenges associated with refractory hypoxaemia.
- One Way Valve Working Group: Updates on the progress of the ODN OWV working group, including their collaboration with national organizations and the development of a new competency for critical care staff.
- Follow-Up and Rehabilitation: A presentation by the East Kent Hospitals Follow-up and Rehabilitation team on their services and the positive impact they have on patient outcomes.
- End-of-Life Care: A qualitative study exploring the experiences of critical care staff in providing end-of-life care, including the emotional impact and the need for further training and support.

We are delighted to have received positive feedback from attendees.

We encourage all attendees to submit their feedback and suggestions for future topics. Your input will help us shape the conference to meet the evolving needs of the critical care community. Thank you again for your participation in the KSS ACC ODN Critical Care Conference.

A more detailed breakdown of the conference presentations is available [here](#).

PNA Role Implementation within Critical Care Guidance Launched

The network is thrilled to announce the official launch of the "PNA Role Implementation within Critical Care" guidance document. This collaborative effort, produced by the Intensive Care Society (ICS) and the Professional Nurse Advocate (PNA) Community of Practice, was developed in consultation with key stakeholders, including:

- UKCCNA (United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting)
- Psychologists in Intensive Care UK (PINC UK)
- Neonatal Leads for Psychological Practice (NeoLeaP)
- Association of Clinical Psychologists UK
- British Psychological Society

This document is a significant resource that aims to provide clarity and direction for the implementation of the PNA role within critical care settings. It outlines the PNA's responsibilities, scope of practice, and how they can effectively contribute to the care of critically ill patients and their families.

Key Benefits of the New Guidance:

- **Enhanced Patient Care:** The guidance promotes a comprehensive approach to patient care by including the vital role of the PNA in supporting both patients and their families during a critical illness.
- **Improved Collaboration:** The document fosters stronger collaboration between PNAs, critical care nurses, and other healthcare professionals, ensuring a more coordinated and holistic care experience.
- **Increased Awareness:** This resource helps raise awareness about the PNA role and its valuable contribution to critical care units.

Accessibility and Sharing:

The "PNA Role Implementation within Critical Care" guidance is readily available for download at the following link: ICS Website:
<https://ics.ac.uk/resource-report/the-professional-nurse-advocate.html>

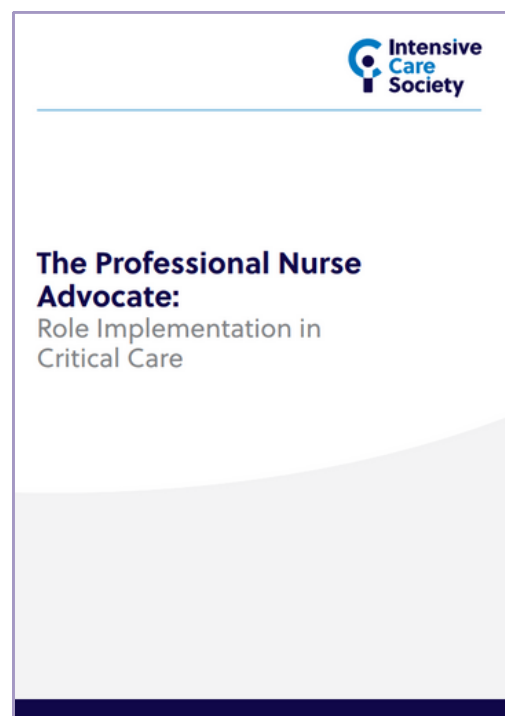
Spreading the Word:

The launch of this guidance marks a positive step towards maximizing the impact of the PNA role within critical care. We believe this resource will be instrumental in empowering PNAs and fostering a collaborative environment that prioritizes optimal patient care.

We kindly request your support in disseminating this vital information. Please share this newsletter and the linked guidance document with all PNAs in your critical care units, even those who may not be part of the PNA network group.

By promoting awareness of this resource, we can ensure that PNAs are fully equipped to provide the best possible support to critically ill patients and their families.

Thank you for your continued dedication to critical care!





We are thrilled to share some fantastic news. Maria Crowley, Matron at Dartford and Gravesham ICU has been honoured with the CNO Silver Award for Leadership and Services to Nursing. This prestigious award from the office of the Chief Nursing Officer in England, recognizes outstanding contributions by nurses and midwives across the NHS in England.

The Network extends our warmest congratulations to Maria on this well-deserved recognition. Her exceptional leadership and dedication to patient care have made a significant impact to the critical care community.



ARCC Transfer Service Launch

New South East Region Adult Critical Care Transfer Service (ACCTS)

Starting October 1st, 2024, the Southeast Region will launch a new permanent, funded ACCTS. This service will be hosted and delivered within the region for the first time, providing crucial support to critical care patients across Thames Valley and Wessex (TVW) and Kent, Surrey, and Sussex (KSS).

Key Points:

- **Host Trusts:** Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust (BHT) and Royal Surrey NHS Foundation Trust (RSFT) will host the ACCTS for their respective areas.
- **Delivery Partners:** South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (SCAS) and South East Coast Ambulance Service Foundation Trust (SECAmb) will work with the host trusts to deliver the service.
- **Service Name:** The new service will be known as ARCC TVW in TVW and ARCC KSS in KSS.
- **Continuity of Care:** ARCC TVW will continue with minimal changes, while ARCC KSS will maintain its current operations.
- **Referrals:** Referrals will continue to be directed to the Single Point of Contact (SPOC) via phone or Refer-a-patient webpage.
- **Service Expansion:** ARCC KSS plans to expand its services in the future, including establishing new transfer hubs, recruiting additional staff, and investing in new equipment.

Collaboration and Support:

We look forward to working with all stakeholders in this exciting new chapter of ACCTS. We will provide regular updates on the service's development and strive to deliver an excellent standard of care to all critical care patients in the Southeast region.

For more information:

Please refer to the [communication letter](#) and [poster](#) for additional details. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the network.



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please send an email: medwayft.kssccn@nhs.net

Important Update: Sepsis Research Priorities Launched

The ICS are pleased to announce the launch of the Sepsis Research FEAT and James Lind Alliance's top ten research priorities for sepsis treatment. This significant achievement is the result of a two-year collaboration involving 1,744 patients, carers, and family members.

Key Findings:

- **Patient-Centered Approach:** The research priorities were developed through a collaborative process that centered on the experiences and perspectives of those affected by sepsis.
- **Shaping the Future of Sepsis Research:** These priorities will play a crucial role in guiding future research efforts and improving outcomes for sepsis patients.

Publication in The Lancet:

The full report detailing the top ten research priorities has been published in The Lancet.

Sharing the Findings:

We encourage you to share these findings with your units to raise awareness and drive positive change in sepsis diagnosis, treatment, and long-term outcomes. By spreading the word, we can collectively work towards improving the lives of patients affected by sepsis. Read more [here](#)

Key Updates from the Network's September Clinical Forum

1. **ODN Network Visits:** Progress is being made on network visits, with completion expected by November. Draft reports have been sent to units for feedback.
2. **Winter Surge Plans:** Units are encouraged to submit their updated winter surge plans for network records.
3. **Digitalization of Competencies:** The funding for the digitalization project has been extended until March 2025, providing an opportunity for units to implement the steps competency on the digital platform at no cost.
4. **ACC Census:** The census is now scheduled for February 2025 and will be followed by data analysis.
5. **Subgroup Updates:** Several subgroups, including ACCPs, Psychology, and One-Way Valve working group, are actively working on various projects and initiatives
6. **NHS Futures Platform:** The ODN has established an NHS Futures workspace for collaboration and information sharing among members. Units staff are encouraged to join the NHS Futures site via this link [KSS ACC ODN NHS Future site](#).
7. **Transfer Service Update:** The new Southeast Region Adult Critical Care Transfer Service (ACCTS) contracts have been signed, with Royal Surrey NHS Foundation Trust as the host trust for Kent, Surrey, and Sussex, and Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust as the host trust for Thames Valley and Wessex. The recruitment process for the operational lead and nurse lead positions is underway, with the aim of establishing the transfer team and implementing necessary governance structures and protocols. The SPOC remains operational 24/7 for all critical care transfers
8. **Network-Wide Issues reported from units:**
 - **Staffing Shortages:** Several units are experiencing staffing shortages, particularly for band 5 and band 6 roles.
 - **Violence and Aggression:** Incidents of violence and aggression against staff are increasing, highlighting the need for improved safety measures and training.
 - **Psychological Support:** There is a growing recognition of the importance of psychological support for both patients and staff in critical care settings
 - **Patient Flow:** Units are experiencing challenges with patient flow, including delayed discharges and high acuity patients.
 - **Mental Health Patients:** The care of patients with mental health conditions in critical care settings remains a complex and challenging issue

The next clinical forum is the 10th of December at 10am. If you have any discussion topics for the clinical forum please contact us at medwayft.kssccn@nhs.net

East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust (EKHUFT) critical care conference: The Evolution of Healthcare Since the Pandemic.

The East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust (EKHUFT) is excited to host a critical care conference titled "The Evolution of Healthcare Since the Pandemic". This event will be held on Monday, February 24th, 2025, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Why Attend?

This conference is a fantastic opportunity for you to:

- Network with colleagues from across the critical care community.
- Learn about the latest advancements in critical care medicine.
- Share your ideas and experiences with others.
- Gain insights into how the healthcare landscape has evolved since the pandemic.

Don't Miss Out!

Space is limited, so be sure to book your spot today! All attendees must register via Eventbrite to ensure accurate catering arrangements. The Eventbrite link can be found on the conference poster.

Subsidized Tickets:

Thanks to the generosity of the EKHUFT Critical Care Research Team, tickets to this event are subsidized. However, booking is on a first-come, first-served basis.

Important Note:

Please be aware that non-attendance will result in an invoice for the unsubsidized cost of the ticket.

Showcase Your Work!

Are you a critical care professional who has been involved in a recent project? Would you like to share your work with your colleagues? We are hosting a poster competition at the conference! Submit your entries by January 1st, 2025, to Free Morgan at freemorgan@nhs.net.

What to Expect:

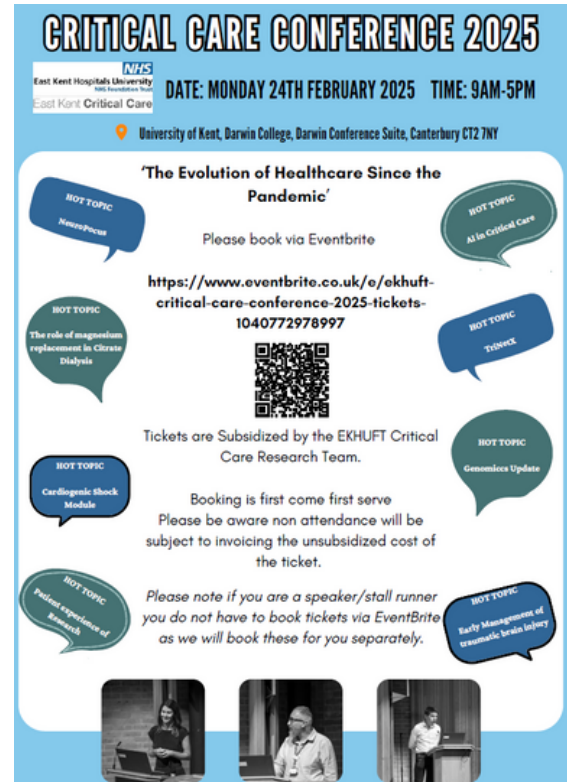
All accepted posters will be displayed at the conference, allowing you to present your work to attendees and answer any questions. A panel of judges will select prize winners for the best posters.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Attached Posters:

- [Critical Care Conference Poster with Eventbrite Link](#)
- [Poster Competition Information](#)

Don't forget to register and submit your poster entry by the deadlines!



CRITICAL CARE CONFERENCE 2025

East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust
East Kent Critical Care


DATE: MONDAY 24TH FEBRUARY 2025 TIME: 9AM-5PM

University of Kent, Darwin College, Darwin Conference Suite, Canterbury CT2 7NY

'The Evolution of Healthcare Since the Pandemic'

Please book via Eventbrite

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ekhuft-critical-care-conference-2025-tickets-1040772978997>



Tickets are Subsidized by the EKHUFT Critical Care Research Team.

Booking is first come first serve
Please be aware non attendance will be subject to invoicing the unsubsidized cost of the ticket.

Please note if you are a speaker/stall runner you do not have to book tickets via EventBrite as we will book these for you separately.

HOT TOPIC NeuroFocus

HOT TOPIC AI in Critical Care

HOT TOPIC The role of magnesium replacement in Chronic Dialysis


HOT TOPIC TBI/trauma

HOT TOPIC Cardiology Shock Module

HOT TOPIC Genomics Update

HOT TOPIC Patient experience of research

HOT TOPIC Early Management of traumatic brain injury




CRITICAL CARE CONFERENCE 2025 POSTER COMPETITION

The EKHUFT Critical Care Conference 2025 Theme :
'The Evolution Of Healthcare Since the Pandemic'

Have you been involved in a project?

Would you like the opportunity to showcase this at the EKHUFT Critical Care Conference?

Please send all entries to Free Morgan - freemorgan@nhs.net by 1st January 2025.

All accepted entries will be showcased at the Conference when you will be able to stand by your poster and answer any questions.

There will be a team of judges who will choose prize winners.

Quality Improvement and Research Projects in units across the Network.

Projects underway or completed at Kent and Canterbury Adult Critical Care Unit

- Eyecare
- Bowel care/protocol
- Patients weight on admission
- Safe Transfer of the Patient (STOP handover tool)
- Patient sleep pattern (nocte)
- Mouthcare – reviewing practice as it stands

Projects which are planned or underway at William Harvey Adult Critical Care Unit

- QI-Kerro-Pro pressure relieving tape for use with NIV masks. Aim to reduce the number of nasal bridge pressure sores.
- QI-Planned- Adhesive remover to reduce the incidence of skin tears from dressing removals.
- QI-Planned- Adhesive antimicrobial glue to replace bio-patches. Aim to reduce incidence of lines being pulled out and reduce infiltration incidences.
- QI-Extravasation surveillance programme- New Trust guidelines being implemented for the identification and management of extravasation injuries.
- Research-Due to start a randomised control trial of Stryker mouthcare packs verses standard mouth care for the reduction in VAP rates.
- Research- Two portfolio studies due to close in November which has allowed involvement in 'CoReCCT' platform.
- Research- Green light given to academic study looking at post intensive care syndrome (Collaborative project with University of Kent and Canterbury Christ Church University).
- QI-NG fixation dressing trial to prevent pressure damage (trial completed and product identified to be implemented in the Trust)

Summary of BACCN Conference

Key Themes and Takeaways

The recent BACCN conference in Aberdeen, attended by the Quality Improvement Lead for the network, provided valuable insights into the current state and future direction of critical care nursing. Key themes explored at the event included:

- **Nursing Profession Advancement:** Professor Aisha Holloway emphasized the potential for nurses to disrupt traditional healthcare practices and drive improvements in patient safety and professional recognition.
- **Global Healthcare Delivery:** UK-MED's work in conflict and disaster zones highlighted the importance of adaptable and resilient healthcare systems.
- **Paediatric Critical Care Collaboration:** The need for improved collaboration between paediatric and adult critical care units to enhance outcomes for children transitioning to adult care was discussed.
- **Nurse Identity and Advocacy:** A panel discussion explored strategies for promoting the nursing profession in the UK through mentoring, role modelling, patient safety, and advocacy.
- **Patient Safety in Adult Critical Care:** The Patient Safety Commissioner emphasized the importance of implementing effective patient safety measures in adult critical care units.

Diverse Presentations and Networking Opportunities

The conference featured a wide range of presentations covering various aspects of critical care nursing practice, including:

- **Clinical Practice:** CCOT, practice education, rehabilitation, and critical care audits
- **Technology:** Clinical informatics
- **Research:** Nursing research including Patient and |Public involvement
- **Patient Safety and Quality Improvement:** Patient safety initiatives and quality improvement strategies
- **Fundamental Technical Skills:** ECG analysis, Tracheostomy care and vascular access skills

The conference provided an excellent opportunity for nurses to network with colleagues, share experiences, and learn from experts in the field.

Overall Impact

The BACCN conference was a valuable educational and networking experience for critical care nurses. The insights gained from the keynote speakers and presentations will contribute to the ongoing development and advancement of the nursing profession.

Important Update: ACC Census Postponed to Early 2025

There is an important update regarding the Adult Critical Care (ACC) Census (formerly known as the ACC stocktake).

Postponement until Early 2025:

Following careful consideration and in recognition of the current pressures faced by critical care units during the winter period, the ACC Census has been postponed. The new launch window is now planned for February/March 2025. This revised timeframe aims to provide units with additional breathing room to focus on day-to-day operations and ensure sufficient time for data collection and reporting.

Benefits of the Delay:

- **Reduced Winter Workload:** By shifting the census to early 2025, the NHSE team aims to alleviate the burden on critical care staff during the historically demanding winter months. This allows you to prioritize patient care during this busy time.
- **Improved Data Collection:** With a more spacious timeframe, units will have the opportunity to dedicate more time and resources to comprehensive data collection and reporting, ensuring the accuracy and quality of the data submitted.

Your Questions:

The network understands that this change may raise questions. For any inquiries regarding the ACC Census postponement, please do not hesitate to contact the dedicated email address: england.acc-census2024@nhs.net. The network will keep you updated with further details and resources as the new launch date approaches. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Introducing the Beginners Guide to Green Teams in the ICU

The ICS is launching the Beginners Guide to Green Teams in the ICU, developed in collaboration with the Australia and New Zealand Intensive Care Society (ANZICS). This valuable resource is designed to support ICUs at all stages of their sustainability journey, providing practical guidance, case studies, and tools to help you reduce waste, conserve resources, and promote sustainability without compromising patient care.

Key Features of the Guide:

- **Practical Steps:** The guide offers clear and actionable steps to help you establish or enhance your ICU's green team initiatives.
- **Case Studies:** Learn from the experiences of other ICUs that have successfully implemented sustainability programs.
- **Tools and Resources:** Access valuable tools and resources to support your green team efforts.

Quotes from Key Stakeholders:

- Shondipon Laha, President-Elect of the ICS: "We are thrilled to have collaborated with ANZICS on this important Green Teams resource. We believe it will provide valuable guidance to colleagues who are looking to become more sustainable in their work."
- ANZICS and SCCM: Both organizations express their gratitude for the opportunity to contribute to the development of this resource.

We encourage you to explore this [comprehensive guide](#) and start taking action to make your ICU more sustainable.

Intensive Care Society Updates

ICU Society Statement on COVID-19 Inquiry

The Intensive Care Society (ICS) recently presented evidence to the COVID-19 Inquiry, highlighting the significant challenges faced by healthcare systems during the pandemic. The Society's testimony emphasized the critical role of healthcare professionals and the need for improved resources and support.

Key Points from the Evidence:

- **Workforce Challenges:** The pandemic exacerbated long-standing shortages in the critical care workforce, highlighting the need for improved recruitment and retention strategies.
- **Increased Capacity:** The Inquiry underscored the need for increased intensive and enhanced care beds to meet the demands of future pandemics and other healthcare emergencies.
- **Decision Support Frameworks:** The importance of decision support frameworks, such as CRITCON and Adult Critical Care Transfer, for managing patient flow and allocating resources was emphasized.
- **Oxygen Provision:** The Inquiry examined the challenges associated with oxygen provision and the limitations of equipment during the pandemic.
- **Rehabilitation:** The critical role of rehabilitation in supporting patients' recovery from COVID-19 was highlighted.
- **PPE and Psychological Support:** The Inquiry addressed the challenges related to personal protective equipment (PPE) and psychological support for healthcare workers.

The ICS's Recommendations:

The ICS submitted a comprehensive written evidence document to the Inquiry, outlining its recommendations for improving critical care services. These recommendations include:

- **Investing in the Workforce:** Increasing funding for critical care workforce development and retention.
- **Expanding Capacity:** Increasing the number of intensive and enhanced care beds.
- **Improving Decision Support:** Enhancing decision support frameworks and tools.
- **Ensuring Adequate Oxygen Supply:** Investing in oxygen infrastructure and ensuring a reliable supply.
- **Prioritizing Rehabilitation:** Integrating rehabilitation services into critical care pathways.
- **Supporting Healthcare Workers:** Providing adequate PPE, psychological support, and other resources to support healthcare workers.

The ICS is committed to ensuring that the lessons learned from the pandemic are implemented to improve critical care services for future generations. The evidence session is available online [here](#). The full recommendations can be found in the ICS written evidence which has now been published by the Inquiry and can be [found here](#). For more information, please visit the ICS website or the COVID-19 [Inquiry website](#).

Exciting News: AHP Critical Care Capability Framework Launched!

The ICS are delighted to announce the launch of the [AHP Critical Care Capability Framework](#) in early September. This comprehensive framework, developed in collaboration with leading professional bodies, provides a clear pathway for career progression, learning, and education for Allied Health Professionals (AHPs) working in critical care.

Key Features of the Framework:

- **Comprehensive Scope:** Encompasses a wide range of AHP roles, including dietetics, occupational therapy, operating department practice, physiotherapy, and speech and language therapy.
- **Career Progression:** Offers opportunities for AHPs to advance their careers and develop their skills within critical care.
- **Learning and Education:** Provides guidance on learning and development opportunities to support professional growth.
- **Collaboration and Endorsement:** Endorsed by leading professional bodies, including the British Dietetic Association, Royal College of Occupational Therapists, RCSLT, Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, and College of Operating Department Practitioners, reflecting their commitment to its value.

Sharing the Framework:

The network encourages you to share this framework with your colleagues to raise awareness and promote its adoption. By spreading the word, we can collectively elevate the practice of intensive care and ensure that AHPs have the necessary tools and resources to excel in their roles.

Meetings

Below is a list of dates for upcoming Adult Critical Care Network meetings and events

If you have any queries regarding these meetings please contact medwayft.kssccn@nhs.net

Date	Time	Meeting	Location
26 Nov 2024	16:00 - 17:00	Pharmacy meeting	MS Teams
03 Dec 2024	10:00 - 11:00	Data and Audit Leads meeting	MS Teams
05 Dec 2024	11:30 - 12:30	PMV Working Group	MS Teams
10 Dec 2024	09:00 - 12:30	Clinical Forum	MS Teams
12 Dec 2024	09:00 - 10:00	Sustainability meeting	MS Teams
12 Dec 2024	13:30 - 15:30	Rehab and Follow up meeting	MS Teams
16 Dec 2024	14:30 - 15:30	CCOT meeting	MS Teams
07 Jan 2025	12:00 - 13:00	Transfer meeting	MS Teams
21 Jan 2025	11:00 - 12:00	PNA meeting	MS Teams