



The latest from the leader in vascular access education

PICC Excellence Newsletter

April 2025



Easter's on its way, along with several opportunities to dive into some continuing education! We've included options in the newsletter that will cover some of your recurring requirements. [Check your individual state's requirements](#) to ensure you do not come up short. No one wants to scramble to complete their CEs or contact hours!

Conferences are also great ways to meet your education requirements with the added bonus of connecting with peers who share your passion for the field. If you're attending INS later this month, be sure to come find us! We love hearing from clinicians.

Where's Dr. Nancy Moureau? 🌍

Nancy recently gave a presentation at the Northeast Georgia Regional Infection Prevention Symposium, sharing knowledge about Vascular Access Device Associated Hospital Onset Bacteremia.

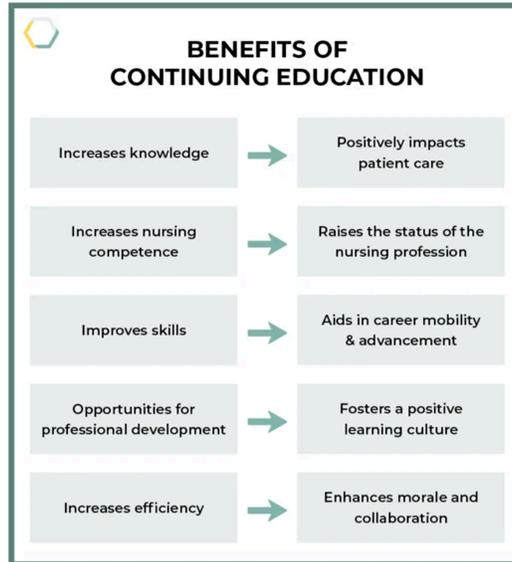
She will be at the [INS annual meeting](#) in Las Vegas later this month alongside our director of clinical education, Karen Johnson. They will both be giving presentations: Karen's is about Defining Successful PIVC Competency Programs.



Dr. Moureau will give three presentations: one is a two-part series about Advancing Quality and Safety for Ultrasound-Guided Peripheral IV Procedures. Part 1 covers Exploring the Evidence of Practical Applications, and Part 2 covers Best Practices for Transducer Disinfection for Balancing Clinical Guidelines, Hospital Policies, and Manufacturer Instructions for Use. The third presentation covers A Systematic Review of Needleless Connector Function and Occlusion Outcomes.

We're looking forward to connecting with fellow infusion and vascular access professionals and learning from them as well!

Continuing Education: Shaping the Commitment to Lifelong Learning



The best healthcare professionals never stop learning because the field is constantly evolving with new advances in technology and best practices. Enhanced knowledge and skills lead to improved patient care, opportunities for career advancement and increased morale. Read more about the benefits and common obstacles to implementing continuing education.

[READ MORE](#)

Nurse Spotlight: Matt Ostroff 💡

Matthew Ostroff is an Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioner and the Coordinator and Founder of the vascular access program at St. Joseph's Health. His program has received multiple accolades, including the 2016 New Jersey Biz Healthcare Hero Award and the 2023 ANCC Magnet Award for Innovation, serving a diverse patient population from neonates to adults. Matthew has presented at national and international conferences focusing on critical thinking in complex patient scenarios. He is also the author of "Ultrasound-Guided Vascular Access: Practical Solutions to Bedside Clinical Challenges" (2022) and has published extensively in peer-reviewed journals.



Our Nurse Spotlight celebrates individuals who bring their exceptional talents and skill to the profession.

What do you find most interesting about your position/industry?

The most rewarding aspect of my current role as a Vascular Access Coordinator and Nurse Practitioner is the strong support system that exists between myself, my director, and our corporate leadership. My leadership has witnessed and supported my professional growth—from managing PICC lines to tunneled catheters, and now ports—allowing me to develop innovative approaches to care for our diverse patient populations, ranging from neonates to adults.

What is your current focus and/or what projects are you currently working on?

I am prioritizing the training of new team members, utilizing an apprenticeship model that ensures a safe and controlled learning environment and enhancing the skills and scope of practice of our current team, which now includes mid-thigh femoral catheters and arterial access. Our team is also working on a 10-year retrospective review publication, analyzing data from our ultrasound-guided peripheral intravenous catheters to examine statistics related to device gauge and vein placement.

What advice would you have for someone entering the field?

The best piece of advice I wish I had received when entering this field is to immerse myself in the literature. Vascular access is far more than just a procedural skill; evidence-based research provides invaluable insights into the techniques, approaches, and the challenges and complications we may face. Lastly, I emphasize to others that no one is perfect—embrace both your successes and failures as opportunities to grow and continually improve as a clinician.

Q&A with Dr. Nancy Moureau



Dr. Nancy Moureau offers counsel to hundreds of practitioners around the world. Each month we share a question from a colleague, which she answers pulling from her decades of experience in the field. If you have a question for Dr. Moureau, email it to info@piccexcellence.com.

QUESTION

I have caused a stir with the Chief Nursing Officer at my facility in regards to splints/armboards at points of flexion. She is telling me (sternly), that these are forms of restraints, and it is illegal to apply these to patients.

How do I get through to her that I am not asking nor expecting anything illegal to be performed? It doesn't matter what the INS standards say, cause she believes INS is asking us to restrain people.

I can't even get the facility to teach new hires how to appropriately start an IV. I am at my wit's end, and the more I push and cite the standards, the more they put me under their thumb.

ANSWER

While you and your CNO are both correct that restraints that restrict mobility are detrimental to patients' well-being, splints and armboards do not fall in the same category. An IV joint stabilizer/IV site protection product may not be considered a restraint and is appropriate when it does not limit the patient's movement and is not tied to the bed. Alternatives like the TLC splint are less restrictive because they can be contoured to the individual patient.

Upcoming Workshop

Adult PICC/Ultrasound Workshop

May 1-2 2025

Join us in Atlanta May 1-2 for a workshop about placing PICC lines with ultrasound in adult patients. Additional dates will be scheduled soon!

 **Atlanta GA**

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