

**ITNS Membership:**

**A  
World  
of  
Benefits**



**INTERNATIONAL  
TRANSPLANT  
NURSES  
SOCIETY**

## What is ITNS?

The International Transplant Nurses Society was founded in 1992 as the first professional nursing organization to promote the education and clinical practice excellence of nurses caring for solid organ transplant patients. Today, ITNS is a leading transplant organization with more than 1,700 active members representing 29 countries around the world.

A vital component of countless nursing careers, ITNS provides a forum for learning about the most current advances in transplantation and transplant patient care. Over the years ITNS has provided skilled transplant nurses the opportunity to share and learn with national and international peers and to receive recognition for their knowledge, leadership, and scholarly pursuits.



## Who Is ITNS?

Our membership is diverse — both geographically and professionally, — helping to make ITNS the dynamic group that it is today. Members benefit from the wide-ranging clinical experience of fellow members, as well as the international perspective of more than 20% of the membership who live and work outside of the US. Thirty six percent of our members classify themselves as transplant coordinators, 26% as staff nurses, 13% as clinical nurse specialists, 5% as charge nurses, team leaders or managers. More than 65% of our members specialize in abdominal transplantation including liver, kidney, pancreas and small bowel. Thoracic transplantation including heart and lungs represent the remaining 35%.

To meet the extensive needs of every ITNS member, our Annual Symposium, workshops and course reviews focus on the continuum of care from pre-transplant through post-transplant in adult as well as pediatric transplantation.

## ITNS Membership and Magnet Status

Achieving Magnet Status is an impressive goal, one of which only a fraction of medical centers accomplish. Institutions designated as Magnet Status must first demonstrate that their environment develops and supports the growth of their nursing staff. Through our outstanding networking, educational opportunities, and research endeavors, ITNS has played a key role in helping organizations reach that goal. Specifically, ITNS membership helps achieve the following Magnet requirements:

- Promotion of excellence in transplant patient care
- Existence of an environment that supports professional nursing practice
- Growth and development of nursing staff
- Use of evidence-based research for improving nursing practice

*Magnet Status only applies to organizations within the United States.*



ITNS provides members with specific opportunities to work toward Magnet Status goals. Through seminars, symposiums and workshops, members further their professional development and clinical expertise. Some of those opportunities include:

- Involvement in Special Interest Groups including Advanced Practice Nurses, Research, Pediatric, Education, Cardiothoracic, and Abstract Review Groups
- Yearly nursing research grants and nursing excellence awards
- Access to research materials such as “How to Develop a Successful Journal Club” and “How to Locate Research Articles Using PubMed”
- Access to patient education materials such as a series of Transplant Handbooks, CDs, and pill identification stickers
- Enhancing professional development through abstract submissions and educational presentations
- Receiving immediate information from our web site: [www.itns.org](http://www.itns.org)
- Local involvement as an active member of one of our 29 Chapters
- Transplant-specific educational programs at a discounted rate
- Networking with transplant nurses throughout the world
- Receiving our informative ITNS Newsletter



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## Our Mission

The ITNS is committed to the promotion of excellence in transplant clinical nursing through the provision of educational and professional growth opportunities, interdisciplinary networking, collaborative activities, and transplant nursing research. As we have grown, we have chartered over 29 local ITNS chapters, who help promote the field of transplant nursing within their own transplant centers and throughout their geographical region.

## Goals

- Provide a supportive environment for professional growth and leadership development.
- Provide access to reasonably priced continuing education programs with CEUs and CEPTCs for the professional transplant nurse and transplant coordinator.
- Examine new trends in transplantation affecting patient care and the role of the transplant nurse.
- Promote and encourage nursing research through grants and symposium presentations.
- Present the results of scientific transplant nursing investigations to nursing and other healthcare professionals.
- Foster an awareness of ongoing ethical considerations in procurement, donation, and recipient selection and care.
- Assure the accomplishment of the proper and lawful purposes and objectives of the Society.



## Board of Directors

Our Board of Directors consists of twelve professional nurses with a wide range of experience and specialties within transplant nursing. All Board members are elected by the active membership and are governed by the organization's by-laws. Each Board member demonstrates a commitment to the field of transplant nursing and is dedicated to the advancement of the mission, goals and integrity of the Society.

## To Learn More About ITNS

For more information about the benefits of ITNS or ITNS membership, please visit our website at [www.itns.org](http://www.itns.org) or call us today at **412-343-ITNS (4867)**.

