

News of The Academy of Neonatal Nursing

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Great Success in Boston!

The Academy of Neonatal Nursing™ and *Neonatal Network*® staff has recently returned from the 6th National Advanced Practice Conference in Boston, Massachusetts. The conference was a rousing success. A winning combination of an excellent program, held in a beautiful hotel, in a vibrant, exciting city drew over 400 advanced practice nurses.



The nurses in this picture are five of the nine staff members from Baystate Health Center in Springfield, Massachusetts who attended the Boston conference. They are from left to right: Laura Guilmain, Diane Cody, JoAnne Destasio, Cheryl Smith, and Lori Sguelgia. They are all holding their hospital newspaper, "Connections." Staff members who travel far and near take pictures of themselves holding the hospital newspaper and the hospital often puts those pictures on the front cover of the newspaper.

The content of the program matched the excitement of the audience. Richard Polin opened the program with an intriguing

talk on "A Skeptic's View of Neonatal Medicine," and Dr. George Little wrapped up the program with a thoughtful presentation on "Growth and Development of Neonatal Intensive Care." In between were many excellent presentations from Drs. Jonathan Davis, Janet Soul, and Roger Soll. The exhibit hall provided a great place for gathering to chat with exhibitors, view the posters, and enjoy a great reception including delicious catered fare.

The feedback on site was very positive and we look forward to a great advanced practice gathering next year in San Francisco.

Come to Sunny Phoenix!

September 13–16, 2009 9th National Neonatal Nurses Conference "Enhancing Excellence in Nursing Practice"

Neonatal Network® and the Academy of Neonatal Nursing™ (ANN) are busy preparing another fabulous conference. Check out these sessions offered: Kris Karlsen, S.T.A.B.L.E. program founder and author, will present a full day preconference session, including a hands-on workshop using SIM mannequins; Dr. Richard Polin will open the main conference and speak on balancing science and art in the world of neonatal medicine; Susan Ludington will provide the latest information on neonatal neurointensive care; and Dawn Mueller-Burke will discuss new opportunities for stem cell research because of the recent changes in U.S. government policy. The complete conference speaker lineup, session topics, and registration discount details are available at www.academyonline.org.

This year's headquarters hotel, the Hyatt Regency, is located in the heart of downtown Phoenix, with views of mountain

ranges and beautiful city lights. On the top of the hotel is the famous revolving restaurant, the Compass, where diners experience 360-degree views of the Valley of the Sun and beyond to the mountains above Tucson. Enjoy the pool or fitness center or venture out into the city that is right at your hotel doorstep.

We had a great turnout of poster presentations at our 8th conference in Washington, D.C., and look forward to seeing more neonatal nursing research and innovative programs from our members. The abstracts are due July 1, 2009, and the form can be easily downloaded by going to www.academyonline.org (see p.155).

Loyal members who attend this conference, attended the 8th National Neonatal Nurses Conference in Washington, D.C., and attended the 6th National Advanced Practice Conference in Boston will receive free tuition at either the 7th National Advanced Practice Conference in San Francisco or the 10th National Neonatal Nurses Conference in Savannah through the Conference Loyalty Program! Go to www.academyonline.org for more details about this great benefit for our dedicated Academy members, and see below for other benefits of ANN membership. We appreciate and reward your loyalty.

Celebrate! National Nurses Week 2009

May 6–12, 2009
“Nurses: Building a Healthy America”

This year's American Nurses Association (ANA) theme for National Nurses Week is “Nurses: Building a Healthy America.” ANA president Rebecca M. Patton, MSN, RN, CNOR, feels this theme “reflects the commitment nurses make every day in building a healthy America for the public we serve.” Each year nurses from the U.S. and around the world celebrate Florence Nightingale's birthday, May 12, 1820. By the time Florence Nightingale died at the age of 90 on August 1, 1910, she had become one of the most famous and influential women of the 19th century. She made nursing an admirable and respectable profession and immeasurably improved patient conditions. Celebrate the life of this important woman, and do something special for a special nurse... you! For more information about National Nurses Week 2009, visit nursingworld.org/MainMenucategories/ANAMarketplace/NationalNursesWeek.aspx.

ANN's Annual Membership Satisfaction and Needs Survey

Thank you to our members for their time and thoughtfulness in completing our annual member satisfaction and needs survey. Responses have been very positive. *Neonatal Network*.[®] The

Journal of Neonatal Nursing was reported as the main benefit in joining ANN, as well as being an active member of a professional nursing organization. The most important personal benefit gained from membership cited by respondents was ANN's superior professional development through high-quality educational programs. Sixty-six percent of the respondents would like an expanded number of conferences and online continuing education credit.

If you missed this survey opportunity and would like to share your comments and suggestions about ANN membership, feel free to e-mail us at memberinfo@academyonline.org.

May to September Member Recruitment Program!

Winter is over, and it is most likely spring wherever you live. This winter has been tough. In addition to the economic situation, most of us have had “the weather situation.” Too little rain; way, way, too much rain, or too much snow; flooding; storms; winds; some days the frigid cold, as reported from “Frostbite Falls, Minnesota.” However it comes, spring does come, and summer follows quickly on its heels. Students head home, nurses plan vacations, and your nursing association is probably far from your thoughts.

You, however, are always in our thoughts. Here at the ANN office we work year round to provide the most benefits to you for your membership dollar. From May to September we hope you will join in our 2nd member recruitment program of the year. Recruit your colleagues by reminding them of the great benefits of belonging to ANN. Please see the Unit Poster insert in this issue for a detailed list of member benefits.

And we will reward you!

- Recruit one (1) member and receive a \$10 certificate good toward any ANN product, book, renewal, or conference.
- Recruit two (2) members and receive the book, *Pocket Guide to Neonatal EKG Interpretation*.
- Recruit three to nine (3–9) members and receive the book, *Pocket Guide to Neonatal EKG Interpretation* and free processing for the CE course contained in the book.
- Recruit ten (10) or more members receive *Pocket Guide to Neonatal EKG Interpretation*, the free CE course, plus an entry for a drawing to win free tuition to the 2009 National Neonatal Nurses Conference in Phoenix, Arizona.

Many neonatal nurses do not belong to a professional organization, read a professional journal, or take part in conferences and networking. Improve the care to all of the neonates in your unit by recruiting your colleagues today! For more information, please go online to www.academyonline.org.

The Foundation for Neonatal Research and Education (FNRE) Grants and Scholarship Fund

FNRE offers grants and scholarships to advanced practice neonatal nurses who are strengthening the practice of neonatal nursing through research and education. In 2008, FNRE helped contribute \$7,500 in grants and scholarships. In 2008, the \$3,000 grant recipient, Kim A. Francis, MS, APRN-BC, from William Fr. Cromwell School of Nursing at Boston College, submitted the winning proposal "Psychometric Evaluation of Pain Assessment and Care of ELBW Infant Focused Instruments (PACEF)." For more information about the FNRE and grants and scholarships available, please go to inurse.com/fnre.

The Nurses' Health Study III

The Nurses' Health Study is one of the longest running and largest investigational studies on women's health. Established in 1976 by Dr. Frank Speizer, with funding from the National Institutes of Health, the original purpose of the study was to determine the long-term effects of oral contraceptives. Every two years cohort members receive a follow-up questionnaire regarding diseases and health-related topics such as hormone use and menopausal status. In 1989, the Nurses' Health Study II began with a target population of 25-42 to correspond with the lowest age group of the cohort study. Continuing today with the Nurses' Health Study III, nurses from around the U.S. faithfully complete the questionnaire with a 90 percent response rate. In the fall of 2008, invitational mailings were sent to 1,000,000 nurses for the pilot phase of the Nurses' Health Study III to examine how new hormone routines, dietary patterns, and nursing occupational exposure influence women's health. If you are interested in participating in the Nurses' Health Study, please go to <http://www.channing.harvard.edu/nhs/>

Registered Nurse Gets Key Position at Health Resources and Services Administration

Mary Wakefield, RN, BSN, MSN, PhD, has been appointed by the Obama administration to lead the Health Resources and Services Administration. On the Health and Human Services website, President Obama released a press release stating, "As a nurse, a PhD, and a leading rural health care advocate, Mary Wakefield brings expertise that will be instrumental in expanding and improving services for those who are uninsured and underserved. Under her leadership we will be able to expand and improve the care provided at the community health centers which serve millions of uninsured Americans and address severe provider shortages across the country." Dr. Wakefield received

her BSN from the University of Mary in Bismarck, North Dakota, and her MSN and PhD from the University of Texas at Austin. She is the recipient of numerous awards, including the 2006 American Organization of Nurse Executives Research Award and the 2008 Nursing Economics Margaret D. Sovie Writers Award (hhs.gov/news/press/2009pres/02/20090220a.html and aone.org/aone/pdf/Nurse_Researcher.pdf)

FDA and CDC Update

- The FDA, CDC, and Department of Health and Human Services offer a social media web page that automatically updates information regarding the recent *Salmonella* typhimurium outbreak in peanut products (cdc.gov/socialmedia/). A comprehensive list of recalled peanut products can also be found at www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/peanutbutterrecall/index.cfm.
- The U.S. Court of Federal Claims ruled on February 12, 2009, that vaccines do not cause autism as evidenced by 18 scientific studies that failed to link the two. To read the court proceedings or for information, please go to cdc.gov/Features/AutismDecision/.
- An FDA advisory committee voted to recommend the pain medications Darvon and Darvocet (propoxyphene) be banned from the market due to their low analgesic property and increasing risk of suicides and accidental deaths. Health officials in the U.K. removed propoxyphene from the market in 2005. The public watchdog group Public Citizen, a national, nonprofit consumer advocacy organization founded in 1971 that "fights for openness and democratic accountability in government...for strong health safety and environmental protections and safer, effective and affordable prescription drugs and health care," continues to be instrumental in removing propoxyphene from the U.S. market. (citizen.org/pressroom/print_release.cfm?ID=2811 and medscape.com/viewarticle/587717)

MOMS: Making Our Milk Safe

MOMS, a member of the Women's Environmental Health Initiative, was founded in 2005 by four nursing mothers on the principle that mother's milk should be free of harmful chemicals. MOMS works to reduce chemicals by "stopping pollution at its source through education of consumers, promoting precaution, supporting progressive legislation and changing corporate behavior." MOMS is a cosponsor of a California bill (AB706, Leno) to ban certain flame retardants, such as brominates and chlorine, which are used in bedding and furniture. This non-profit group has local MOMSquad groups throughout the U.S. working for a healthier environment. Check out their website at safemilk.org.

Academy of Neonatal Nursing

Academy News Briefs

- Extremely low birth weight babies with patent ductus arteriosus have better outcomes if treated without surgery, according to a large study from Tufts Medical Center in Boston: 403 infants had supportive therapy only, 1,525 had indomethacin, 775 had indomethacin followed by surgical closure, and 135 underwent surgical closure only. Surgical closure was associated with increased incidence of neurodevelopmental impairment and bronchopulmonary dysplasia. According to Dr. Juliette C. Madan, the principal investigator, "Our results suggest infants treated with primary or secondary surgery for PDA may be at increased risk for poor short and long-term outcomes compared with those treated with indomethacin" (*Pediatrics*, 2009; 123, 674–681).
- Soap and water together are superior to alcohol-based hand sanitizers in eliminating influenza virus. But for busy health care workers, alcohol sanitizers are an acceptable alternative, according to a study in the February issue of *Clinical Infectious Diseases* 2009; 48, 285–291.
- At the University of Rennes, France, researchers have discovered prolong QT may be the cause of many cases of SIDS. Postmortem molecular screenings found 10 to 12 percent of the SIDS cases were linked to congenital long QT syndrome. Researchers suggest that electrocardiographic screening of the parents along with neonatal ECG screening would facilitate the diagnosis of this inherited trait (*Archives de Pediatrie*, February 2009, e-published ahead of journal publication).
- The Fertility Institute is offering selection of sex, eye, hair color, and more. With three offices in Los Angeles, New York, and Mexico, and under the direction of Jeffrey Steinberg, MD, FACOG, the Fertility Institute posts on its website the "pending availability" of genetic tests that will offer "a preselected choice of gender, eye color, hair color, and complexion" for embryos artificially fertilized at their clinic. According to the Center for Genetics and Society (geneticsandsociety.org), the use and marketing of sex selection are unregulated in the U.S., Canada, Germany, and the United Kingdom prohibit "social" sex selection. Drop us an e-mail at sjbrott@neonatalnetwork with your thoughts about "designer babies."
- Green Breastpumps May Mean Fewer Pumps in the Dump. In a recent press release, Hygeia II Medical Group Inc. announce the launch of the first green breastpump for new parents who are concerned about the growing problem of proliferating landfills with baby products.

The Hygeia EnJoye* breast pump was designed and is registered with the FDA as a multiuser product. When a Hygeia

* ANN does not endorse the use of this product. Informational use only.

consumer no longer needs her breast pump, it can be reused by a friend or family member when each mother has her own personal accessory set. This means fewer pumps in the landfills. The Hygeia EnJoye is run on a rechargeable lithium-ion battery, so not as many AA batteries will see their way to the dump either.

For more information on Hygeia, visit www.HygeiaBaby.com or dial 888 PUMP-4-MOM (888-786-7466) or 760-918-0339

The Academy of Neonatal Nursing Excellence in Practice Award and Scholarships

Do creativity, perseverance, and true commitment to do the best nursing care possible describe you or a colleague? Each year the Academy of Neonatal Nursing honors this commitment by awarding the "Excellence in Neonatal Nursing Practice Award." The recipient is awarded free registration to the National Neonatal Nurses conference, airfare, three nights at the conference hotel, \$500 cash award, a plaque, and commemorative "Excellence in Practice" necklace. Be sure to get your nomination in by July 1, 2009.

The Academy of Neonatal Nursing Scholarship and Conference Awards are also available for those seeking tuition to the conference or for academic advancement. The deadline for these is June 1, 2009. Details can be found at www.academyonline.org under "Scholarships and Awards."