Administration

The 40th National Symposium in San Diego was an excellent opportunity for attendees to meet colleagues, share the mission/vision of ANNA, network, collaborate, and share knowledge. This was reflected in attendees’ interactions during the two Administration SIG networking sessions. One session, *New Updates in CMS Regulations*, was presented by Glenda Payne and Judith Kari. The session was facilitated by SIG members Kathleen DeConcilio and Charla Litton. The second session, *Level 5 in the Nephrology Nurse Career Ladder*, was presented by Mary Perrecone and Karen Burwell. The SIG also presented an abstract entitled *The Challenge of Patient-Centered Care and Cultural Diversity in Dialysis Units*, which generated lots of questions.

The National Symposium was also an opportunity to acknowledge best practices. SIG member Mary Perrecone was recognized for her managerial excellence when she received the Excellence in Nephrology Nursing Management Award.

As the new SIG Leader, I want to extend a warm welcome to the current SIG committee members – Kathleen DeConcilio, Charla Litton, and Mary Perrecone – as well as the new members – Jermaine Babineaux, Noel De Ocampo, and Angie Wieler. I hope we will have a rewarding and successful year. Nancy Pierce will continue as line officer and together we are here to support your success as a SIG member. This SIG pledges to deliver current and relevant information to ANNA members.

Thank you to all the committee members for their continued dedication and for participating in successful sessions. Any suggestions from ANNA members concerning the SIG are welcome. Please contact us through the ANNA Web site or e-mail me directly at deuzi1@aol.com.

Deuzimar Kulawik
Administration SIG Leader
Suncoast Chapter #213
deuzi1@aol.com

Judith Kari discusses “New Updates in CMS Regulations” during one of the Administration SIG networking sessions at the National Symposium.

Sue Fallone was a facilitator for the Administration SIG networking session on “Level 5 in the Nephrology Nurse Career Ladder.”

SIG members Mary Perrecone and Deuzimar Kulawik presented an abstract entitled “The Challenge of Patient-Centered Care and Cultural Diversity in Dialysis Units” at the National Symposium.

Administration SIG member and Northeast Tri-State chapter member Mary Perrecone (center) received the Excellence in Nephrology Nursing Management Award at the National Symposium. Also pictured are ANNA President Sue Cary and Administration SIG member Sue Fallone.
Advanced Practice

The SIG, under the leadership of Deb Brooks, finalized the job description document for advanced practice nurses (APNs) and clinical nurse specialists and moved it through committee for final approval. This document is now available on the Advanced Practice SIG Resources and Activities page on the ANNA Web site. To access the Job Description Template for an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Practicing in Nephrology online, go to www.annanurse.org, click on the Practice tab and select Committees and SIGs. Then click on Advanced Practice SIG Resources and Activities. We hope all APNs, whether new or seasoned, will find the document helpful. It was a productive year and we thank all members for their commitment and expertise on this and several other projects.

The Advanced Practice SIG presentation at the National Symposium in San Diego, Mentoring APNs in Practice; Strategies for the Business World, was well received. The lead presenter was Molly Cahill. The program shared advice on marketing APN/CNS skills and how to present your skill set in a way, backed up with “the numbers,” to illustrate actual worth, show employers the value the APN/CNS brings to a practice, and in turn negotiate for fair compensation.

The SIG looks forward to a new year with many returning members and welcomes some newcomers as well. Current members include Lynn Church, Betty Etherington, Elizabeth Hughson, Carol Kinzner, Tim Ray, Jane Wilson, Dana Zeiss, and Mary Zorzanello. If you are interested in joining us, please contact SIG Leader Lois Bartels at loisma58@gmail.com.

Some of our anticipated projects include APN/CNS support for the Fall Meeting preconference workshop on Making the Transition as a New APN into Nephrology Practice. We also have been working through some of our committee members with several of the ESRD Networks to expand the presence of the APN/CNS in nephrology practice. Much of the groundwork has been laid by committee member Tim Ray through his own work, and we look forward to moving ahead with additional surveys and increased presence within the ESRD Networks. We have several other ideas for projects in the upcoming year. Please join us and add your expertise. Meetings include monthly conference calls and some additional time for project work.

Lois Bartels
Advanced Practice SIG Leader
Mass Bay Chapter #119
loisma58@gmail.com
774-573-4769

Acute Care

The SIG is off to a good start in the new fiscal year. We were pleased to see many of you at the National Symposium. Your interest in and support of the educational opportunities provided speak volumes about the challenges we all face in our daily practice. The preconference workshop on the Clinical Challenges in the Acute Care Setting was very successful and well attended. Dr. Mary Schira led off with the pathophysiology of “Acute Kidney Injury.” Diana Hlebovy presented “Fluid Management.” Dr. Geraldine Corrigan discussed “Cardiac Considerations in Acute Care Nephrology,” and Dr. Luis Alvarez rounded out the day with a discussion of “Acute Renal Failure Management: A Herculean Effort.” The SIG session on acute care was well attended. The presentation covered Communication Across the Health Care Continuum with the help of cartoon character Maxine and group interaction and discussion.

The SIG committee is looking forward to a busy year. Our goals include continuing to provide you with educational opportunities related to acute care issues. The need for national consensus on many topics is recognized by the committee and will guide us through the next months as we consider such topics as orientation and training guidelines and have further discussion regarding emergent dialysis. Watch for publications coming in the next months.

Thank you to our retiring members for their insight and willingness to work hard and explore all possibilities: Brenda Kerr and Gary Reschak will be missed. We welcome Eileen Lischer, a new member from the Western Region. Additional members include Deb Bakken, Sue Fallone, Judy Kaufman, Mary Rose Kott, and Caroline Steward.

We still have openings on the SIG committee for individuals from the Southeast, North Central, and Western Regions. Please contact me if you are interested in participating on the SIG committee or in working on a project during the year (hwilliams2346@yahoo.com).

We encourage you to get on ANNA Connected so we can discuss our clinical and administrative issues . . . building consensus as we go!

Helen Williams
Acute Care SIG Leader
High Country Chapter #502
hwilliams2346@yahoo.com
Hemodialysis

Our SIG networking sessions at the National Symposium in San Diego were very well attended and provided healthy and vibrant discussions about one of the biggest events for nephrology in the last 25 years: new federal Conditions for Coverage and interpretive guidelines. The SIG congratulates the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the team on the breadth and depth of the new guidelines and the applicability to the practicing clinician. The new regulations and interpretive guidelines pull together information found in various references and experiences and consolidates them into one tidy (albeit long) document.

The SIG networking presentations were in three sections:

- CMS Updated Conditions for Coverage: Home Hemodialysis
- CMS Updated Conditions for Coverage: Water Treatment and Infection Control
- CMS Updated Conditions for Coverage: Patient Assessment and Plan of Care

Rosemarie Miller and Beth Witten presented a thorough review of regulations regarding home hemodialysis and facilitated discussions highlighting the fact that some states have more stringent requirements that must be followed. Glenda Payne and Kelly Frank discussed the revised Water Treatment and Infection Control, providing clear and detailed descriptions for each area. Judith Kari and Teri Spencer facilitated a lively discussion on Patient Assessment and Plan of Care, which extended well beyond the meeting period thanks to the interest of participants! In each session, CMS presenters focused on the goal of providers experiencing successful surveys and patients experiencing positive outcomes.

A special thank you to CMS for involving patients, providers, and organizations like ANNA in the development of these new regulations and the Interpretive Guidance. Thanks also to the CMS ESRD Support Team for sharing surveyor training materials with the community and for being accessible through audio conferences, presentations, phone calls, and e-mail to support everyone’s efforts to comply with the new regulations. Be sure to e-mail your questions about the Conditions for Coverage and/or Interpretive Guidance to esrdsurvey@cms.hhs.gov.

Our SIG team for the 2009-2010 term consists of new and returning members: Kimberley Davis, Sonja Peterson, Judith Pozzerle, Joan Speranza-Reid, Beth St. John, Frida Tran, and Kay Deck as SIG Leader. This year we had more applicants than spaces, which is a good problem to have. However, anyone who wants to help should feel free to contact me and I will find opportunities for you to participate.

Thanks to outgoing members from the 2008-2009 SIG committee for all of their hard work over the past year. We regret that past SIG Leader Melissa Foster has moved on to other ANNA responsibilities, but we appreciate her guidance over the past year.

We are now working through the process of completing our strategic plan for the year. There are no limits to the possibilities, and we would love to hear from you with any ideas/issues/concerns you have identified. This is a group that is ready to roll up their sleeves and make things happen! We invite you to communicate with us through ANNA Connected – Hemodialysis SIG group. You can post questions and get answers! Alternatively, you can e-mail me directly at mkd0918@hotmail.com.

Kay Deck
Hemodialysis SIG Leader
Mass Bay Chapter #119
mkd0918@hotmail.com

Peritoneal Dialysis

The SIG completed the 2008-2009 year with a networking session at the National Symposium in San Diego. Presenter Sherri Fulmer along with Moderator Sara Kennedy stimulated the brainstorming of 52 attendees with the timely topic Decreasing Peritonitis Rates: Supporting a Team Approach. That session also netted two new members for the 2009-2010 SIG committee: Cat Thompson of Alaska and Judi Bonnett of Riverside, CA. Lucy Todd, Baxter Medical Liaison, will serve as the Chair Designate.

Returning SIG committee members from last year include JoAnne Carella, Sherri Fulmer, April Peters, Angela Taylor-Smith, and Lucy Todd. Welcome to our new members: Judi Bonnett, Dawn Foster, Irene Javier, and Cat Thompson.

The SIG continues to develop a CNE on Wheels program on Advanced Peritoneal Dialysis for chapter educational presentations.

Evelyn Crumb
Peritoneal Dialysis SIG Leader
Gulf Coast Chapter #204

Transplant

The SIG has begun planning the year’s activities. Returning SIG committee members are Roberta Billman, Sharon Longton, Clara Neyhart, and Cindy Richards. We also welcome Diane Derkowski, Rhonda Duggan, and Joleen Pavelka to the SIG committee this year. We know they will make valuable contributions.

The action plan for the year is being formulated and will address all arms of ANNA’s Strategic Plan. Our members share best practices and support each other in challenging clinical situations.

We plan to increase activities on ANNA Connected to facilitate our communications and hopefully increase participation from more of those ANNA members who practice in transplantation.

Sharon Swofford
Transplant Sig Leader
Colonial Chapter #103
Pediatrics

The SIG rounded out its 2008-2009 year with an exciting breakfast session at the National Symposium in San Diego on Preparing the Pediatric Patient for Life Beyond Transplant. More than 40 participants were at the session and contributed to a very interactive session.

We are looking forward to an exciting year. The SIG members for the 2009-2010 term are Celeste Boucher, Kathy Cagan, Jackie Dake, Nancy McAfee, Lynn McCoy, Michele Mills, Theresa Mottes, Cindy Richards, and Kim Windt. This group is representative of ANNA’s four regions and have across-the-board experience, such as pre-end stage CKD, hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, and pediatric transplant, offering a varied knowledge base for the SIG. We are an accessible resource group for any pediatric issues or questions that you may have throughout the year.

We are planning to update the ANNA pediatric fact sheets this year and looking at various other pediatric resources to work on. If anyone has any questions, ideas, or topics to suggest or if you need help, feel free to contact the SIG through ANNA Connected!

Michele Mills
Pediatrics SIG Leader
MichigANNA Chapter #312

Chronic Kidney Disease

Here we are starting a new and exciting year. SIG committee members would like to welcome Mary Haras from the North Central Region. I would also like to welcome back David Simmons (Northeast), Donna Calvin (North Central), and Linda Bethea (Southeast). We are still in need of members from the Western and Northeast Regions so if anyone is interested in becoming a member of this supportive and hard working team, contact SIG Leader Debbie Hain (haindeb@aol.com). In May we had our first meeting where we discussed our strategic and operational plans for the coming year. We will continue some of our goals from last year, but we have developed new objectives, outcome measures, and action steps. The following is a brief summary of our goals.

Membership. We will continue to support nephrology nursing through active recruitment and identifying nurses who are new to nephrology and encouraging them to join our organization. SIG members will act as mentors and leaders for nurses caring for persons experiencing CKD, which includes reaching out to nurses working in other areas of health care.

Advocacy. Health promotion continues to be a significant focus for 2009. Committee members agreed that our objective is to develop strategies to empower persons at risk or who have CKD to actively dialogue with their health care provider(s). Topics such as risk factors, treatment of health issues related to CKD, and how to be active partners in the development of health promotion strategies that fit within the person’s lifestyle should be included in the discussion. Committee members will continue discussions regarding ways to disseminate this information to both the lay public and practicing nurses.

Scholarship. We submitted our manuscript to the Nephrology Journal Nursing entitled “CKD Education: An Evolving Concept,” and it is scheduled for publication in the July/August issue.

The SIG session in San Diego was a great success. A large number of people attended the session and the thought-provoking dialogue among panel members and attendees was very exciting. One topic of discussion was the new CMS coverage for CKD education, which is scheduled to begin in January 2010. We are delighted about this first step in recognizing the importance of CKD education before an individual initiates renal replacement therapy. The terms of coverage are supposed to be out this summer, so SIG members felt it would be timely to write a manuscript for the Nephrology Nursing Journal providing this much needed information. At this time, Mary and Linda plan to write the manuscript for the November/December issue. Even though Carol Kinzer is no longer a member of this committee, Debbie and she plan to write a manuscript about older adults and CKD for an advanced practice journal.

With enthusiasm we begin a new year! We are proud to be ANNA members and will continue to support ANNA’s goals of Membership, Scholarship, and Advocacy. We also will continue to be the voice for people with CKD and the nurses who care for this population.

Debra Hain
Chronic Kidney Disease SIG Leader
South Florida Flamingo Chapter #206
haindeb@aol.com

Free CNE Credit Available in ANNA’s Online Library
www.prolibraries.com/anna

Each month ANNA’s Online Library features an educational session from the 2009 National Symposium (San Diego, CA) for which members can earn FREE continuing nursing education (CNE) credit. July’s featured session is the Janel Parker Memorial Keynote Address entitled Beyond Survival. Retired Navy Captain Gerald (Jerry) Coffee, who spent over 7 years as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam, shares insights derived from the prison experience as well as from his unique experiences since then. He discusses leadership under stress, change and uncertainty, teamwork and loyalty to the organization, and communication – all important issues that have great resonance with anyone working in the health care industry.

ANNA members can listen to the live recording of the symposium session, view the accompanying presentation materials, and earn CNE online – all for FREE. Go to ANNA’s Online Library – www.prolibraries.com/anna – to access this and other sessions from ANNA’s 2009 National Symposium.