

From the Editor-in-Chief

Celebrating the 50th Year of Publication of the *Nephrology Nursing Journal* (aka *The Journal of the American Association of Nephrology Nurses and Technicians*, *AANNT Journal*, *ANNA Journal*)

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In 1974, the American Nephrology Nurses Association (ANNA, then named the American Association of Nephrology Nurses and Technicians [AANNT]) launched its journal, titled *The Journal of the American Association of Nephrology Nurses and Technicians* (JAANNT). Over the years, the name of the journal changed (*The Journal of the American Association of Nephrology Nurses and Technicians*, *AANNT Journal*, *ANNA Journal*, *Nephrology*

Nursing Journal) as the association, the journal, and nephrology nursing evolved.

The First Issue – 1974

The first issue of the journal included a variety of articles:

- General Considerations in the Assessment of Marital Interactions
- Dialysis Marriages
- The Dialysis Nurse and Psychosexual Awareness
- Simultaneous Multiple Sibling Home Hemodialysis
- Clinical Evaluation of the Magnitude of Blood Recirculation in the Single Needle Dialysis System
- The Use of Closed Circuit Television Monitoring in Home Dialysis Training (republished in this issue of NNJ – pp. 11-12)
- Student Section: The Use of Positive Reinforcement in Order to Increase Patient Compliance

As Chief Editor, Margery Fearing noted in her editorial, “each, in its way, reflects the diversity, depth of concern and searching for ways to facilitate and improve care. It is through conducting and reading such works that each of us gains new insights, hope, and the necessary energy to strive for excellence in patient care.”

Lois Bernbeck, then President of AANNT, offered this wisdom and challenges in the first issue:

We, the professionals, must stop and take a long, hard, in-depth look at all those practices we so comfortably perform. We must evaluate our practices against three standards: (1) Do they assure a high quality of care? (2) Do they ensure maintenance of a patient’s individual rights? (3) Could they be replaced by more economical methods without violation of

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the preceding standards? This introspective look, which is the real challenge of the 70s, must include a look at the philosophy and morality of our practices as well as the art and science of nephrology technology and nursing. This is no easy task. We no longer have the benefits we had in the 60s, the momentum of rapid advances and the novelty of the field, to propel us forward. The work of the 70s is not glamorous and in some ways can be quite threatening. It is far more comfortable to continue the practices adopted in the past, even if these practices were a response to the then and now outdated working environment. As difficult as this challenge is, we, the professionals within the field, must begin now or come under closer scrutiny by the consumers and the payers of treatment. Each professional member must be willing to accept the 1970s challenge within the field. Each member must be willing to participate with other professionals in an exchange of clear ideas and in-depth comments. AANNT has begun this journal to facilitate this exchange. It is now up to each one of us to insure that there is a successful exchange leading to a clearer insight and maturity within the fields of nephrology technology and nursing.

Change a few dates in Lois’ President’s Message, and it would be equally as relevant today, 50 years later.

50 Years and Counting

Through 50 years of publication, the *Nephrology Nursing Journal* has provided information to nephrology nurses and their colleagues to continuously improve the care of our patients and the practice of nephrology nursing. Throughout this year, we will share some of the highlights of our journey in NNJ and on social media. Join us as we look back and, at the same time, look forward to nephrology nursing in the future.

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