Special Interest Groups

Administration

The SIG is pleased to announce that we will be working on a new project: Cultural Diversity in the Nephrology Workplace. Our line officer, Nancy Pierce, contacted us by request of the Board of Directors. Currently, we are beginning with collecting resources in order to develop a position statement. Thank you to Deuzimar Kulawik, who has agreed to take the lead on this endeavor. Additionally, a Diversity Tool Kit with resources and references will be available. Please contact us if you have any comments or information to assist us in this dynamic project.

Some SIG members also are working on an article on survey readiness in the unannounced visits based on our presentation in Philadelphia in April 2008. In addition, Beth St. John is working on the management sections of the new CMS regulations to produce a new Manager Resource Sheet. Furthermore, the CMS regulations with a focus on administrative changes will be the focus of our SIG networking session at the 2009 National Symposium in San Diego. The SIG is honored to have Glenda Payne serve as the facilitator for this session. A second networking session will focus on Level V of the Nephrology Career Ladder, including leadership competencies in professional development of the nephrology nurse.

As part of our mission for education/scholarship, two book reviews will be published in the next issue of the Nephrology Nursing Journal. For those leaders who love reading and learning new strategies, Hardwiring Excellence and The Carrot Principle come highly recommended.

The SIG always welcomes suggestions. Please contact us through the ANNA Web site or e-mail me directly at perrecm@mail.amc.edu.

Mary Perrecone
Administration SIG Leader
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Advanced Practice

The revised Scope and Standards of Advanced Practice in Nephrology Nursing are completed and available for purchase through ANNA.

Current SIG projects include the continuing development of the job description guidelines for Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) working in nephrology. Because CNSs in nephrology have a wide range of responsibilities, this group of nurses might find that parts of their job description come from both the Nurse Practitioner (NP) and the CNS descriptions.

Another interesting project under discussion is the development of a training program for advanced practice nurses who are new to their roles as well as to the specialty of nephrology. With more practices and facilities utilizing APRNs, this is an area with an increasing need for training.

SIG members Lois Bartels, Deborah Brooks, Annette Hood, and Betty Ann Hughson were able to informally meet at the Fall Meeting in Chicago. This was an opportunity to put faces and voices together and to discuss plans for the SIG.

The Advanced Practice Forum on the ANNA Web site has been receiving more traffic, and we hope that we’ve been able to provide helpful direction and answers to your questions.

As always, we encourage input from our advanced practice colleagues in nephrology and can be readily contacted through the Advanced Practice Forum or via e-mail.

Deborah Brooks
Advanced Practice SIG Leader
Palmetto Chapter #203

Acute Care

The SIG is still going strong. Our first article titled “CQI in the Acute Care Setting: An Opportunity to Influence Acute Care Practice” was published in the September/October issue of the Nephrology Nursing Journal. The article describes the SIG’s networking session at the National Symposium in Philadelphia in April 2008.

The SIG submitted a proposal for an acute care preconference session at the 2009 National Symposium in San Diego. The program committee accepted the proposal, and the SIG is busy finalizing the sessions. The first session will focus on Pathophysiology in Acute Kidney Injury and will be presented by Mary Schira. A second session addressing Fluid Management in the Acute Care Nephrology Patient will be presented by Diane Hiebovy. Dr. Geraldine Corrigan will present a session on Cardiac Complications. The final session describing acute care treatment modalities will feature Dr. Luis Alvarez.

The SIG also wants to continue to strengthen the Acute Care Forum on the ANNA Web site by increasing dialogue among acute care nephrology nurses. Several practice questions have been discussed in the forum, such as criteria for emergent dialysis, blood volume monitoring, CRRT, citrate anticoagulation, and the role of LPNs in the acute care setting. Our long-term goal is to build a foundation of clinical practice standardization and quality so that Acute Care Best Practice Guidelines can be developed.

We have a new member on the SIG committee: Marianne Szestak, who is from the Southeast Region. We are still looking for another member from the North Central Region.

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As always, we welcome and encourage any suggestions from ANNA members on how to meet the needs of acute care nurses. You are welcome to contact the SIG through the ANNA Web site or e-mail me directly at fallons@mail.amc.edu.

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Acute Care SIG Leader
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Hemodialysis
Changes, changes, and more changes . . . are what we’re experiencing as ESRD providers and nurses adjust to the released revisions of the CMS Conditions for Coverage for ESRD Facilities. These changes are anticipated to enhance clinical practice while providing oversight to quality patient care. The SIG is preparing to present three sessions at the 2009 National Symposium. These sessions will address outlined regulations that affect outpatient units. The SIG is excited about presenting this timely and relevant topic to ANNA members in a collaborative format.

SIG members continue to meet monthly to discuss topics that arise through the Forum, ANNA’s online discussion site. Members can access this resource on the ANNA Web site (in Members Only). It is an excellent tool for posing challenging clinical questions that need answers. The SIG encourages practitioners with questions and issues related to hemodialysis practice to utilize the Forum.

Melissa Foster
Hemodialysis SIG Leader
Music City Chapter #228

Peritoneal Dialysis
The SIG is working on several interesting projects. Sherri Fulmer and Sara Kennedy will be making a presentation at the 2009 National Symposium on dealing with decreasing peritonitis rates using a team approach. Some of our members are reviewing and updating the CE on Wheels learning module on peritoneal dialysis (PD). We’re also looking forward to the publication of a case study in an upcoming issue of the Nephrology Nursing Journal.

Please forward any questions or thoughts to the SIG. We would love to assist you with any problems or issues related to peritoneal dialysis.

On a final note, despite the devastation of Hurricane Ike, we have been told that the PD patients in that area were prepared and able to continue their dialysis treatments. This is a testament to the excellent training and support they received from their nephrology nurses. Congratulations for a job well done!

April Peters
Peritoneal Dialysis SIG Member
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Transplant
SIG members provided input to the Board of Directors regarding the proposed United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) policies for public comment. A response was submitted by ANNA.

The SIG wishes to recognize Sharon Longton, Pat Weiskittel, and Jean Colaneri for their efforts in providing a successful Fall Meeting in Chicago. Feedback regarding the meeting was extremely positive.

Kudos to Clara Neyhart and Pat Weiskittel on the Fall Audio Conference presentation entitled Getting Patients Charged Up and Tuned Up for Transplant. A good deal of helpful information was provided.

Robert Billman is hard at work on the SIG’s presentation for our networking session at the 2009 National Symposium: Ready or Not: Here They Come – Ensuring Survey Readiness. We look forward to her presentation and very lively discussion. Sharon Swofford is busily preparing her presentation for the 2009 National Symposium entitled Living Kidney Donation: The Next Generation.

Clara Neyhart is hard at work converting her presentation from the 2008 National Symposium into a Nephrology Nursing Journal article. Pat Weiskittel is putting the finishing touches on the transplant chapter for the second edition of ANNA’s Continuous Quality Improvement Manual.

Sharon Swofford
Transplant SIG Leader
Colonial Chapter #103

Pediatric Nephrology
The SIG has been working to create a list of pediatric units that provides details about staffing, modalities, ECMO, etc. Once completed, the list will be posted on the Pediatric Nephrology SIG page on the ANNA Web site.

We are busy planning our networking session for the 2009 National Symposium. The session will focus on Long-Term Planning for Children with CKD: Goals Beyond Transplant. The SIG is also working on updating the CE on Wheels program entitled Children on Dialysis.

The SIG is working to recruit committee representatives from all four ANNA regions. SIG members continue to serve as a resource on pediatric issues to our nephrology communities.

Nancy McAfee
Pediatric Nephrology SIG Leader
Greater Puget Sound Chapter #503

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As we look at the work of the Meyer, Trotter, and Disney as cited from the hospitality industry, and the work of Planetree and the Picker/Commonwealth programs, the outcomes were achieved because specific people were the powerful influencers who drove the transformation from the technical service to the soul-touching hospitality and emotionally connected relationships that created the loyalty and affiliation on the part of the employees and customers/patients. Moving from the service mindset in health care to the hospitality mindset that engages people positively and emotionally is what healing is all about. Using the steps and tools of influence as outlined by Patterson et al. (2008) provides a dynamic outline for leaders to transition from the service culture to the hospitality/experience culture.

REFERENCES


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Chronic Kidney Disease

As we approach the end of 2008, the SIG continues to diligently work toward achieving our leadership and advocacy goals. Our efforts have been focused on the following projects: 1) planning for the SIG networking session at the 2009 National Symposium in San Diego; 2) writing for the Nephrology Nursing Journal; 3) creating a fact sheet that will empower individuals who are at risk for or have chronic kidney disease (CKD) to effectively communicate with health care providers; and 4) submitting a manuscript to an NP journal.

We are very excited about the 2009 National Symposium SIG session. Our topic of discussion is Innovative Models of CKD Education. We plan to present various models of CKD education followed by dialogue between presenters and attendees. We look forward to learning how practicing nephrology nurses approach CKD education as well as sharing our success stories with all who are present.

Continuing with the theme of Innovative Models of CKD Education, we are currently collaborating on a manuscript for the March/April issue of the Nephrology Nursing Journal. Donna Calvin, David Simmons, and Debra Hain are working together, each bringing their expertise, to provide current evidence of CKD education and implications for nursing practice.

All the members of the CKD SIG committee – Linda Bethea, Donna Calvin, Carol Kinzner, David Simmons, and Debra Hain – were concerned regarding the number of people at risk for or who have CKD. We decided to take a proactive stance to health promotion by empowering them with a tool for effective communication with health care providers. We have determined that the creation of a fact sheet for this target audience may be one way to achieve our goal.

Carol Kinzner and Debra Hain are searching for an NP journal to submit a manuscript about older adults with CKD. As the United States population ages and the risk of CKD increases, we felt this would be a timely topic. We would appreciate any recommendations regarding a potential journal for submission.

This dynamic group looks forward to meeting people who are interested in CKD at the National Symposium in San Diego. If you have questions or comments about what we are accomplishing or other questions, feel free to contact me at haindeb@aol.com.

Debra Hain
Chronic Kidney Disease SIG Leader
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