THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN RADIOLOGICAL NURSES ASSOCIATION

NOVEMBER, 1999
VOLUME 4
NUMBER 4

arna website is up and running!
submitted by Dixon Johnson RN, CRN
(dixonj@home.com)

At long last, the ARNA website is open for business. Logon at http://www.arna.net. Please take the time to review it and by all means send your feedback! It is a very good start and has excellent potential for growth and development. Online membership application is in the works as is online application for our scholarship and awards program. Plans are also in the works for an ARNA “store” with our logo products pictured and available for purchase.

Thank you all for your patience and thank you to those individuals who were kind enough to submit the information you see on the website. I look forward to hearing from you and tell your colleagues to check it out!

update on “legs for life”™
submitted by Kate Little

On Saturday, September 18, 1999, “Legs for Life™” took place across the country. This is a national screening program for PVD leg pain, a community health and public information program sponsored by SCVIR (the Society of Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiologists) and is supported by ARNA.

editor’s note:
One of the screening centers was where I work, at John F. Kennedy Medical Center in Edison, NJ. What a tremendous display of multidisciplinary teamwork! Representatives from medicine, nursing, surgery, vascular and radiology departments, clerical personnel, public education and hospital volunteers worked together on what should have been their day off! 59 patients were screened with 11 diagnosed as positive as a result of the selflessness of these dedicated individuals. Hard work combined with being well fed made us all feel good about the day.

core curriculum available for purchase!
As of September 3, 1999 the Core Curriculum of Radiology Nursing is for sale through the ARNA office. Cost for members is $75 (plus postage and handling); non-members pay $110 (plus P & H). You will find an order form in this issue.

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The Core Curriculum...

- Serves as a resource for nurses caring for patients in diagnostic and therapeutic imaging environments.
- Serves as an excellent reference tool for the CRN Examination.
- Describes some of the most recent studies in Radiologic Nursing.
- Includes over 350 pages.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT ☐ Please check here if sending by fax

Please send me _____ copy(s) of the Core Curriculum for Radiological Nursing at the (please check one) _____ Member rate of $75.00 or the _____ Non-Member rate of $110.00.

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ADDRESS: ______________________________________________
CITY: ____________________________ STATE: ____________ ZIP: ____________
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PAYMENT: (CHECK ONE) CHECK____ VISA_____ MC____ AMEX ____

Credit Card #: ____________________________ Expiration Date: ____________
Name as it appears on the card: ____________________________________________

Signature: ____________________________
If paying by check, please make check in U.S. Dollars drawn on a U.S. Bank, payable to ARNA and return with your completed order form to: ARNA, 820 Jorie Blvd., Oak Brook, IL 60523. Phone: 630-571-9072 Fax: 630-571-7837
crn exam - passing candidates
submitted by Barbara Wozniak, ARNA Administrative Assistant
Following is a list of 74 Radiology Nurses who passed the RN exam given in August, 1999.
Aarnio, Wendy - Vermont
Axen, Gerd - Nevada
Bell, Elinor B. - New Mexico
Berler, Christina - New York
Blair, Victoria - Idaho
Bonin, Ann - Connecticut
Bronson, Linda L. - Florida
Cacciola, Cynthia - New Jersey
Caridi, Rhonda K. - Florida
Cornell, Curtis L. - Virginia
Cramer, Shelli J. - Ohio
Creamer, Ann M. - Rhode Island
Derucki, Carrie - Oregon
Dumaine, Doreen A. - Massachusetts
Durilla, Lesley S. - Pennsylvania
Emory, Judith - California
Fleming, Jennifer - New Jersey
Fog, Kathryn C. - Kansas
Foster, Lisa L. - Florida
Fowler, Karen H. - Georgia
Gallagher, Kathleen E. - Washington
Galusha, Linda Mercer - Arizona
Haithcock, Carolyn - North Carolina
Harman, Cecilia M. - Maryland
Hein, Glenna - Washington
Holmes, Audrey L. - Georgia
Ingignoli, Karen - New York
Isham, Marilyn C. - New York
Jackson, Debra A. - Minnesota
Johnson, Sharon - Colorado
Knapp, Donna L. - Massachusetts
Korenstein, Marie - Florida
Lanfear, Linda M. - New York
Leclair, Donna - Rhode Island
Letts, Renate E. - Florida
Lynch, Susan L. - Indiana
MacCormack, Frances - New Jersey
Marcum, Kimberly - Ohio
Martino, Renee A. - Pennsylvania
McGavin, Anna M. - Texas
Meikle, Linda - Ohio
Morrison, Suzanne R. - Pennsylvania
Nimmer, Vickie D. - Iowa
Nissen, Michael - Georgia
Norder, Donald F. - Pennsylvania
Pond, Sandra C. - Connecticut
Sabo, Karen E. - Florida
Sacco, Robert J. - Florida
Salcido, Alice A. - Washington
Smith, Jason - New Jersey
Smith, Johnna S. - Florida
Sturdy, Peggy A. - Idaho
Suppenbach, Julie A. - Montana
Terwilliger, Brenda - Iowa
Tredent, Christine M. - Ohio
Utley, Christine - Ohio
Waagen, Gail L. - North Dakota
Webb, Sandy - Colorado
Weston, Gail M. - Florida
Williams, Jacqueline - Michigan

arn board of directors announces new award
The Board is pleased to announce the Helen Malenock Award which is available to active ARNA members who demonstrate a financial need. The award is one year’s complimentary membership and the number of awards granted each year will be at the discretion of the Board. This award was established in memory of Helen Malenock who was an active and dedicated member of the ARNA Board and contributed significantly to the profession of Radiology Nursing. Helen passed away on January 31, 1999.

Congratulations crn's!

UPCOMING CRN EXAMINATIONS:
February 12, 2000 (application deadline 12/31/99)
August 19, 2000 (application deadline 6/30/2000)
To obtain an application or check the testing schedule, contact the Professional Testing Corporation
1350 Broadway - 17th Floor
New York, NY 10018
(212) 356-0660

MR meeting announcement
The Eighth Scientific Meeting and Exhibition of the International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine will take place April 1 - 7, 2000 at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver, Colorado. The meeting will combine traditional and new elements of interest to both basic scientists and clinicians. For further information and a registration application, please contact:
International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine
2118 Milvia St, Suite 201, Berkeley, CA 94704, USA
Phone: +1 (510) 841-1899
Fax: +1 (510) 841-2340
e-mail: info@ismrm.org
web site: http://www.ismrm.org
FROM THE EDITOR’S DESK

Fall is upon us with Daylight Savings Time, Trick or Treating, changing leaves and plans for the annual ARNA meeting in Chicago. It promises to be an opportunity to gain a wealth of knowledge and a forum for meeting nurses like yourself from all over the country. If you are attending (and even if you're not) don't forget about the “Silent Auction”! See the article below for details.

Special note: Editorial assistant wanted! The newsletter is growing and it takes a lot of work. If you can be available to check/abbreviate articles and get them back to me in a few days by fax or e-mail, please contact me. I have wonderful assistants, but all of us are being pulled in many different directions so I would like to “spread the wealth.” Good spelling and grammar are very helpful, otherwise, no experience necessary!

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don’t shhhh!! silent auction
submitted by Jennifer Brown

The Scholarship Committee is holding its fifth annual fund raising program and once again, it will be the successful “Silent Auction”. As in the past, the “Silent Auction” will be held during ARNA’s annual meeting in Chicago, this year, from November 28-30, 1999. Why should you participate? Because, your chapter will gain nationwide exposure and have a chance to really stand out. And, this is a wonderful opportunity for all our chapters to participate in the organization in a way that directly benefits the entire association. “Fax-in” forms for bidding are (continued on page 5)

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help wanted:
Radiology Nurse position is open at UCSF-Stanford Health Care, Stanford, California. This is a full time position with benefits. Hours: 7:30-4:00pm, Monday through Friday, no holidays or weekends. Duties include conscious sedation for patients undergoing interventional procedures in our CT and Interventional MRI department, staff education, and contrast administration for CT and MRI scanners. Please call Robbie Snyder at 650-723-8023 or fax resume to Robbie at 650-723-7205.
committee update

Legislative Awareness Committee:
Capitol Update
submitted by Liz Livingston
On Oct. 7, the House approved a measure (275-151) that would allow patients to sue their health plan provider, without limit, for deaths or injuries perceived to be the result of poor care or denial of treatment. 68 House Republicans crossed party lines to support the measure which is considered to be a major blow to the insurance industry. The measure also addresses other complaints of patients in HMOs such as access to emergency care, access to certain specialists without approval from primary care physicians, and receiving routine care for clinical trials.
Representatives from the House, Senate and White House will meet to develop a final package of patient protections.

chapter news

The Carolinas Chapter met October 2 in Chapel Hill, NC with 29 in attendance. There were lots of door prizes and fun as well as education and networking. Eight hours of continuing education credit were provided by St. Francis Health System of Greenville, SC. The business meeting followed the educational meeting and annual elections were held. The new President is Delma Armstrong. President-elect: Debbie Lessard of Greenville, SC. Secretary: Jeanne Mills of Raleigh, NC. Treasurer: Betty Clines of Greer, SC. Board members: one year - Juanita Fisher of Durham, NC; two year- (vacated by Debbie Lessard) Nellie Lewis of Durham, NC.

Congratulations, Delma!
The UNC Medical School’s prestigious Nursing Excellence Award was won by Delma Armstrong RN, BSN, CRN, a staff nurse in the Radiology Department at the University of North Carolina Health Care System. It is notable that only a select few nurses are chosen each year for this award. Delma will receive a $1000 grant for continuing education.

Professional organization meetings

Society for Vascular Nursing (SVN)
Date: June 22-25, 2000
Location: San Antonio, Texas
Contact: David Hart
Phone: 888-536-4786 or 850-474-6963

ama introduces web site
Oct. 29 -The American Medical Association has introduced its own web site, medem.com The name is short for “medical empowerment” and the site will provide daily health and medical research news.

chapter news

The Texas Gulf Coast Chapter of ARNA is announcing an educational opportunity:
Date: Jan 20, 2000
Location: VA Medical Center, Room 2C350.
Time: 6:00 PM, with refreshments.

Uterine Artery Embolization, Questions and Answers
By Frank A. Morello Jr., M.D.
Asst. Professor of Radiology, M.D. Anderson Cancer Ctr.
RSVP: Marilyn Holland, ARNA President
Estellita Mansukhani-Education Program Coordinator
work # (713) 794-4114
e-mail: rmansu3130@aol.com
Fax: (713) 866-4386

This chapter is PROUD to congratulate Anne McGavin RN, an Interventional Radiology Nurse at M. D. Anderson Cancer Center on passing the recent CRN exam!

The Minnesota Chapter will present a seminar on “Child Abuse - Detection and Protection”. Presenters will include Mayo physicians Dr. Mark Mannenbach from the ER, Dr. Jane Matsumoto from pediatric radiology, Olmsted County attorney Mr. Geoff Hjerleid, Ms. Elle Umpierrez from Rochester law enforcement, Ms. Ann Rivas from Olmsted County child protection and a foster parent. Nursing CEU’s will be given and Radiologic Technologist CEU’s have been applied for. Registration is limited. The fee is $20. Refreshments will be provided.

Location: Seibens Building, Leighton Auditorium (second floor)
Date: Saturday, November 20, 1999
Time: 8 am until noon (check in will begin at 7:30 am
Call Terry Wilsie at (28)4-3022 or e-mail her at wilsie.terry@mayo.edu
silent auction (continued)

available, as well as the latest list of donated items.
Bring a flier to your workplace to entice physicians,
nurses and technologists to participate.
To summarize, "Auction '99" needs your help.
Please consider a donation from your chapter in the
$50-$100 range, something that reflects the flavor or
culture of your area. Call Lois Curtwright, RN (513)
636-6392 or e-mail her at lcurtwrigh@aol.com If
hand carried, these items can be given to me the
morning of the first meeting day, November 28, at
McCormick Place.
- Jennifer Brown, Scholarship Committee Chair (616)
226-4830 e-mail witamy@earthlink.net

volunteers needed
in Chicago
Kathleen Gross is seeking help at
the RSNA booth in Chicago at the
Annual Meeting. Please consider
giving one hour of your time to talk
with attendees about ARNA.
Sign up at the ARNA desk when you
arrive.
Thanks for your support of ARNA!
- Kathleen Gross

RADIOLOGY NURSE HELPLINE
PLEASE CONSIDER SHARING YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCES
WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES

Phlebitis with Magnevist?
"Has anyone involved in giving rapid boluses of Magnevist for
MRI (with injector) noticed a problem with patients
developing phlebitis at the IV start sites, especially when
started with a saline lock and Insyte? We have had this
problem, but not when a butterfly was used."
Also, "at your facility, do the Radiology nurses sedate
inpatients and outpatients? How do you handle children older
than 2 years old for MRI sedation? Who orders the sedation
medication for the inpatients and do the Radiologists then
cover? Does anyone have competencies specific for the
pediatric sedation nurse?"
Please respond to Joyce A. Murray, CRN, BSN, 2671 Jennifer
Hope Blvd., Longwood, FL 32779

Patient teaching sheet needed for biliary drains
"Hi everyone! Wondered if anyone has a good biliary drain
teaching sheet that they would be willing to share, or a resource
for one. We're starting to send these patients home sooner,
plus I need something for Discharge Planning and teaching for
our Interventional Rads."
Kdonnett@columbus.rr.com

pain control vs. conscious sedation
"Do you treat ALL pain medication given during procedures
as conscious sedation? Does it depend on the drug or dose
given? Clarification is requested, as you see it."
- Janet Dillon e-mail: jandillon@webtv.net

From
GRASSROOTS
to CAPITOL HILL

National Federation for Specialty Nursing Organizations (NFSNO) invites you
to attend the
2000 Nurse in Washington Internship
February 27-March 1, 2000
Washington Court Hotel • Washington, DC
In this four-day intensive internship, endorsed by ANA, you'll
learn about the legislative process, the political and economic
forces driving health care policy and delivery, and how to become
politically active. You'll even spend a day on Capitol Hill visiting
senators and representatives!
Two scholarships are available for members of NFSNO
member organizations: one from W.B. Saunders Company and
the editors of Policy and Politics for Nurses, and one from the
Federation. Apply now!
Early registration fees are $595 for members of NFSNO
member organizations, $645 for SNA/ANA members, and $695
for nonmembers. Special student rates for entry level programs
are available at: $400 for NSNA members and $500
for non-NSNA members. Space is limited, so
register early.
For more information, contact NFSNO:
856-256-2333 • FAX 856-599-7463
nfsno@ajj.com
From: Nancy O'Donoghue <odonogh@musc.edu> subjects: pharmocologic agents for sedation of older children, and competency of Radiology Nurses for care of the ICU patient.

"IV Seconal is no longer available to use for sedation of the older child. What is everyone else using with success?" also, "since Radiology Nurses assume care of the ICU patient in the Radiology Department I wondered if you could tell me what you are doing to keep your nurses ICU competent. We have difficulty keeping up with the latest skills because we would only have an ICU patient 3-4 times a week. Our ICU managers felt that the radiology nurses would need to rotate through the unit once a month to keep their skills up. Our solution was to have the ICU nurse stay with the patient when they were here. The other issue was whether or not the Radiology nurse could receive enough "acute" care direction from MD's that are not critical care physicians. Last, what is the nursing ratio to allow for one on one nursing for patients from beginning to end? How late do you staff nurses and how many after 5 pm? Thanks for your feedback"  Nance

An ethical dilemma:
"For the past two and a half years we have been responsible for the sub-Q or intradermal injections of Tc99m Sulphur Colloid for the purpose of Sentinel Node identification during Lymphoscintography for primary breast carcinoma and melanoma patients. We believed we were covered by department policy and New York State Regulations for "Diagnostic Materials and Radiopharmaceutical Administration" as "other" licensed personnel. Recently, it was brought to our attention that this is indeed "out of the scope of nursing practice" as defined by New York State. I am now faced with the challenge of proving to the state that we Radiology Nurses are indeed able to perform this service for our patients. Are any other Radiology nurses responsible for providing this service? If so, how have you developed your practice. Any input or assistance would be greatly appreciated."
Mary Lou Bianchi RN
The Genesee Hospital
224 Alexander St.
Rochester, NY 14607-4055

Radiology Nursing new at this hospital:
"I am a new Radiology Nurse in a hospital which has only had such nurses for two years. JCAHO is coming and I need to develop some new policies. We have two nurses in Radiology and one at our outpatient (down the street) MRI. We need written policies on medication storage at the offsite facility, transferring of patients - both stable and unstable, what to do for emergencies, etc. Also, if you have had to write a proposal to increase the Rad nurses' salary - due to increased knowledge and skill - please send a copy. Any help would be greatly appreciated!"Penny Johnson RN
zoooooby@aol.com

How can you prevent air embolism during catheter/port placement?
"We recently had an air embolism as a complication from a dialysis catheter insertion. We positioned the patient supine. My question is, are patients routinely positioned supine or Trendelburg for port placements, dialysis catheter, Hickman catheter, etc placements. Any insight or help to reduce this complication would be greatly appreciated."
Thank you.
Beth Jorgenson, RN CRN  bethj@excite.com
Lino Lakes, MN 55014-1321
Procedure tracking, logging, statistics

Please share methods of logging procedures (either by computer or by the old-fashioned method). Here is a site and a nurse who would like to know how tracking is done in different places. Any suggestions for Teresa? Please contact her:

Teresa Kindy, Radiology Nurse, Department of Radiology
Murphy Medical Center
4130 HWY 64 East
Murphy, NC 28906
Monday through Friday 8a- 2p:
(828)837-8161 Pager 130

Consent for contrast?

“We are in the process of revising our IV contrast consent forms. I have obtained several copies from other hospitals in my area that do not require the radiologists to sign their consent forms. We always have had our radiologist sign our consent forms. Could you help us with this? Legally, where do we stand by not having the MD sign?”

Susan McCarty, RN
SMcCarty@JPMC.ORG

Pre-screening, instructions for myelogram patients

“What questions do you ask patients prior to their exam? What meds. should they not take prior?”

Noreen McHugh, RN
Medical Imaging Dept.
NoNoCEN@aol.com
Thunderbird Samaritan Hospital
Glendale, AZ 85306

Bilateral mastectomies and IV sites

“What are you doing about IV starts when a patient has had bilateral mastectomies? It seems like there is no choice but to use one of the arms.”

Valerie Lionetti
Pascack Valley Hospital, New Jersey
home phone (914) 268-8251

How are patient assessments handled at your facility?

“I have a question for other nurses regarding patient assessment in Radiology. JCAHO requires focused assessments be done on every patient regardless of outpatient status. We are struggling to develop a method to meet this requirement while maintaining efficiency and turnaround times. Are any other Radiology departments requiring vital signs prior to contrast administration? Are you basing assessment on the invasiveness of the exam? Any help would be appreciated.”

Thank you,
Kathy Scheffer, RN,CRN
Clin. Sup. Imaging Services
MultiCare Health System
Tacoma, Washington
kscheffer@multicare.com

Is this type of patient observation the norm?

Our Radiology Department wants the CT scan patients to wait 30 minutes post IV contrast injection, with saline locks intact, prior to discharge home because of the potential for allergic reactions. We are wondering what other institutions are having their patients do?”

Sincerely,
Ray Freeman, RN
raymeril@together.net