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AMERICAN
RADIOLOGICAL
NURSES ASSOCIATION

7794 GROW DRIVE
PENSACOLA, FL 32514

(866) 486-ARNA (2762)

(850) 474-7292

FAX (850) 484-8762

arna@puetzamc.com

www.arna.net

arna Vision

President's Message

Advanced Practice Radiology Nurse

Paulette Snoby, MPA, BSN, RN, CCRN

I can't tell you how many times I have been asked since April, "So what do you do for a software implementation consulting company?" Believe it or not, people aren't suggesting I don't have the intellectual capacity to do the job but rather why would a *nurse* want to do that sort of thing! It's called advanced practice in radiology nursing.

During my nursing career, I have always enjoyed new challenges and tackling new roles or some project that has proven to be out of the ordinary. Needless to say, assuming the presidency of ARNA certainly meets those criteria. It comes as no surprise to my family and closest friends that I would venture into information technology as a traveling consultant. If you ask my husband "What does your wife do as a consultant?" He will pretty much give you a blank stare and say, "She works as a consultant," hoping that will end the conversation. I am taking this opportunity to enlighten my ARNA friends and family about what a radiology nurse does within the field of informatics and advanced practice.

I have followed the many discussions concerning the medical errors epidemic in our country and possible solutions that have come from various information technologies and businesses. Some of these are bar coding of patients' armbands and medication administration; bedside documentation on wireless minicomputers; decision support called Computerized Physician Order Entry (CPOE) for physicians; and numerous clinical documentation



software to ensure regulatory compliance and best practices. When the opportunity arose to have an impact on this epidemic as a radiology nurse, I chose to join a healthcare consulting company to implement a radiology software solution.

My journey began with attending classes in designing and building components of a radiology information system software product. Several months later I was engaged as an application coordinator on a radiology project. Pretty scary stuff until I learned that I was not expected to be a computer programmer but rather the clinical expert in radiology work flow design, regulatory compliance guru, program evaluator, meeting facilitator, terminology interpreter, training program creator, and

(Continued on page 8)

New Packaging

Omnipaque and Vispaque is now available in 500 ml multi-dose polymer bottles with the name of +PLUSPAK. These are sold by Amersham Health, GE Healthcare. Multi-dose 500 ml bottles save money as they can be used for several patients. To do multiple dosing the staff at the facility where I work use the MERITMEDICAL (K08-00417) contrast management spike.

Convenience Plus

"Compact size and lighter weight enable easier storage and ergonomic handling"

"Twist-off cap provides easy ergonomic and easy access to the contrast media"

"Bull's-eye stopper provides easy stylette or spiking access"

"Peel-off tracking labels allow for more convenient product documentation" (This helps maintain Joint Commission Standards.)

Safety Plus

"The Polypropylene construction of +PLUSPAK (Polymer bottle) makes it unbreakable, helping to prevent accidents that waste time and money."

"The pull-ring and twist-off cap help avoid cuts and scrapes that often occur when using metal caps." (I have frequently cut my finger on the metal caps of other contrast bottles.)

"The latex-free bull's eye stopper and bottle eliminates risk of latex-sensitivity reactions."

Resource

General Electric Company May 2004 64-4300006697

Patricia Barry Doohan, RN
Unity Health System
Rochester, NY

JRN Table of Contents Available by E-mail

Receive the table of contents of the *Journal of Radiology Nursing* by e-mail on the day of online publication of the journal. To receive the table of contents by e-mail, go to the JRN Web site at www.radiologynursing.org Choose "Free Email Table of Contents." Type your e-mail address in the box and click the subscribe button. You will receive an e-mail to confirm that you have been added to the mailing list.

Recruitment materials (a table top display, membership brochures, and copies of *RN News*) are available for your next meeting, conference, or continuing education activity. Contact the National Office at least 6 weeks before the date needed to arrange for shipment of these display materials.

Certification/Recertification Guidelines Available!

The Radiologic Nursing Certification Board, Inc., (RNCB) and the American Radiological Nurses Association (ARNA) announce that guidelines for the certification/recertification exam in radiology nursing are available.

Starting in 2006, those sitting for the exam for the first time must show that they have obtained 30 contact hours of continuing education in a 2-year period. Candidates may choose to recertify by examination or by obtaining continuing education contact hours. Sixty (60) contact hours within a 4-year period are required to meet the contact hour requirement for recertification.

Contact RNCB at rncb@puetzamc.com or by telephone at (866) 486-2762 or (850) 474-7292 for your copy of the certification/recertification guidelines.

Certification Examination Dates

Application Deadline

June 30, 2006

Examination

August 19, 2006

Members in the News

- ◆ Have you recently changed jobs or received a promotion?
- ◆ Have you received an award related to your professional responsibilities?
- ◆ Have you written an article, a chapter in a book, or an entire book that has been published recently?
- ◆ Have you received an academic honor or award?
- ◆ Are you serving in an elected or appointed position in a professional or a governmental organization?
- ◆ Are you serving on the Board of Directors for a health-related community agency?
- ◆ Have you made a presentation at a professional conference or meeting?
- ◆ Have you recently traveled to another country to teach or learn more about your specialty?

If you can answer "yes" to any of these questions, please tell us about it. We would like to include it in our "Members in the News" column. Send your announcements to Shay Stephens, Members in the News, 7794 Grow Drive, Pensacola, FL 32514-7072, fax (850) 484-8762, e-mail arna@puetzamc.com

Radiology Nurses Day

The American Radiological Nurses Association (ARNA) will celebrate Radiology Nurses Day on April 11, 2006.

American Radiological Nurses Association (ARNA)

Board of Directors - 2005-2006

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Healthlink Consulting Company
Houston, TX

psnoby@earthlink.net • Paulette.snoby@US.IBM.COM

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Tacoma, WA

kathy.scheffer@multicare.org • k.scheffer@comcast.net

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7794 Grow Drive • Pensacola, FL 32514-7072
(850) 474-7292 • 866-486-ARNA (2762)
FAX: (850) 484-8762
arna@puetzamc.com • www.arna.net

ARNA Mission Statement

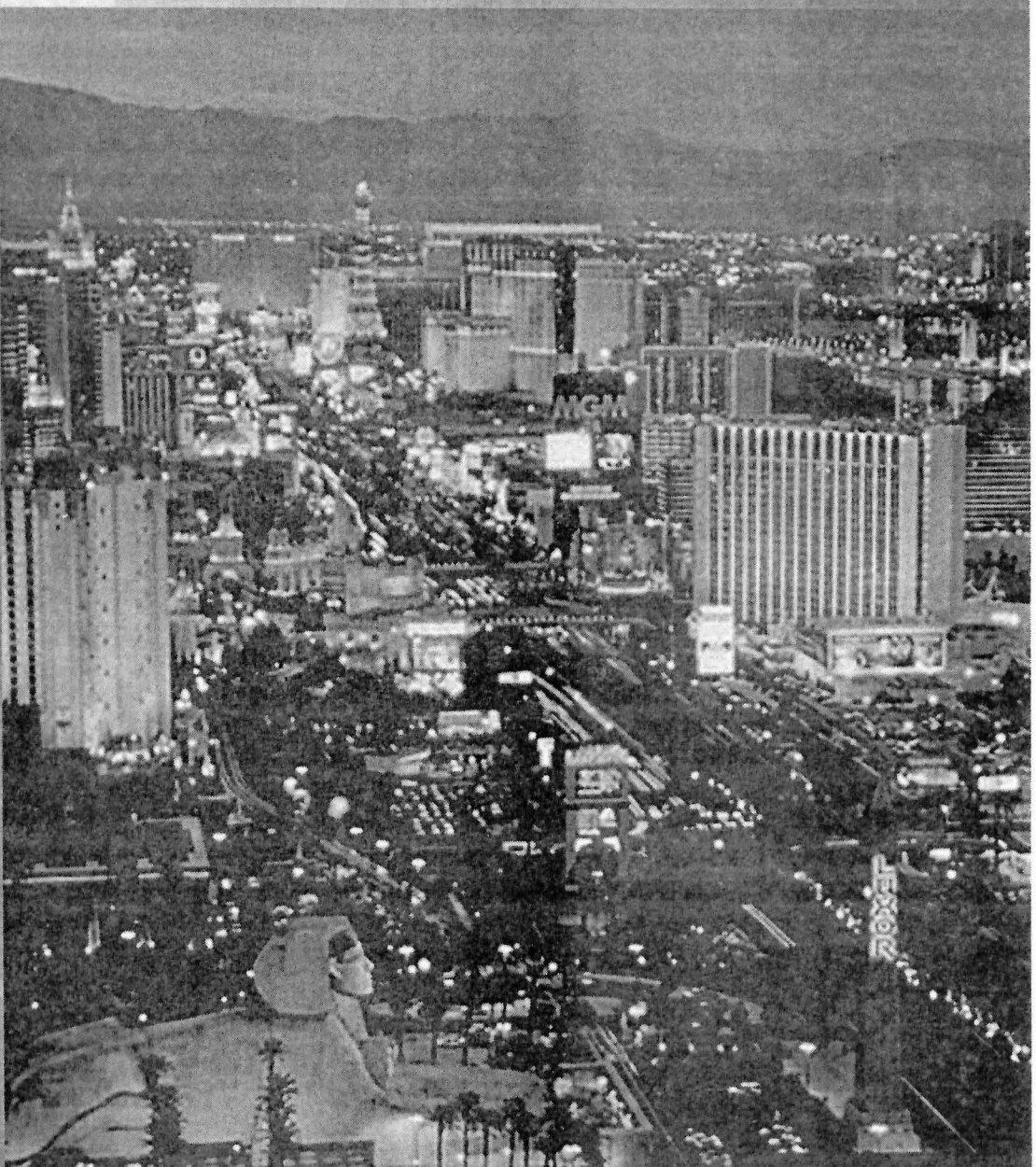
The mission of the American Radiological Nurses Association is to foster the growth of radiology nurses who advance the standard of care.



American Radiological Nurses Association (ARNA)

Stardust Resort & Casino ♠ Las Vegas, NV ♠ June 22-25, 2006

25th Anniversary



Legislation Awareness Corner

A major issue for Congress this year is "Medicaid reform." Congress has been mandated to reduce Medicaid spending by at least \$10 billion over the next 5 years. This will be a difficult task to accomplish as Medicaid is used by a large sector of America's population. According to the American Nurses Association (ANA), Medicaid is the nation's largest healthcare program servicing 58 million people.

The ANA stats reveal that the average Medicaid caseload has increased 40% from 1999-2000. The federal government is expected to spend \$329 billion in 2005 on Medicaid. At this time, Medicaid picks up the tab for the care of 70% of nursing home residents.

One way to reduce spending is to remove obstacles that limit the full participation of advance practice registered nurses (APRNs). It is no secret that Medicaid plans reimburse APRNs at a much lower rate than physicians. APRNs will also work in rural and inner city areas where physicians are less likely to be attracted. By providing accessible care to these groups it is believed that it will decrease acute care admissions and emergency room visits and, therefore, save money.

Currently, federal law requires Medicaid to cover healthcare services provided by some advanced practice registered nurses, such as pediatric nurse practitioners, family nurse practitioners, and certified nurse midwives. The Balanced Budget Act (BBA) of 1997 encouraged the states to move patients on Medicaid into managed care and use primary care case managers as gatekeepers. The BBA allowed the states to recognize pediatric nurse practitioners, family nurse practitioners, and certified nurse midwives as primary care case managers, but it also allowed them to refuse these providers. This allowed advance practice nurses to be *excluded* as Medicaid providers in primary case management and managed care.

The Medicaid Advanced Practice Nurses and Physician Assistants Access Act (H.R. 2716/S.1515) was introduced to the house by Lois Capp, RN (D-CA), John Oliver (D-MA), Sherwood Boehlert (R-NY), and Steve Latourette (R-OH). It was introduced by Senator Daniel Inouye (D-HI) to the senate. This act would impact Medicaid law by the following:

- Fee for service Medicaid would be expanded to include direct payment for services provided by *all* nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, and physician assistants (PAs). The current law only provides for the direct fee for service reimbursement of family nurse practitioners (NPs), pediatric NPs, and certified nurse midwives (CNMs).
- All Nurse Practitioners and Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNSs) would be recognized as primary care case managers
- Medicaid managed care panels would be required to include NPs, CNSs, CRNAs, CNMs, and PAs.

The ANA supports the Medicaid Advanced Practice Nurses and Physician Assistants Access Act (H.R. 2716/S.1515). Passage of this Bill will not only help decrease Medicaid spending but will also allow APRNs to be more fully used. Please call or e-mail your representative in congress in support of the Advanced Practice Nurses and Physician Assistants Access Act (H.R. 2716/S.1515).

Wendy Hamlin, JD, RN
Co-chair, Public Policy Committee



American Radiological Nurses Association

Core Curriculum for Radiological Nursing

Linda K. Morgan, BSN, RN, CRN
EDITOR

Janice Nunnelee, PhD, RN, CS/ANP
CONSULTING EDITOR

The Core Curriculum for Radiological Nursing is the only comprehensive body of information designed exclusively for all Radiology Nurses. Encompassing virtually every area of radiology nursing, it provides a primary resource for the competent delivery of patient care in the radiological setting.

In convenient outline format, this resource presents all the core information to prepare readers for the Certification Examination for Radiologic Nursing in Imaging, Interventional, and Therapeutic Environments, administered by the Radiologic Nursing Certification Board, Inc. The text covers the broad realm of radiologic nursing and includes the key elements for nursing process and practice:

- Contrast Media
- Conscious Sedation
- Patient Education
- Quality Assurance & Improvement
- Radiation Safety
- Research Fundamentals
- Pediatric Approach
- Whole Person Radiology
- Breast Imaging
- Cardiac Catheterization
- Computed Tomography
- Diagnostic Radiology
- Lithotripsy for Treatment of Stones in Bodily Cavities
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging
- Nonvascular Interventional Procedures
- Nuclear Medicine
- Radiation Oncology: Nursing Implications
- Understanding US
- Vascular Procedure

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Call for Manuscripts

The *Journal of Radiology Nursing (JRN)* is looking for manuscripts on the following topics:

- ❖ Nursing Leadership
- ❖ New Procedures
- ❖ Research Studies
- ❖ JCAHO Requirements
- ❖ HIPPA
- ❖ Orientation and Competency for Radiology Nursing
- ❖ Patient Satisfaction
- ❖ Moderate Sedation
- ❖ Radiation Safety
- ❖ Magnetic Resonance Imaging
- ❖ Management of Lines
- ❖ Drug Eluting Stents
- ❖ Multidisciplinary Approach to Team Building in Interventional Radiology
- ❖ PI Efforts
- ❖ Infection Control Policies
- ❖ Budget and Financial Strategies
- ❖ Patient Safety Issues
- ❖ Role of the PA and ARNP in Interventional Radiology
- ❖ Patient Teaching Techniques in Interventional Radiology
- ❖ Patient Teaching Techniques in Interventional Radiology

For assistance in developing an idea or writing a manuscript, contact Kathleen Gross, MSN, RN,BC, CRN, at 7794 Grow Drive, Pensacola, FL 32514, (866) 486-ARNA (2762), fax (850) 484-8762, or e-mail rgross@comcast.net We're eager to hear from you!

Call for Newsletter Editor

ARNA is seeking an Editor for its newsletter, *Vision*. Articles in *Vision* provide information about the organization, including, but not limited to, committee, convention, certification, and membership information as well as brief articles in the areas of education, research, and patient care.

The newsletter Editor will plan, direct, and evaluate material and editorial content of the newsletter. Administrative support will be provided by the ARNA National Office staff.

Qualified applicants will have strong organizational skills and demonstrated writing and editing abilities. He/she will also have clinical expertise in radiological nursing and will be aware of the issues and trends of the nursing profession.

Individuals interested in applying for this position should contact the ARNA National Office.

Call for Editor, ARNA National Office, 7794 Grow Drive, Pensacola, FL 32514
Toll free (888) 486-ARNA (2762), (850) 474-7292, Fax (850) 484-8762
E-mail ARNA@puetzamc.com

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educator...Oh my! This sounds a bit like my last role as a radiology clinical specialist for a southeastern hospital. All of these functions may be delineated as a part of the advanced practice radiology nurse's job description. My first project as an application coordinator is located at a Chicago university hospital. While working with a team of 20 highly educated, enthusiastic, and innovative people, we are designing those radiology workflows and plans for our first of nine DBV (design, building, validate) sessions.

I am finding that not only the radiology assistant directors but also the radiological technologists and radiology nurses are very surprised to discover that I am one of them—radiology professional. Historically, consultants come from some business or information technology background into the healthcare world with their innovative technologies. Times certainly have changed! Clinicians, such as nurses, pharmacists, laboratory technicians, and even physicians are being recruited into information technology to lend their insights, skills, and expert knowledge to overcome the medical error epidemic. The federal government is providing legislative and funding support through grants to this movement, along with guidance by different federal regulatory agencies.

This is not the only part of my job. I have participated in a radiology best practice task force to create generic workflows to guide clients in developing their future radiology work flows. This model is used throughout our company incorporating the latest and scientifically sound clinical practices and methods. The outcomes of using best practices will be evident in the decrease of medical errors; increased quality care; improved patient, staff, and client satisfaction; and reduction of operational costs.

I have recently learned of a new internal project concerning PHR (Personal Health Record), which I will provide some basic literature research support. This information will be shared among many professional groups and governmental agencies.

The growth and opportunities are limitless in the field of advanced practice for nurses, and radiology nurses need to step up to the plate and show their value and expertise throughout health care. Information technology is only one of those areas where we can make a difference. If you want to know more about my specialty, come to ARNA's Annual Convention in Las Vegas, June 22-25, 2006. I would love to meet you and share ways to help you grow professionally within ARNA. See you there!

Free Resources from ANA

In 2003, the American Nurses Association (ANA) Congress on Nursing Practice and Economics endorsed the expectation that nursing organizations engaged in developing new or revising existing specialty nursing scope and standards practice specifically address issues related to care of older adults. The Nurse Competence in Aging (NCA) Initiative can provide supplemental resources to facilitate that effort.

The free NCA resources available to assist all participating ANA-SNAPG specialty nursing organizations include:

- *Professional Nursing Associations Creating or Revising Professional Scope and Standards: NCA Guidelines for Addressing Issues Related to Care of Older Adults*
- Direct consultation by the Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing to review drafts of documents and suggest language revisions if necessary
- Identification by the Hartford Institute of a Geriatric Nurse Expert in that specialty area of practice to assist the workgroup members developing the specialty nursing scope and standards document

Please contact Yamilee Bazile at (212) 998-5152 or yjb200@nyu.edu for further information and resource requests. To learn more about the Nurse Competence in Aging Initiative, please visit the "about us" section of www.GeroNurseOnline.org