



INP/APN NETWORK

BULLETIN

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Communications Chair: Barbara Sheer

Update from the ICN INP/APN Network Chair

Hello Colleagues,

The conference in South Africa was a great success in bringing together nurses from around the world and celebrating the sharing of ideas and accomplishments in the development of the NP/APN in our global nursing community. We are now planning the meeting to be held during the ICN conference in Yokohama, Japan May 27-June 1, 2007. I hope to see you there.

One area to be discussed at this meeting is the results from the pilot survey on the education, practice and regulation of NP/APNs of our member nations. The current membership is at 1,010 and 50 different nations are represented in this membership. The network is consistently receiving requests about APN development, education and practice from nursing organizations interested in this role. Therefore the Education/Practice Subgroup had taken the lead to gather this data to be shared with all the members and interested professionals. The pilot survey will be sent to 50 members who will be asked to complete the questions and critique the language and questioning format. This information will begin the data base of NP/APN information and help to improve the survey that will then be sent to members during 2007-2008 year.

Check out our website for updated news from other international NP/APN groups. Let

us know what you are doing so we can share this information with our global colleagues. Send us copies of newsletter or other information so this can be posted on the website or the stories published in our Newsletter. Have a good holiday and peaceful 2007.

Rosemary Goodyear
Chair, INP/APN Network

Dialogue on Advanced Nursing Practice, Christine Rieck Buckley

The Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) is a federation of 11 provincial and territorial registered nurses associations representing more than 126,000 Canadian registered nurses. In 2005, CNA invited nursing leaders, experts on advanced nursing practice (ANP), and nurses in ANP roles to participate in a dialogue on advanced nursing practice. Currently, the most recognized roles in advanced nursing practice in Canada are the clinical nurse specialist (CNS) and the nurse practitioner (NP); however, other advanced practice roles could evolve to meet the health needs of Canadians.

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The goals of the 2005 dialogue were to learn from current ANP roles, to build on the recent achievements of the Canadian Nurse Practitioner Initiative ¹(CNPI), and to identify principles and strategies that could promote the smooth introduction of other ANP roles. The dialogue on ANP involved four phases including an electronic dialogue and a face-to-face symposium of 104 nursing leaders. The following are some key messages from the report.

- Advanced nursing practice builds on the practice of registered nurses.
- Nurses in current Canadian advanced practice roles enhance the provision of timely, accessible, cost-effective and quality health care for all Canadians.
- Now is the time to ensure that advanced nursing practice roles are well integrated into the health-care system and help address priorities in a health-care system under severe pressure.
- The expansion of existing advanced nursing practice roles and the introduction of new advanced roles should be evidence-based and determined by the health-care needs of Canadians
- In the future, advanced nursing practice roles will continue to evolve and nurses in these roles may require different knowledge and skills.
- Existing and possible new advanced practice roles for nurses need to be widely understood by the public, governments, employers, unions, nurses and other health-care providers.
- Pan-Canadian coordination in health human resource planning, education and regulation is key to effectively introducing, developing and sustaining advanced nursing practice roles in Canada.
- Continued strong nursing leadership is needed to give direction to ANP in Canada and to anticipate future needs.

¹ *The Canadian Nurse Practitioner Initiative (CNPI), funded by the Government of Canada and sponsored by the Canadian Nurses Association, developed a framework for the integration and sustainability of the nurse practitioner role in Canada. The CNPI web-site is: www.cnpi.ca*

- Nurses must work collaboratively with other health-care professionals to ensure that Canadians receive the best possible health services from the appropriate provider, in the right place and at the right time.
- The CNA Advanced Nursing Practice Framework should be updated periodically to reflect changes in health system environments.

These key messages from the dialogue will guide CNA's collaborative work with other stakeholders. The full report is now available on the CNA website: www.cna-aiic.ca.

Member Activity Updates

ICN-APN network report from Hong Kong, China

There are some exciting advanced nursing practice (ANP) developments in Hong Kong and mainland China. A preparatory group has been set up to plan the establishment of the Hong Kong Academy of Nursing. The main objectives of the Academy are to regulate ANP, to promote the improvement of health care of Hong Kong, and to promote the advancement of the art and science of nursing. One of the key developments of the ANP in Hong Kong is the introduction of nurse clinics. The Hong Kong Hospital Authority has introduced nurse clinics in year 2000. In the coming year, a system will be set up to accredit nurse clinics. The criteria for accreditation are based on a consultancy report which is published in *Journal of Advanced Nursing* 53(3), 358-369.

In mainland China, the development of nurse specialists is one of the key strategic directives as outlined in the China Nursing Development and Planning (2005-2010), Ministry of Health. The first cohort of nurse specialists prepared at the postgraduate level in China had the graduation ceremony held on 9 September 2006. The program was jointly offered by Nanfong University, Gangzhou and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong.

Prepared by Frances Kam Yuet Wong RN PhD (email: hsfwong@inet.polyu.edu.hk), 28 September 2006

**News from New Zealand:
by Ken Wysocki, Jean Ross, Alison
Dixon**

The Primary Health Care conference for nurse prescribers entitled, "Best Practice in Prescribing: First Nurse Practitioner Conference", was held in Dunedin, November 25, 2006, and well attended by over 76 nurse participants. This inaugural event was hosted by Otago Polytechnic and viewed by nurse leaders as a template for ongoing professional continuing education conferences in the future. Coordinators Ken Wysocki and Jean Ross were pleased with the huge success of this conference. Frequent comments by participants included the incredible opportunity to network with professional colleagues, participate in great clinical updates, and see support from Ministry of Health, professional nursing organizations, and the pharmaceutical sector.

Participants enjoyed poster presentations highlighting evidence based practice in health care management and education. Hon. Pete Hodgson was among a distinguished list of welcomes from Ministry of Health, New Zealand Nurses Organization, College of Nurses Aotearoa, and Nursing Council. Keynote address, "Prescribing in primary care: importance of broad base of diagnostic knowledge and collaboration," was given by Paula Renouf. Continuing education sessions included mental health by Bernadette Forde, psychiatric nurse practitioner (NP); neonatal health by Deborah Harris, neonatal NP; cardiovascular, diabetes, and Maori health perspectives by Adriane Murray, family/primary health care NP; and men's health by Ken Wysocki, family NP (US). Legislative policy update and forum on NP portfolio process fuelled discussion among participants.

The conference success was the enthusiasm of the participants across the country but was underpinned by the financial support of a number of pharmaceutical and medical equipment companies and supported by Otago Polytechnic. Negotiations are in progress

for another tertiary education institution to host the conference in November next year. Make plans now to attend the nurse practitioner continuing education conference in 2007.

**Youth Health Nurse Practitioners in
Australia by Dorothy Henning**

The first four Nurse Practitioners in the state of Victoria, Australia were endorsed in December 2004 following a rigorous process of completing a Master education, developing clinical practice guidelines for the individual areas of practice, and passing individual interviews by an "expert panel" related to the area of practice. Youth Health was one of the areas represented by the newly endorsed nurse practitioners; a first, both at a state, national and possibly international level. It would be great to hear of any other youth health NP's.

The youth health NP role is both challenging and rewarding. It is an area of practice in a primary health setting based on a social model of health. The role involves specifically working with young people who are experiencing homelessness. The most common health issues relate to drug and alcohol, mental health and sexual health.

**UK Update by Katrina Maclaine RCN NP
Advisor**

There has been no formal progress on Advanced Nurse Practitioner regulation since the Nursing & Midwifery Committee (NMC) put a proposal to the Privy Council (Department of Health, England) to establish a new sub-part of the register for the regulation of ANPs. This application was made in December 2005, however since then we have had a 4-country consultation on the future of non-medical health professional regulation and no changes to the current structure could be made during this time. This consultation has now closed, so we hope that a response from the Privy Council will be forthcoming in the Spring. In the meantime the NMC have been doing some preliminary work on the process for accommodation of existing practitioners onto

the register. Updates can be accessed from the NMC website on www.nmc-uk.org

Non-Medical Prescribing programmes continue to be provided across the UK. There are now over 4,000 prescribers and this ability is making a significant impact on patient care, but some organisational barriers remain

Nurse Practitioners UK have just launched a guidance document on Clinical Imaging requests from non medical health professionals. A copy is available from www.nursepractitioner.org.uk This was a joint publication with key professional bodies to try to build on local initiatives to overcome the widespread refusal of X-ray requests when made by nurses.

There is still a push at Department of Health level in England and Scotland to invest in Physician Assistants. This new role is required in some settings to enable compliance with the European Working Time Directive 2009 standard of a 48 hour week for Doctors (and other professionals). However the RCN, AAANPE (Association of Advanced Nursing Practice Educators www.aanpe.org) and NP Association has been questioning the money going into this development, without commensurate funding of NP education and posts. This concern has been compounded by the loss in 2006 of advanced nursing posts in many of the secondary health care settings across the UK due to a funding crisis in the NHS.

The NP Association conference this year will be held in September in Daventry UK not far from London. See website for details www.nursepractitioner.org.uk.

Nurse Practitioners in Scotland by Helen Ward

In line with the rest of the UK consideration is being given to the future role and impact of nurse practitioners within the health care delivery system which is a devolved responsibility for the Scottish Parliament. Due to the legal, cultural and social characteristics inherent within the Scottish

health care system there is a long history of independently developing a framework of care specifically geared to the specific needs of the population.

Currently the Scottish Executive Health Department is considering a strategy for the way forward and have proposed an Advanced Practice Career and Educational Pathway that envisages nurse practitioners operating at several levels. These comprise of Senior Nurse Practitioners/Specialist Nurse Practitioners; Advanced Nurse Practitioners and Consultant Nurse Practitioners. These levels are congruent with the NHS Career Framework launched recently in Scotland. Consideration has also been given to matching appropriate competencies and the Knowledge and Skills Framework to these proposals. An example of how this would work has been applied to the advanced cancer nursing role in Scotland and it is envisaged that this could be rolled out amongst other specialisms in due course.

Communications: New Publication

An exciting new publication Advanced Nursing Practice by Madrean Schober and Fadwa Affara is available from Blackwell press.

Many of our subgroups are actively recruiting new members. We invite you to become more active. If you have any questions about the activities or time commitments contact the chair located on our website. The communications committee wants the bulletin to reflect the news of advanced practice globally. Let us know what is happening in your part of the world. You can email your news to sheer@udel.edu.