



From Our President...

Nancy O'Rourke, MSN, ACNP, ANP, RnC.

Dear Colleagues,

Well, as Massachusetts moves along in our Health reform agenda, MCNP is right there! We have successfully integrated into this discussion and now are seen as a key stakeholder, much to the chagrin of many. We have gained appointments to key committees and, just this week, we successfully secured changes to the language in the payment reform bill that is now before the Senate. We will still have to address this legislation as it travels to the House of Representative. The House is where we have met significant challenges in the past, so we will definitely need your support. Although we did not file our own piece of legislation this session we have been very active and visible at the State House and in other key areas. The changes we have made and the political momentum we have gained is significant! Many thanks to our lobbyists for their hard work and keen insight and to each of you for your activism and political voice!

On a sad note, our legislative chairperson, Beth Rowlands, has decided to step down and seek new challenges. Beth has worked very hard for you over the past four years and has done a fabulous job representing your interests at the

Inside This Issue

Education Committee Report	2
Distinguished NP of the Year	2
Global Health Delivery Project	4
Website and Database Update	4
MCNP Member wins Award	5
Mental Health Mobile Emergency Service Providers	5
UML Announces New Online Certificate	6
Health Care Costs Drivers	7
Treasurer's Report	9
ANCC's NP Certification Exams	10
MCNP Member to Co-Host New XM Radio Series	11
Membership Renewals Begin July 1st	12
Regional Updates	13

State House and with individual legislators. Her fundraising activities and organization of PAC events, as well as the legislative breakfast were widely successful. The MCNP Executive committee sincerely thanks her for all her hard work and wishes her the best in her future endeavors.

As we move into summer I hope each of you has scheduled time to relax and enjoy. We have had a hectic year and I know I am looking forward to some down time. We will continue to provide updates on the new health reform legislation as it moves forward and Barbara Rosato, your President elect and I will be actively planning our 2011 agenda over the summer. I thank you all for your activism and please have a happy and safe summer.

Exceptional Preceptors Awards 2010

Susan Frazier, NP, Awards Chair

The Massachusetts Coalition of Nurse Practitioners announces the recipients of the fourth annual Exceptional Preceptor Awards. The recipients for 2010 are: Anne Marie Bourque, Inspiris; Dezra Kenney, Health and Education Services, Inc; Elizabeth Donahue, Hallmark Health System; Maureen Bencale, New England Specialists

-Winchester Hospital; and Marie Briasco, Southborough Medical Group. These nurse practitioners were nominated by their peers or students for exhibiting expert patient care skills, being creative in their approach to nursing care and/or teaching, having a positive effect on clients and peers, and utilizing current research in their care and teaching.

Education Committee Report

Barbara Rosato, NP and Marion Growney, NP
Education Committee Co-Chairs

In May 2009, more than 400 Nurse Practitioners from the New England area and beyond gathered in Manchester New Hampshire for the 17th annual Northeast Regional Nurse Practitioner Conference. Sponsored by MCNP, New Hampshire Nurse Practitioner Association, and Boston College Connell School of Nursing Continuing Education Program, this year's conference was a wonderful success.

The conference began with a workshop day on Wednesday. The workshops included topics of pediatric pulmonary and dermatology, coding and billing, evaluation of the knee and shoulder as well as the evaluation and treatment of dizziness. This year's keynote speaker, Tom Bartol, ANP, started the conference with an insightful presentation of successfully working technology into our busy clinical practices and finding ways to prevent our practice from consuming our lives. Participants had the opportunity to attend concurrent sessions encompassing topics from the various specialties of Adult, Pediatric, Women's Health, Geriatrics and Psychiatric care.

The MCNP Annual Business meeting, held during lunch on Thursday, provided a comprehensive update on the exciting work of the Coalition over the past year. Our president and legislative committees partnered with our lobbyists to serve on committees pertaining to payment reform.

There was an update on the Mayor's Task Force for Primary Care, working with third party payers in applying for NP PCP status, and national updates on healthcare reform. We also voted for the open offices of President Elect, Vice President and Recording Secretary.

During the reception, MCNP honored Jean Rogers with the Distinguished NP award. Her remarks addressed her long career of service as a nurse practitioner. She had delightful quips about her many years of experience. The reception was also an opportunity to view and discuss an array of poster presentations.

We extend a special thanks to the members of the Education Committee: Marion Growney, Maggie McAllister, Karen Pickell, Barbara Rosato, and Sherri St. Pierre for their hard work and dedication. To ensure continued success, the committee has started the planning of the 2011 conference to offer evidence based, clinically relevant topics that encompasses basic and advanced clinical issues for nurse practitioners in all practice settings and specialties. As always, we are open to any suggestions you may have. We are excited to be holding next year's conference in Newton, Massachusetts. Please save the dates: May 4-6, 2010. We look forward to seeing you there!

Distinguished Nurse Practitioner of the Year

Nancy O'Rourke, MSN, ACNP, ANP, RnC

Congratulations to Jean Rogers, MS, ANP of the Pioneer Valley who was chosen as the 2010 Distinguished Nurse Practitioner of the Year. Colleague Jeanne Allen wrote the following nomination, very inspiring to all of us.

Jean has been a role model of competent, compassionate care for over 40 years. She has always worked with the most disadvantaged—from

residents of Northampton State Hospital, to Health Care for the Homeless, the College Church free clinic, Interfaith Cot Shelter and the psychiatric wards of Cooley Dickinson Hospital (Northampton, MA). Her patients and colleagues all remark on the quality and humaneness of her care. Her depth of clinical knowledge and practical approach to challenges sets a high bar for others to emulate.

Please see [NP of the Year](#) on page 3

NP of the Year from page 2

Widowed, and with her children grown, at age 72 she decided she wanted to bring her nurse practitioner skills to the poor of Latin America. She studied Spanish, had her passport and immunizations up to date, and found a volunteer placement in the mountains of Guatemala. Sleeping in a hut with a dirt floor, hours from the nearest city or hospital, she worked in the community, restoring some semblance of health care to the war-torn villagers. She made an impact on many lives. For her 80th birthday—8 years after she had left—the villagers made her a memory book and sent it up with one of Jean's former co-workers.

In terms of education, a generation of nurse practitioner students at U Mass Amherst found pharmacology not only comprehensible, but also fun under her tutelage. Her work as a preceptor has helped many novice NPs make the transition to the NP role. She has provided a wealth of broad-based practice experiences, freely shared knowledge and wisdom, engaged students in active problem-solving and held them to her own high standards of practice, all with a spirit of camaraderie which welcomed them into their new professional role.

Within the Coalition, Jean has been very active in the Pioneer Valley region. Active in the Education Committee, she reminds us of our meetings, tracks down speakers, books rooms, coordinates mailings and responses. She is invaluable as we struggle to regroup under the new paradigm of CEU sponsorship.

Through her community service, Jean has been a stellar exemplar of the modern nurse practitioner. Jean was featured in the *Hampshire*



Gazette after she returned from the Coalition's first relief brigade to Honduras. When Hurricane Mitch devastated Honduras in 1998, Jean was one of the first to offer her services to the "damnificados." Seventy-five then, she was a sight to behold. Long gray braid, steel-toed boots, and a backpack full of medicines, she slogged through the mud and crossed canals on board planks. The children called to her, "Juanita! Juanita!" as she passed by. She always had a gentle word and smile, and was a lynchpin in our efforts. On her return home, a message requesting her participation in a brigade sponsored by Church World Service awaited her ... so she turned around and spent another 10 days at the other end of the country providing health service to the displaced.

She has also been nominated for an alumna award at Smith College and other community recognitions. In addition to her many professional qualities, Jean is just a wonderful person. She knits mittens for the homeless, and prayer shawls for the sick. At 85, she has hardly slowed down. She doesn't drive at night, and has let her prescriptive authority lapse, but she recently renewed her certification for another five years.

Officer Elections

Congratulations to our newly elected officers for the MCNP Board! Barbara Rosato, President-elect, Marion Growney, Vice President and Rosemary Souza, re-elected Recording Secretary.

Global Health Delivery Project for Nurses

Maggie Sullivan, RN, MS, FNP-BC

If you're a nurse who's interested in global health, then visit www.GHDonline.org. Global Health Delivery is the online community of the Global Health Delivery Project, which aims to improve health among disadvantaged populations worldwide by systematizing the study of global health delivery and rapidly disseminating knowledge to practitioners through a range of coordinated initiatives. GHD partners include Harvard Medical School, Partners In Health, Brigham and Women's Hospital and The Francois-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and

Human Rights at the Harvard School of Public Health. Join the Global Health Nursing and Midwifery community today at <http://www.ghdonline.org/nursing/>. Nurses are invited to post and answer questions from other nurses around the world, learn of upcoming events, get ideas about how to participate in international partnerships and share education/training curriculum relevant to global health. Join the online community of nearly 300 nurses and midwives from 68 countries interested and working in global health.

Website and Database Update

Catherine McKinnon
MCNP Web Editor

Our website www.mcnpweb.org remains a vital means of communication with our members and is updated on a regular basis with news and calendar events. It has a Member Login section http://mcnpweb.org/member_login.php that allows *current* members to log on at any time to renew their membership and update their information and email list preferences. It also allows access to our Member Directory search feature that includes all current members who wish to be listed.

There have been several updates to the website over the past several months:

1) Based on feedback from some of our student members, we have created a Student Page, which contains valuable resources for our students, including a To Do List for Graduate Nurse Practitioners in Massachusetts.

2) We launched our online *Find an NP* feature, which allows patients to search for an NP in their area by practice location and specialty. Current members must give their permission to be included and only practice information is included. To see how the feature works, go to: http://mcnpweb.org/find_np.php

3) Given the increased volume of our Job advertisement and job related emails, we have also changed the way we broadcast our Job postings. Instead of multiple emails to the members, one notice is sent weekly with a summary of recent jobs postings. Since the Jobs page is no longer password protected, members may visit the website at any time to view employment opportunities at: <http://mcnpweb.org/jobs.php>

As always, our e-mail lists are invaluable and enable us to keep MCNP members informed about practice related news, legislation, regional offerings, and job opportunities. Since we continue to struggle with spam filtering issues, please pay attention to any drop off in MCNP emails as this may indicate our emails are being blocked or filtered out as spam by your email server. And finally, please log onto the website to update your information or email us at editor@mcnpweb.org if your email address is changing.

Please feel free to share any feedback about the website and let us know if you have any questions or difficulty logging into the member system.

MCNP Member Wins Donahoo Lectureship Award

Miki Patterson PhD, APRN, ONP has been selected for the Clara A. Donahoo Lectureship Award by the National Association of Orthopaedic Nurses (NAON) for her development of an Orthopedic and Rehabilitation Nurse Practitioner Post Master's Certificate program at UMass Lowell. The 4-course certificate has received approval and will be offered in a blended online format. The first course is scheduled to begin this fall on Thursday evenings 5–8 pm.

This program is the first of its kind in the nation. Dr. Patterson developed this course in response to a strong need felt at the national level for more certified advance practice orthopedic and rehab nurses. She says “besides on-the-job-training,

there are not any other ways to get the information and experiences you need to function as an orthopedic or rehabilitation NP. Through this program NPs can learn orthopedic exams, conditions, reading x-rays, MRI, casting, splinting, RN first assist/scrubbing in the operating room and in-house acute care or out patient care.” Dr. Patterson has been an orthopedic nurse practitioner for over 20 years, as well as serving as past president of NAON. She has many contacts across the nation, all willing to take a student for the 2 courses that require 100 hours clinical experience. This program is designed to allow an NP from any state to take the course. You can contact her at Miki_Patterson@uml.edu

Mental Health Mobile Emergency Service Providers: An Alternative to the ER

Gail Rosensweig, OT;
Research Assistant, Center for Public Representation

Many individuals in a psychiatric crisis now have somewhere to turn for help other than to a hospital emergency room, and a number to call other than 911. There are twenty-two innovative mental health emergency service providers (ESP's) in Massachusetts, each serving a particular catchment area. No town in the Commonwealth is without these services. Trained mental health teams, mainly with masters level clinicians, are available all day, every day to provide mobile mental health crisis services, and when appropriate, community-based crisis stabilization beds. An ESP team can make home visits, or go anywhere, even a Burger King, for example, if that is where the person being visited feels most comfortable.

ESP mental health clinical and nursing staff provide behavioral health crisis assessment, intervention and stabilization services. Because the ESP's are community-based they are an alternative to emergency rooms. Many people in psychiatric crisis have had the all too common

experience of staying for hours or days in an ER waiting discharge or admission to a mental hospital. ESP settings are much more comfortable than a busy ER when people with mental illness are sometimes told to take off their clothes or be put in restraints or seclusion while they await evaluation or referral. Of course if there is a medical issue, the ESP will send the person to an ER for medical clearance. Most often the person will not have to go to the ER. Some ESP's have established strong working arrangements with local hospital emergency rooms.

Stabilization beds at the community-based ESP office are short term and designed to be a home-like comfortable environment that encourages recovery. Utilization of these beds can keep someone from a mental hospital admission.

Importantly, most teams include a certified peer specialist – someone with lived experience with having a mental illness. They provide the person

Emergency Service Providers from page 5

in crisis with unique assistance of a counselor who knows firsthand what the person is going through.

Quick access to ESP's is through a call to the Massachusetts Behavioral Health Partnership (MBHP) at 800-495-0086. This number gives you a live person who can tell you the number of your ESP as well as the community-based sites. One may prefer to go to the community-based site during operational hours rather than choose the mobile team. All MassHealth and Medicare recipients are eligible for ESP services, and most accept some private insurance. All ESPs serve anyone who is uninsured. MBHP and each ESP's phone lines are staffed 24/7, 365 days per year by trained clinicians. Needs are assessed and a treatment plan is put into place by the consumer

with the team. If a person is not connected with a psychiatrist, social worker, nurse practitioner or a therapist, appropriate arrangements are made. A listing of ESP's, the towns they cover, the community-based sites, hours of operation and staff phone listings are available by going to www.masspartnership.com and then click on "ESP Directory".

Gail Rosensweig is an occupational therapist and a research assistant at the Center for Public Representation. CPR is a public interest law firm representing people with disabilities. We have offices in Newton and Northampton MA. CPR's emergency services initiative encourages the use of ESP's as an alternative to hospital emergency rooms.

UMass Lowell Graduate Program in Nursing Announces New Online Certificate

Susan Crocker Houde, PhD, ANP-BC
Professor and Director of the Masters and DNP Program

The UMass Lowell Graduate Program in Nursing is pleased to announce a new 12 credit online certificate: Sleep & Sleep Disorders in Health and Disease

This 12 credit online certificate program in sleep and chronobiology aims to respond to the NIH call to facilitate learning for health professionals in the areas of clinical and theoretical dimensions of sleep and chronobiology. The courses in the certificate program aim to provide the student with fundamental information in the normative mechanisms of sleep as well as biological and environmental influences in sleep and wakefulness across the lifespan. From this foundation, additional course work focuses on diagnosis and intervention in sleep dysregulation with a particular focus on the formal sleep disorders. State of the science intervention strategies are addressed from both the behavioral and pharmacologic perspectives.

Admission Requirements: Master of Science degree in nursing, social work, psychology or other health-related disciplines.

Required Courses (12 credits):

33:686	Introduction to Clinical Dimensions of Sleep & Chronobiology (3 credits)
33:687	Diagnosis & Differential Diagnosis across Sleep Disorders (3 credits)
33:688	Clinical Assessment & Intervention in Sleep Dysregulation (3 credits)
33:689	Scholarly Project/Capstone (3 credits)

A new course entitled Orthopedic and Rehabilitation Nursing will be offered for the first time in fall 2010. This course will provide the post-baccalaureate nurse the opportunity to expand knowledge about issues related to musculoskeletal injuries and conditions. The

UML Certificate from page 6

course focuses on topics pertinent to the nursing care and treatment of acute and chronic musculoskeletal conditions across the lifespan. Content will include scope of nursing practice in orthopedics and rehabilitation, musculoskeletal assessment, perioperative care, diagnostic studies, pain, immobility and complication prevention. Pediatric and geriatric considerations, physical, nutritional and psychosocial aspects of injury and rehabilitation, as well as metabolic and

degenerative conditions will be discussed.

Please contact Miki Patterson at Miki_Patterson@uml.edu for further information

The post-MS DNP program for nurse practitioners is still accepting applications for fall 2010. Please contact Susan_Houde@uml.edu for more information.

Health Care Cost Drivers, Trends and Potential Solutions

Craven & Ober Policy Strategists, LLC

Attorney General Martha Coakley released a final report of the office's examination of health care cost drivers and cost trends on March 16, 2010. The report was requested by the Legislature as part of Chapter 305 of the Acts of 2008, also known as Health Care Reform II. It is the product of many months of investigations, meetings, (including discussions with MCNP leaders) and analyses. Its purpose is to further the health care cost containment goals of the Commonwealth in the spirit of sustaining our 2006 landmark universal health insurance coverage law. Therefore, its findings and recommendations are likely to shape the next provisions to be adopted by the Massachusetts Legislature, to reign in the unsustainable growth in health insurance premiums for small business, dubbed Health Care Reform III A and exponential growth in general health care expenditures, known as Health Care Reform III B legislation. Attorney General Coakley's (AG's) findings regarding the cost drivers in the Massachusetts health care marketplace are significant and in some cases surprising. As a nurse practitioner your knowledge of these findings will help you and the MCNP to navigate pending legislation.

The AG's report acknowledges that prices paid by insurers to providers have traditionally been private and without transparency. In addition, prices result from many separate contract

negotiations. As a result, insurers do not know how the prices they pay compare to other insurers. More importantly, the businesses and individuals who pay health insurance premiums have little or no information on the prices paid to providers for services, how those prices were established and why prices may vary among different providers. Some key "price" findings of interest to MCNP members include:

-- Price variations are not correlated to (1) quality of care, (2) the sickness of the population served or complexity of the services provided, (3) the extent to which a provider cares for a large portion of patients on Medicare or Medicaid, or (4) whether a provider is an academic teaching or research facility. And (5) price variations are not adequately explained by differences in hospital costs for delivering similar services at similar facilities.

--Wide price variations are correlated to market leverage, as measured by the relative market position of the hospital or provider group, compared with other hospitals or provider groups within a geographic region or within a group of academic medical centers.

Please see [Health Care Cost Drivers](#) on page 8

Health Care Cost Drivers from page 7

--Price increases, not increases in utilization, caused most of the increases in health care cost trends during the past five years in Massachusetts.

--The commercial health care marketplace has been distorted by contracting practices that reinforce and perpetuate disparities in pricing.

The Attorney General's report publicly brings concrete details to light on these matters and provides an informational baseline for the problem solving on how to contain health care costs.

The AG compared price and quality data using dozens of graphs and statistical calculations to determine whether there was a correlation between price paid and quality measured. Interestingly, wide variations in price were unexplained by differences in quality of care as measured by the insurers themselves. These findings, the AG concludes, suggest that the Massachusetts health care marketplace has not been effective in controlling costs. We must seek better alignment of payment incentives with value, as measured by those factors the health care marketplace should absolutely reward, such as better quality. The report concludes that it is essential for businesses and consumers to be engaged in efforts to promote a value-based health care marketplace. Businesses and other insurance buyers must have access to prices paid and the reasons behind price disparities.

Consumers should be given more information on insurance product options and provided incentives to make value-based health care decisions. Market dynamics and distortions must be addressed in any successful cost containment strategy and the policy discussion must include prompt consideration of legislative and administrative actions to discourage or prohibit insurer-provider contract provisions that perpetuate market disparities and inhibit service delivery innovation.

The AG's report publicly brings concrete details to light on these matters and provides an informational baseline for the problem solving on how to contain health care costs. These findings were also deliberated publicly in March at a series of hearings jointly conducted by both the AG and the Division of Health Care Finance and Policy. The MCNP provided testimony at the hearings linking the experience of NPs with the findings in the report and advocating for transparency and inclusion of NP outcomes and pricing data in all analyses done by the state in moving forward. MCNP is grateful for this important examination of the current health care system and will continue to engage with all participants in this policy discussion in the development of a value-based health care marketplace.

To read the full report you may access it at http://www.mass.gov/Cago/docs/healthcare/final_report_w_cover_appendices_glossary.pdf

Craven & Ober Policy Strategists, LLC is a full service Massachusetts-based government relations firm dedicated to credible, assertive advocacy and to the dissemination of reliable public policy information.

Treasurer's Report

Catherine McKinnon, MCNP Treasurer

Our primary source of income continues to be from Membership dues. With 1265 members this fiscal year, we collected approximately \$80,000 in dues. Additional revenue came from profit from the 2009 NE Regional NP Conference and web advertising generating another \$20,000.

Estimated Major MCNP Expenses for Fiscal Year 2009–2010:

- **Administrative Support:** \$36,000 (Includes labor for bookkeeping, membership processing, telephone and email support, Regional CEU program planning, as well as postage and supplies)
- **Accounting Fees:** \$6,000
- **Affiliations & Membership Dues:** \$1,500
- **Gifts & Awards:** \$3,000
- **Lobbyist and Lobbyist Expenses:** \$55,000
- **Meeting Expenses:** \$3,000
- **Newsletter:** \$1,200
- **Paypal Fees:** \$2,000
- **Telephone & Conference Calling:** \$1,500
- **Web Upgrades & Hosting:** \$3,000

While many of our expenses decreased or stayed the same, we saw a significant increase in our lobbying expenses. As echoed in the President's Message by Nancy O'Rourke, the amount of work surrounding critical developments in health care payment reform and the limited resources of our all volunteer organization necessitated that we re-negotiate our Lobbyist contract so that we could

be adequately represented. This resulted in an approximately \$30,000 increase in our lobbying expenses and resulted in a roughly \$15,000 shortfall in our budget.

Since our legislative work is undoubtedly by far the most important thing we do as an organization, and we must remain financially sustainable; we have been forced to reevaluate our dues structure and increase our dues from \$75 to \$95 for Full Membership and from \$25 to \$50 for Associate/Student Membership.

We understand the current economic environment poses financial challenges for many of our members, and hope that you will continue to support the MCNP through your membership dues and allow us to continue our work on your behalf.

To end on a more positive note, I am pleased to announce that one of our members, Myra F. Cacace, GNP/ADM-BC, CDE has volunteered for the Treasurer mentorship. By doing so, Myra will learn the financial operations of the MCNP during the upcoming year and will be nominated for the Treasurer office which will be due for election in May 2011.

Myra is a long time MCNP member and has worked as a nurse practitioner in a busy Internal Medicine Office in Fitchburg since 1994. She has worked behind the scenes for MCNP around the issue of nurse practitioners as primary care providers and the Patient Centered Medical Home Initiative and is proud to be a PCP with Blue Cross, Harvard Pilgrim, Tufts, Fallon, MassHealth and Medicare. You might also recognize her name as the editor of the MARN newsletter (the [MAssachusetts Report on Nursing](#)). **Welcome Myra!**

Question and Answer about the ANCC's NP Certification Examinations: A New Content Format for 2010

Margaret A. Fitzgerald, DNP, FNP-BC, NP-C, FAANP, CSP
 President, Fitzgerald Health Education Associates, Inc.
www.fhea.com peg@fhea.com

Question: I heard that the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) will change the NP certification content in 2010. Do you have information on the new adult, family, acute care and gerontological nurse practitioner ANCC exam format?

Answer: The ANCC recently announced its updated NP board certification examination outline. The change in these exams, effective March 1, 2010, is based on the 2008 NP role delineation study. With each of these exams, the candidate's final score is based on performance on 150 questions; an additional 25 questions are also included as pretest items that are not scored. The American Academy of Nurse Practitioner's family, adult and gerontological NP certification examinations' format is remaining unchanged.

Family Nurse Practitioner content outline for the ANCC's certification examination beginning March 1, 2010

Category	Domains of Practice	No. of Questions	Percent
I	Theoretical Foundations of Advanced Nursing Practice	37	25%
II	Professional Role	23	15%
III	Health Care Policy and Delivery	15	10%
IV	Clinical Assessment	30	20%
V	Clinical Management	45	30%
	Total	150	100

For further information and full examination content outline, please see, <http://www.nursecredentialing.org/Documents/Certification/TestContentOutlines/FamilyNPMar2010.aspx>, accessed 2.20.10.

Adult Nurse Practitioner content outline for the ANCC's certification examination beginning March 1, 2010

Category	Domains of Practice	No. of Questions	Percent
I	Foundations of Advanced Nursing Practice	34	22.67%
II	Professional Role	21	14%
III	Health Care Policy and Delivery	16	10.67%
IV	Health Assessment	34	22.67%
V	Clinical Management	45	30%
	Total	150	100

For further information and full examination content outline, please see: <http://www.nursecredentialing.org/Documents/Certification/TestContentOutlines/AdultNPMar2010.aspx>, accessed 2.20.10.

ANCC Exams from page 10

Acute Care Nurse Practitioner content outline for the ANCC's certification examination beginning March 1, 2010

Category	Domains of Practice	No. of Questions	Percent
I	Nurse Practitioner/Patient Relationship	21	14.30%
II	Assessment and Diagnosis	36	23.60%
III	Clinical Management	51	33.90%
IV	Health Care Delivery	21	14.10%
V	Professional Responsibility	21	14.10%
	Total	150	100

For further information and full examination content outline, please see:

<http://www.nursecredentialing.org/Documents/Certification/TestContentOutlines/AcuteCareNPTCOMar2010.aspx>, 2.20.10.

Gerontological Nurse Practitioner content outline for the ANCC's certification examination beginning March 1, 2010

Category	Domains of Practice	No. of Questions	Percent
I	Foundations of Advanced Nursing Practice	50	33.33%
II	Assessment and Diagnosis	46	30.67%
III	Clinical Management	54	36.00%
	Total	150	100

For further information and full examination content outline, please see:

<http://www.nursecredentialing.org/Documents/Certification/TestContentOutlines/GerontologicalNPMar2010.aspx> accessed 2.20.10. For information about the Fitzgerald Health Education Associates, Inc. NP certification examination review courses, please see www.fhea.com.

MCNP Member Mimi Secor, FNP to Co-Host New XM Radio Program Series for the Advanced Practice Clinician

Congratulations to MCNP Member Mimi Secor, FNP who has been named to co-host a new XM radio program series for the advanced practice clinician, ReachMD XM 160, Partners in Practice.

Secor, an NP with 33 years of clinical experience, is currently practicing at Newton Wellesley ObGyn in Newton. She is one of the founding "mothers" of the MCNP, President Emerita of NPACE, and a nationally recognized consultant on women's health issues providing educational programs to advanced practice clinicians around the country. Mimi will be co-hosting the program with a

physician's assistant and will be focusing on the NP perspective and highlighting their innovative contributions to meeting the increasing demands for healthcare here in the US and worldwide.

Partners in Practice can be accessed at ReachMD on XM Satellite Radio Channel 160 or online WITHOUT a subscription at <http://www.reachmd.com>

For more details about the schedule of radio broadcasts and to listen to the program online (for free) go to <http://www.reachmd.com> and search for Partners in Practice.

Membership Renewals Begin July 1st with an Increase in Dues

Catherine McKinnon
Acting Membership Chair

As we start a new fiscal year on July 1st, we begin our annual MCNP membership renewal drive. This means that **ALL** MCNP memberships expire on June 30th, 2010.

Despite our ongoing efforts to control costs, as per the Treasurer's report, it has become necessary that we raise our dues, with a modest increase from \$75 to \$95 for Full Membership and from \$25 to \$50 for Associate/Student Membership.

Even with the dues increase, compared to other professional organizations, MCNP dues are minimal and member benefits many. Perhaps most importantly, your dues support our legislative agenda and help us address issues that affect NP practice in Massachusetts. Individual benefits include access to important practice related news; job opportunities, educational offerings, and a discounted rate for the annual NE Regional NP Conference held each May. Current members may also be listed in our "real-time"

Member Directory and have the option to be included in our public web-based "Find an NP" search feature.

Renewing online through the MCNP website at <http://www.mcnpweb.org> is simple and only takes a few minutes. The system is fully automated with an integrated database, allowing you to securely pay your dues online with Paypal and then login to update your member information and email preferences. A paper application is also available for download for those still wishing to pay by mail with a check.

Remember, it is only with your economic support and informed legislative voice that we will be able to advance and protect NP practice in Massachusetts.

So please renew your MCNP membership today and encourage your NP colleagues to do the same!

Pediatric Palliative Care at Boston College

Gail Rosenwieg

The William F. Connell School of Nursing at Boston College proudly announces the start of a new program in Pediatric Palliative Care for Advanced Practice Nurses. The overall goal of the program is to prepare Pediatric Nurse Practitioner and Post-Master's Certificate students to prevent or relieve the physical and emotional distress of children living with serious chronic and/or life-threatening illness and their families through assessment and management of pain and other symptoms; provision of clear, culturally sensitive communication, and support in decision-making.

The program includes three didactic courses: 1) Palliative Care 1: Foundations of Life-Threatening Illness, Disease Progression, and Quality of Life, 2) Pediatric Palliative Care II: Pain, Symptoms, and

Suffering in the Child with Life-Threatening Illness, 3) Pediatric Palliative Care III: Palliative Care and the Advanced Practice Nursing Role. Students will also gain clinical experience at some of Boston's leading medical institutions with an emphasis on patient populations and communities that provide services to underserved children and their families. At the completion of the program, students will be eligible to sit for certification (exam under development) as pediatric hospice and palliative advanced practice nurses.

Classes begin in Summer 2010 and continue into Fall 2010 and Spring 2011. Please contact Gracie @ pedipal@bc.edu or 617-552-6283 for more information.

Regional Reports

Pioneer Valley

Jeanne Allen

We had very small response to the modest programs held at local hospitals and health centers, so we are currently on hiatus until we find a way to regroup. Members, please give us some input into what kinds of programs you would come to! (jeanne.allen@hccinc.org)

Special congratulations to Jean Rogers, our **Distinguished Nurse Practitioner** of 2010. We've always known Jean is someone special, and now the rest of the Coalition knows it, too. Please read all about Jean in the article about her award.

Congratulations to Patti Mertes, as well, recipient of the MA Coalition of School-Based Health Centers' 2010 **Outstanding Clinician Award**. Patti received this award at the State House on April 7, for her outstanding commitment & leadership in the model of school-based health care. One of her special projects has been working with students and staff towards non-violent conflict resolution. She is also a frequent member of our brigades to Honduras, and hosted Alan and his mother when he came to the States for heart repair surgery shortly after Hurricane Mitch (see newsletters from 2001). Of course, she learned a lot from Jean!

Have a lovely summer.

Southeastern Massachusetts

Connie Gillett

Things have been quiet, professionally, in our SE Mass Region. Anyone wishing to help revive activity in our area should contact one of the representatives for this region. It would be great to have more involvement and the ability to network with one another. A dinner meeting and lecture is being planned for the Fall in the Fall River area. Watch your email for further information.