The annual ACNN conference, in conjunction with the CNS conference is now upon us! We look forward to meeting with colleagues and learning from the great line up of speakers. The conference will run from October 30, 2013 to November 1, 2013 in Austin, Texas. Check out the agenda on pages 3-4 and the list of poster presentations on page 5 for more details. Hope to see you all there!
Hello ACNN Members!

As we move into the fall final preparations are underway for the annual meeting being held this year in Austin, Texas. We hope that many of you will be able to attend. The nurse’s reception on Tuesday evening will be followed by an all day educational program on Wednesday and luncheon programs on Thursday and Friday.

The topics are diverse and are sure to stimulate each of us to reflect on our past practice and contemplate where we are going. There will be research discussions and case presentations; with plenty of time for networking!

Please try to participate in, or donate to, the 5k Run/Walk fundraiser for the ACNN/CNF Nursing Research Grant which will be held at 4:30PM Thursday.

Finally, I would like thank each of you for allowing me the privilege of serving as your president for the past two years. It was an experience that has been filled with learning. I take great pride in ACNN, its members and our mission.

On to Austin!

Ruth
ACNN 2013 Conference Agenda
October 29 - November 1, 2013

**Tuesday October 29, 2013**
7:00pm-9:00 pm ACNN Welcome Reception (Nurses only)

**Wednesday October 30, 2013**
7:00 am - 8:00 am Registration and Continental Breakfast
8:00 am - 8:15 am Welcome and Introduction
8:15 am - 9:00 am *Janet Brucker Keynote Address: “Transitioning from Pediatric to Adult Health Care: A Journey”*
Rebecca J. Schultz, PhD, RN, CPNP
Baylor College of Medicine, Assistant Professor
Pediatrics and Neurology/Texas Children’s Hospital, Nurse Practitioner, Comprehensive Epilepsy Program
9:00 am - 10:00 am *Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy: Early Diagnosis and Care*
Kathi Kinnet, MSN, CNP
10:00 am - 10:15 am Break
10:15 am - 10:45 am *Myasthenia Gravis: OMG X 3*
Jennifer Boyd RN, MHS, CNN(C)
10:45 am - 11:30 am *Stroke in Children: Now you see it, now you don’t*
Ivanna Yau RN, MN, NP-Peds, CNN (C)
11:30 am - 12:00 pm Awards and Annual Business Meeting
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Lunch and Networking Opportunity
1:00 pm - 1:45 pm *Innovative Practice Award Presentation*
Seizure Safety School- Simple but Significant
Chelsey Stillman, PA-C
1:45 pm - 2:45 pm *Sexual Maturation in Special Needs Female Populations: A “right” of passage*
Jane Lane RN, BSN
2:45 pm – 3:00 pm Break
3:00 pm - 3:30 pm *B6 or Not to B6*
W. Byron Cook MN, PNP
3:30 pm - 4:00 pm *Reflex Epilepsy*
Marian J. Kolodgie MSN, CPNP
4:00 pm - 4:15 pm Wrap up
Thursday October 31, 2013

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm  Lunch

Ketogenic Diet Therapy Pilot Survey Abstract
Julie M. Sprague-McRae MS, RN, PPCNP-BC

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm  Is Intranasal or Buccal Midazolam as Effective as Rectal Diazepam in the Treatment of active Convulsive Seizures in the Pediatric Setting Outside the Hospital?
Ann Morgan MS, RN, CPNP, CPN and Vicki Netzke-Doyle MSN, RN, CPN

4:30 pm  5k Run/walk fundraiser for ACNN/CNF Nursing Research Grant

Friday November 2, 2012

12:00 pm – 12:30 pm Lunch-SIG

Topics to be announced

12:30 pm – 1:00 pm  A Randomized Controlled Trial of the Acceptability, Feasibility, and Preliminary Effects of Cognitive Behavioral Skills Building Intervention in Adolescents with Chronic Daily Headaches
Carolyn Hickman, PhD, RN, CPNP

1:00 pm – 1:30 pm  Improving Headaches Self-management Skills Using Medical Media in Children and Adolescents Age 8-18
Ruth Rosenblum DNP, RN, PNP-BCons
Establishing a Multidisciplinary Pediatric Sports Concussion Clinic

Sue Yudovin RN, MN, CPNP

Is Melatonin an Effective Treatment for Sleep in Children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder?

Vicki Netzke-Doyle, MSN, RN, CPN

B6 or Not to B6

W. Byron Cook, MN, PNP

Standardization of Neurology Nursing Practice: Establishment of a Special Interest Group

Audrey H. Scully, BSN, RN, CPN

Role of APRNs in the Diverse Field of Pediatric Neurology

Kristen Padulsky, RN, MS, CPNP
Medication Adherence in Epilepsy
Patricia Miner, DHSc, RN, PNP-BC

Miner, Patricia Johnson; Alexander, Jeffrey; Ewing, Helen; Gerace, Laina Less
Abstract

ABSTRACT: The purpose of this study was to determine the association between adherence to prescribed antiepileptic medication in a convenience sample of caregivers (n = 100) of children diagnosed with epilepsy, ages 2–14 years, and caregivers’ beliefs about the medication. Using the Beliefs about Medication Questionnaire and Medication Adherence Report Scale, caregivers were questioned about beliefs of necessity and concerns associated with medication adherence. Using bivariate linear regression, no significant correlation was found between necessity for antiepileptic drug treatment or caregiver’s concerns and medication adherence. Nevertheless, although only 28% of the respondents reported complete adherence, the majority of caregivers perceived their child’s medication was necessary to maintain good health. Educational aspects and social desirability in this setting may have contributed to the discordance between adherence and caregivers’ beliefs.
ACNN Committees
Behind the Scenes

The Association of Child Neurology Nurses is governed by a board of directors and functions under seven committees. The association could not exist without the work of these committees; they develop educational programs, communicate with membership and recognize the accomplishments of our talented members. Below is a listing of each committee and chairperson.

Awards Committee   Amy E. Vierhile, Chairperson
Clinical Practice Committee   Ruth K. Rosenblum, Chairperson
Communications Committee   Maria M. Zak, Chairperson
Continuing Education Committee   Karla Gregg, Chairperson
Nominating Committee   Bernice M. Casella, Chairperson
Outreach and Development Committee   Kathleen M. Pawlik, Chairperson
Research Committee   Jean M. Young, Chairperson

The same committee list can be found in the members only section of the ACNN website along with each committee’s terms of reference. Please take some time to review these and contemplate joining one of our working committees. The organization depends upon the commitment of each member.
Keeping Connected
Upcoming Meetings

2013 Child Neurology Society Annual Meeting
Oct 30 - Nov 2, 2013
Austin, TX

Meningitis and Septicaemia in Children and Adults 2013
Nov 5 - Nov 6, 2013
London, UK

American Epilepsy Society Annual Meeting, 2013
Dec 6 - Dec 10, 2013
Washington, DC

British Paediatric Neurology Association Conference 2014
Jan 29 - Jan 31, 2014
Winchester, UK

India Association of Child Neurology 5th Annual Conference 2014
Feb 7 - Feb 9, 2014
Hyderabad, India

18th Annual Children’s Neuroscience Symposium 2014
Mar 9 - Mar 12, 2014
Phoenix, USA

ANN 66th Annual Meeting
April 26 - May 3, 2014
Philadelphia, PA
As members of ACNN, it is important for us to communicate with one another. This is one of the benefits of membership. Let us know about your practice, innovation, an interesting case study, a mentor who has influenced you, your research, your publications, presentations, or a clinical practice change. Please send all submissions to maria.zak@sickkids.ca. The submission deadline for the Winter edition of ACNN Currents is January 3, 2014.