

Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner Care

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Official Newsletter of ARNPs United

June, 2000

Online NP Directory Debuts

by Bob Smithing

The first online NP Directory has made its debut on NP Central. This directory provides a central location for NPs to list their practices so that they can be found by consumers and health professionals who may be trying to locate a nurse practitioner in a specific geographic area, by specialty, or by name.

The directory welcomes NPs of all specialties including CNMs and CRNAs. A one year directory listing, which may be updated online at any time, costs \$12. (It's a bargain! It's \$1 a month or about 6 cents a work day.) You can sign up for this service at www.nurse.net/nps. There is no charge for consumers or others to look up individuals in the directory. Those who list in the directory are being given free access to the new NP only section of NP Central.

If you wish to be listed but do not have access to the Internet please contact NPSS during normal business hours at 253.852.9042. We can take your information over the phone.

Prescriptive Authority Rule Writing Workshop

by Jerri Henry

On June 13th I was one of around 50 NPs to attend the Rule Writing Workshop for Prescriptive Authority held in Tacoma. This was the second of 3 workshops set up by the Department of Health who oversees the process of Rule Writing by the 3 designated Commissions/Board (Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission, Medical Quality Assurance Commission and the Board of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons). The purpose of the workshop format is designed to give the Commission/Board representatives input as they gather information to draft the Joint Practice Arrangement the bill mandated between the ARNP/MD or DO for prescribing Schedule II-IV Substances. The 3-hour informal workshop focused on the definition of collaboration between ARNP and physician and what a Joint Practice Arrangement (JPA) would look like. The issue of liability was also of concern to several of the physicians present. Overall, I felt the meeting was productive and the general feeling one of cooperation despite the wide range of opinions represented. Specific views of importance to NPs such as maintaining independent clinical judgement and simplicity of the JPA were clearly heard by all. The next workshop is Wednesday, July 12, 2000 at 6:00PM at Heathman Lodge, 7801 N.E. Greenwood Drive, Vancouver, WA 98662. Please refer to this web site for more information and for a summary of the workshop: www.doh.wa.gov/nursing/default.htm or email me at jlhenry@jps.net.

Completion of ARNP Prescriptive Authority

On March 22, 2000, Governor Locke signed Substitute Senate Bill 5805—Completing Prescriptive Authority for Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners (ARNPs). This new legislation completes prescriptive authority for ARNPs by adding Schedule II-IV drugs to existing prescriptive authority for Schedule V and legend drugs. This bill allows ARNPs to prescribe Schedule II-IV within their specific scope of practice, if they have a joint practice arrangement with an osteopathic or allopathic physician, and if the arrangement is consistent with the process and criteria set in rule.

Rules to describe joint practice must be developed and adopted by the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission, Medical Quality Assurance Commission, and the Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery. The rules will set the process and criteria for approved joint practice arrangements. Reaching consensus on the rules for the joint practice arrangements is one of the requirements of expanded prescriptive authority.

The Department of Health, including Commissions and Boards, uses a 5-stage process for writing significant rules.

- ☐ Formal notice that rules writing has begun is sent to constituents and published in the Washington State Register (WSR)
- ☐ Workshops are held to gather public input
- ☐ Draft rules and analyses are sent out and published in the WSR
- ☐ A public hearing to allow formal testimony on the rules is held
- ☐ Final rules are sent out and published in the WSR

While this process allows for substantial public involvement, it is expected to take approximately 10 months.

To read the complete text of SSB 5805, go to <http://www.leg.wa.gov/wsladm/bills.htm>, click on Senate bills, then click on 5805. If you would like to be added to the mailing list for the rule writing process, please send your name and address to:

ARNP Prescriptive Authority Project
Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission
P.O. Box 47864
Olympia, WA 98504-7864
or email terry.west@doh.wa.gov.

(Reprinted from The Nursing Commission Newsletter, Vol. 6, No. 1 (Spring 2000), pg. 10.)

You can also contact Terry West via fax at 360.236.4738
Attn: Terry West, or call: 360.236.4712.

Welcome to the newest ARNPs United Affiliate

On behalf of the Board of Directors of ARNPs United we would like to welcome our new affiliate - *The Nurse Practitioner Group of Spokane* (NPGS). Their generous donation of \$1000 will be directly used to support our legislative efforts. NPGS is lead by President Babette Hess, ARNP. Their Legislative liaison is Jim Pittman, ARNP. We look forward to working with NPGS to ensure strong representation from Eastern Washington.

ARNPs Annual Meeting

This is an open invitation for all ARNPs to attend our annual meeting. It will be held on Thursday, September 28, 2000 from noon until 1:00pm (lunch not included) at the Washington State Convention Center in conjunction with the annual NP Primary Care Conference. Please come even if you are not attending the conference. We have changed the time to accommodate your request for a noon format. Our lobbyist Jerry Farley will once again be our featured speaker as we discuss the exciting Legislative successes of the past year and look ahead to the 2001 Legislative session. Also plan to stop by the ARNPs United booth at the conference and participate in our 2nd annual Raffle. **See you there!**

Update on Death Certificate Bill

by Jerri Henry

An unexpected development occurred as the Dept. of Health has determined rules need to be written to implement SB 5739- our bill which was signed into law in March 2000 giving ARNPs the legal authority to sign death certificates. The announcement of rule writing specifics is pending. Therefore at this time ARNPs **are not to sign death certificates** until a final rule has been written and accepted. I will keep you updated as information is released.

Hearing on NPs Signing Parking Permits

by Deborah Wheeler, ARNP

Dear Colleagues,

Nurse Practitioners in Washington State lost the ability to sign disabled parking permits in October of 1999. The opportunity for us to regain that privilege is at hand. Please call the Legislative Hotline at 800.562.6000 and verbalize your objections. Have your patients and others who support your practice call as well. Make sure copies of your complaint are filed with your district legislators and Fred Stephens, Director of the Department of Licensing.

Those who support our removal have set up meetings in the State which have been poorly attended because we were not well informed about this issue. There is a hearing in Olympia on June 28 at 10:00 a.m. at the Highway Licensing Building. We need to pack that room. I plan to attend and would welcome e-mail from

you for pointers on how to prepare a strong argument at deborah.wheeler@vmmc.org.

Diabetes Treatment by Islet Transplantation

In an early release article the NEJM published an original article on the successful treatment of diabetes through islet transplantation. A series of seven patients was studied. The authors stated that "Our observations in patients with type 1 diabetes indicate that islet transplantation can result in insulin independence with excellent metabolic control when glucocorticoid-free immunosuppression is combined with the infusion of an adequate islet mass."

From: A.M. James Shapiro et al. Islet Transplantation in Seven Patients with Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus Using a Glucocorticoid-free Immunosuppressive Regimen. NEJM, [early article release] June 6, 2000. <http://www.nejm.org/content/shapiro/1.asp>

Targeted Tuberculin Testing and Treatment of Latent Infection

This document provides new recommendations for targeted tuberculin testing and treatment regimens for persons with latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI) and updates previously published guidelines.

Isoniazid for 6-12 mo. has been the mainstay of treatment for LTBI in the United States for more than 30 yr. However, the application of isoniazid for LTBI has been limited because of poor adherence, due to the relatively long duration of treatment required, and because of concerns about toxicity.

Based on the sensitivity and specificity of the purified protein derivative (PPD) tuberculin skin test and the prevalence of TB in different groups, three cut-points have been recommended for defining a positive tuberculin reaction: >5 mm, >10 mm, and >15 mm of induration.

Before beginning treatment of LTBI, active TB should be ruled out by history, physical examination, chest radiography, and, when indicated, bacteriologic studies. Several treatment approaches are discussed.

From: Targeted Tuberculin Testing and Treatment of Latent Tuberculosis Infection. MMWR, 49(RR06):1-54. June 09, 2000. <http://www.cdc.gov/epo/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr4906a1.htm>

Concern About Botanical Products Containing Aristolochic Acid

from MedWatch

The FDA is concerned about botanical-containing products known or suspected of containing aristolochic acid and will be pursuing appropriate regulatory actions regarding these products. Some of these botanicals include: *Aristolochia* spp., *Asarum* spp., *Bragantia* spp., *Stephania* spp., *Clematis* spp., *Akebia* spp., *Cocculus* spp., *Diploclisia* spp., *Menispermum* spp., *Sinomenium* spp., Mu tong, Fang ji, Guang fang ji, Fang chi, Kan-Mokutsu (Japanese), and Mokutsu (Japanese). In addition, practitioners who prescribe botanical remedies are urged to discard any products with the above listed ingredients.

For a more complete list of botanicals, Chinese names, and common names, see

<http://vm.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/ds-bot2.html>

The term *Aristolochia* species (spp.) refers to several botanical species most often found in traditional Chinese medicines. Cases of nephropathy and end-stage renal disease associated with their use have been reported in the medical literature; in some instances, dialysis or transplant was necessary. Moreover, because of the similarity of Chinese names for several herbs and because of the Chinese tradition of interchangeability of similarly named herbs, there is a great propensity for many innocuous herbs to be inadvertently substituted with *Aristolochia* spp. not only in traditional medicines but also in dietary supplements.

Complete FDA Letter to Health Professionals
<http://vm.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/ds-botl2.html>

Classified Ads

Family Nurse Practitioner

Full-time position for experienced FNPs. Work in a developing network of NP managed practices. If you are an entrepreneurial NP with at least three years of experience, great clinical skills, as well as leadership and management ability, you fit the profile for a successful director of your own practice. NPs with fewer years of experience will be considered for positions in clinics once they are established. We are currently looking for NPs for clinics in Tacoma and Seattle WA as well as MD and FL. Competitive salary and benefits, profit sharing for practice directors. Send CV to Bob Smithing, ARNP via email to nplclinics@nurse.net or via fax to 801.640.4744.

Nurse Practitioner Needed for Pulmonary Practice

NP full-time position available at Pulmonary Consultants, an 8-physician, one-NP office clinic for adults only in Tacoma, WA. Pulmonary, ICU, or ER experience preferred. Must have prescriptive authority. Salary and benefits are negotiable. Fax resume to: 253.272.0419, Attn: K. Dorr.

Cross Cultural Mental Health in Beautiful Southeast Alaska

We seek a highly skilled Physicians Assistant or Nurse Practitioner to become an integral part of our highly dynamic and passionate mental health team. Our department offers full spectrum mental health treatment primarily to the Tlinget, Haida, and Tsimpsian Alaska native people. We seek a motivated clinician to provide clinical mental health medical work while providing administrative duties in the outpatient mental health department. Our clinic goal is to implement an effective rural mental health model that bridges the gap between hospital based and community mental health care services.

We are a leading, well-established JCAHO and CARF-accredited Alaskan Native Health Consortium located amid the natural beauty of Southeast Alaska, in the town of Sitka. We live in a temperate rain forest along the Pacific shores of Baranof Island. Surrounding snow-capped mountains and pristine lakes, rivers, and hiking trails afford unsurpassable recreation opportunities.

We are especially interested in recruiting an individual with extensive mental health experience. Past work with Native Americans and/or other indigenous peoples is a plus. Demonstrated experience in working collaboratively with psychiatrists and other mental health clinicians is desired. The successful applicant must have excellent communications skills, be able to work independently in challenging situations, and enjoy being part of a close knit team of highly motivated health care professionals.

Requirements include two years mental health clinical work at the P.A. or ANP level (or four years clinical family Midlevel work), one

year experience successfully managing clinical programs, and Alaska State license. The South East Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC) offers a generous salary and benefit package, paid vacation and education leave, and relocation assistance. Applications can be downloaded from the SEARHC website, www.searhc.org. Send application and resume to Attn: Karen Melville, SEARHC Human Resources, 222 Tongass Dr., Sitka, AK 99835. FAX 907.966.8527, Phone 907.966.8403.

Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner

Wenatchee Valley Clinic in North Central Washington State. Seeking solution-oriented certified specialist ARNP with prescriptive authority for out-patient practice. Work alongside primary care and specialty physician owners of comprehensive multi-specialty group. Integrated system with full records, transcription, reception, and nursing support. Production-based salary with initial income guarantee, excellent benefits and retirement. Family-oriented community of 60k. Fabulous sunny climate in 4-season environment with recreation-rich mountains, rivers & lakes. Learn more at: www.wvclinic.com/employment/physician.asp. Fax CV to 509.664.7178.

Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner

Compass Health, a large community mental health center in Snohomish County, seeks a part-time experienced adult psychiatric nurse practitioner. Flexible hours. Call Barb Ellingsen 425.349.8384 for details.

NP Practice Space Available

Office space available in downtown Seattle. Lovely office located in the Medical Dental Building. Very reasonable rent. Great building for referrals. A must see. Looking for one motivated and dedicated health care practitioner to complete our great office. Please contact Stephanie Gianarelli, L.Ac at 206.332.0868 or email at Gianarelli@aol.com.

Continuing Education

Reproductive Health 2000:

A Clinical Update on Women, Men, and Families

September 13-16, 2000, Swissotel Chicago, Illinois. The Association of Reproductive Health Professionals (ARHP) will host its annual meeting, Reproductive Health 2000, September 13-16, 2000 in Chicago, Illinois. This CME conference is designed for primary care physicians, nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, registered nurses, pharmacists, physician assistants, researchers, public health professionals, and health educators. It is being sponsored with AVSC International, National Abortion Federation (NAF), Planned Parenthood® Federation of America (PPFA), and National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health (NPWH). Two concurrent pre-conferences, Men's Reproductive Health and Women's Health in the Perimenopause will be held September 13th. Men's Health will feature sessions on reversible male contraception, no-scalpel vasectomy, and testicular self-exams. Women's Health in the Perimenopause will offer sessions on osteoporosis, alternative therapies, and mature sexuality. The general educational sessions will take place September 13th-16th and will feature didactic lectures with question and answer sessions immediately following. Lecture topics will include STDs, abortion, contraception, domestic violence, and much more. Program information is available on ARHP's web site at www.arhp.org. Please contact ARHP to receive a printed program, exhibit information, or for any other additional information. Association of Reproductive Health Professionals (ARHP), 2401 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Suite 350, Washington DC, 20037-1718, phone: 202.466.3825, fax: 202.466.3826, e-mail: conferences@arhp.org, web site: www.arhp.org.

Professional Certificate in Spirituality, Health and Medicine

Learn how to integrate spirituality more fully into your life, work and practice while making new friends/colleagues from a variety of disciplines, through Bastyr University's Professional Certificate Program in Spirituality, Health and Medicine. The program is 24 graduate credits; classes meet Sat.-Sun. once a month from Sept.-June with two Fri-Sun weekends (Sept. & June.) Study the connection between spirit and health; principles of mind/body medicine; the power of prayer and meditation; and much more. A graduate of this year

writes "I would recommend this program to anybody who is looking to integrate the spiritual dimension into professional life." For full brochure call 425.602.3307. Applications are due August 4. Program starts Sept. 16-17, 2000.

Ad Information

Copy deadline is the second Tuesday of the month prior to publication. Ads may be accepted later than this on a space-available basis. Position Available Ads & Continuing Education Announcements of less than 66 words are \$45, of 66 to 130 words are \$75, and greater than 130 words are \$105. Position Available Ads are priced per insertion. Continuing Education Announcements are per offering for up to three (3) consecutive insertions. New Product Announcements per product for one insertion of 130 words or less are \$75. Ad Inserts are \$540 for one issue. All ads are subject to space limitations and editing. Call for detailed rate information. Mail copy to *ARNP Care*, 212 Railroad Ave N, Kent, WA 98032. Phone 253.852.9042. Fax 253.480.0002. Email care@nurse.net

Healthy Humor: I was performing a complete physical, including the visual acuity test. I placed the patient twenty feet from the chart and began, "Cover your right eye with your hand." He read the 20/20 line perfectly. "Now your left." Again, a flawless read. "Now both," I

requested. There was silence. He couldn't even read the large E on the top line. I turned and discovered that he had done exactly what I had asked; he was standing there with both his eyes covered. I was laughing too hard to finish the exam.

From a posting on NPinfo.

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