

Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner Care

Vol. 12, No. 6

Official Newsletter of ARNPs United of Washington State

June 2001

Prescriptive Authority Final Rules Adopted!!

by Jerri Henry

Yes, it's true! We can all celebrate this huge step forward for NPs in Washington State!! On June 13th at the final public Rule Hearing, the Nursing Commission together with the Medical Commission and Board of Osteopathy unanimously agreed to adopt the final rules allowing NPs to independently write prescriptions for Controlled Substances II-IV under a Joint Practice Agreement with a MD/DO. The meeting was well attended by NPs who supported their colleagues from the Rule Writing Coalition, who were present and read a prepared statement to the Commissions/Board strongly supporting finalization of this process. Underlying concerns that a last minute effort by WSMA to thwart the process did not occur. Please be aware that the new Rule will become effective on approximately August 1, 2001 -then the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) must review and dedicate time to incorporate the new Rule—which will take until approximately October 1, 2001... I know this means waiting a bit longer but it will be worth the wait! At least now we can divert our energies into the next phase of this process. In order to start prescribing Schedule II-IV you must complete several required steps. These steps include completion of a Joint Practice Agreement which is submitted together with an application to the Nursing Commission after 8/1/01. All the information you need to complete this process is available on the Department of Health's Website at www.doh.wa.gov/nursing/rules.htm—which includes a sample Joint Practice Agreement. The next step is to submit a separate application to the DEA after 9/1/01 in order to obtain an updated license allowing for the new Controlled Substances. See the DEA web site at www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov. Thanks to all the NPs over the last 12 years who have dedicated their time and talents toward making this piece of legislation a reality... and to nursing leaders at WSNA who were vital members of the Rule Writing Coalition and acted as liaisons to the Nursing Commission. We can all feel a sense of accomplishment that commitment to a goal in the face of large obstacles has finally brought success!

June Update from the National NP Marketing Campaign

by Westley Byrne

The NPNMC has reached and just peeked over the \$100,000 mark toward the goal of \$120,000. In individual contributions, which represent the heart of the Campaign, only 7 states are still missing. Please check out the Contributor Page at the NP Central

website for the Campaign (www.nurse.net/mc) to see this impressive and growing list.

NPNMC's volunteer NP board has noted that clusters of contributions seem to follow the appearance of Campaign news in NP publications. We are deeply grateful to these corporate backers of our efforts to spread the word. In particular, the editors and writers at **Advance for NPs, NP Communications Publications, Springhouse Co.**, and web-based **NP Support Services**, led by one of our founders and major NP web guru Bob Smithing, have done more than they can possibly know to raise NP awareness of the Campaign and broaden support for it. We acknowledge them as Corporate Sponsors on the website Contributor Page, realizing that doing so doesn't begin to tell the story of their value to all NPs in keeping us up-to-date, well informed, and peer connected.

The NPNMC is very pleased to report progress on several fronts this month. Flushed with success in persuading Salary.com to correctly represent the NP profession at its website, Campaign board members turned to New York City Planned Parenthood, which was recruiting in the New York Times for women's health NPs and CNMs. To our request that the NYCP not describe NPs and CNMs as "mid-level" clinicians, the organization responded immediately, not only extolling NPs and CNMs as "the lifeblood of its services" but also pledging to expunge the inaccurate term from all of its communications, oral as well as written.

Progress with MSI, our dedicated media relations firm, has been equally positive. MSI principals participated this month in a series of "Day in the Life..." experiences with NPs from a variety of practice specialties, getting an "in-the-trenches" feel for how the firm can best use its skills to help us advance the NP profession. That eye-opener, added to work already in progress, has led to creation of a News Release and Overview that MSI is distributing to major news media throughout the country. Included with the distribution is an invitation to the editors and targeted writers at these publications to request the full Media Kit that MSI has put together to promote NP practice and to follow with placement of articles, editorials and opinion columns on NP-delivered health care.

Additionally, MSI has successfully negotiated NP interviews with a major managed care journal which will be published in August. We'll have more on that in next month's update.

Lastly for now, MSI has secured the generous contribution of an op-ed column on NPs by a well-known health economist and futurist who is highly regarded across the spectrum of the health professions. MSI

currently is working to place this piece for publication in targeted market areas.

Next up: putting some of the outstanding NP stories received from around the country into a coherent whole for articles that can be placed both in the general media and in market-specific publications...distribution to Speakers Bureau members of a media How-To Kit... and design of a media coaching session for them.

The NNPMC website is at www.nurse.net/mc. We're making a difference! If you've not had a chance to do so, send your check for \$25, \$50 or \$100 today. Mail it to the NP National Marketing Campaign, P.O. Box 1375, Water Mill, NY 11976. Our professional future depends on it!

AUWS Plans for Growth

by Kimberly Couret

ARNPs United of Washington State has just approved the writing of a business plan for the organization. The business plan will summarize what ARNPs United of Washington State (AUWS) hopes to accomplish by being in business and how they intend to organize their resources to meet their goals. It will serve as a road map for the future and also as a means of measuring progress along the way.

To accomplish this plan the ARNPs United of Washington State board of directors will examine the history of the organization, its major milestones, prior finances, and marketing for the organization. The business plan will consist of a complete synopsis of every facet of the organization. When complete, this business plan will identify AUWS' goals and strategies for the next three to five years. These strategies will include how to increase our membership and satisfy the desires of our current stakeholders and members. By committing their plans to paper, the overall ability of AUWS to manage their non-profit organization will improve, and they will be able to concentrate their efforts on expansion of membership and services we offer to the Nurse Practitioner community. Using this plan, the board of directors will have time to look ahead and avoid problems before they arise. By examining all areas of our organization and asking for stakeholder feedback, ARNPs United of Washington State will create a plan that will help the organization to maintain its viability and growth in the years to come. The ARNPs United of Washington State business plan will be completed by December 8, 2001.

In the next few weeks a stakeholder survey will be sent out by letter or email to all members of ARNPs United. This survey will help AUWS determine what you as our stakeholders find to be our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. When you receive the survey if you could **please take a few minutes to fill it out and send it back**. Your participation in this survey

will help determine the direction of the organization in upcoming years.

If you have any suggestions, thoughts, or questions regarding the business plan, please feel free to contact Kimberly Couret at 253.480.1035

AUWS Legislative Committee NEEDS YOU!

by Jerri Henry

Have you always wanted to be an active member of ARNPs United of Washington State's Legislative Committee? Are you excited about the accomplishments that the Legislative Committee has accomplished in the past 2 years by passing four new bills into law? Want to be a part of this process learning how you can make the legislature work for you and your practice? With the close of the regular legislative session, we are now in the "off-session" and are seeking new members for the committee. During the summer and fall we will meet approximately every 2-3 months and have monthly phone conferences to strategize our platform for next year's legislative session. We will also begin the process of meeting with opponents to our L&I bill to gain ground on the issues blocking us from getting this bill passed within the next 2 years. Stop for a minute and consider dedicating a couple of hours every month to such a worthwhile endeavor. Due to the hard work of our Lobbyist Jerry Farley, we now have a track record of accomplishment and have elevated ourselves in the eyes of our legislators. This is an exciting time to get involved and work with your colleagues to continue our forward movement toward breaking additional barriers to NP practice. Please call or write to me to sign up by July 15th at 206.534.2621 or jlhenry5@home.com.

First Round of AUWS Educational Programs a Success

by Jerri Henry

Thanks to all the NPs who attended our organizations' first evening educational programs. Three free dinner programs awarding CEUs were held in Everett, Renton, and Spokane earlier this month. The talk by Carla Hellekson, MD, a sleep specialist from PacMed was entitled New Faces of Insomnia. The talk was timely as it included prescribing information on Controlled Substances in the Sedative/Hypnotic and Benzodiazepam drug classes. I appreciated the opportunity to address the groups in Renton and Spokane and meet many of you from around the State. ARNPs United of Washington State is dedicated to its mission statement in preparing other excellent educational opportunities for its members and other interested NPs. Look for upcoming information on a program to be held in August which will again highlight Controlled Substances as we prepare for independent prescribing of these medications this fall.

New Guidelines for Treatment of Cutaneous Melanoma

The American Academy of Dermatology has just released new guidelines for the primary treatment of cutaneous melanoma. Below is the section on biopsy technique for suspect lesions:

- ☐ Whenever possible excise the lesion with narrow margins for diagnostic purposes.
- ☐ An incisional biopsy technique is appropriate when the suspicion for melanoma is low, the lesion is large, or when it is impractical to perform an excision.
- ☐ Perform a repeat biopsy if the initial biopsy specimen is inadequate for accurate histologic diagnosis or staging.
- ☐ Fine needle aspiration cytology should not be used to assess the primary tumor.
- ☐ Histologic interpretation should be performed by a physician experienced in the microscopic diagnosis of pigmented lesions.

Except for the last statement, all the statements were a unanimous Task Force opinion.

For more information go to:

http://www.guideline.gov/FRAMESETS/guideline_fs.asp?guideline=1967

Wanted
1200 NPs to Support
the
National NP Marketing Campaign!

Donate \$100 Today

Send Your Donation To:

PO Box 1375

Water Mill, NY 11976.

Get more information at www.nurse.net/mc

Classified Ads

Family Nurse Practitioner for Seattle

A new solo Family Practice in Pioneer Square, Seattle, Washington is looking for a Family Nurse Practitioner to oversee the clinic opening & ongoing operation. No physician on-site. Candidates must have 3+ yrs of experience as a NP in a primary care setting, a Masters Degree, and prescribing privileges/DEA#. The successful candidate will enjoy spending some time with clinic marketing and administration, as well as providing high quality patient care. Full time, M-F. Competitive salary & benefits package.

Fax, email, or mail resume to: Maddy Wiley, ARNP, FamilyCare of Kent, 10024 SE 240th Pl SE, Suite 201, Kent, WA 98031, Fax: 253.850.8894 Email: mwiley@nurse.net.

Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner

Stafford Creek Corrections Center at Aberdeen, WA (near Olympia, WA), seeks a Correctional Health Care Specialist - Mental Health with prescriptive authority. (Recruitment #: SCCC-4-2001-OC-LL). The position requires a valid Washington State license to practice as a Registered Nurse AND current certification from an approved national certification program verifying completion of an advanced formal education program in mental health, and possession of a current designation as an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner with prescriptive authority in the State of Washington.

Stafford Creek Corrections Center's Mental Health Unit provides a full spectrum of psychological services to 1,900-2,000 adult (18-90+ years old) male inmates and offers the opportunity to learn neuropsychological evaluating as well as the latest risk assessment techniques.

The salary range (62) is \$3,968-\$5,078 per month plus a generous benefits package (paid vacation, medical and dental insurance, sick leave, etc.). The Washington State Department of Corrections is an EOE. Interested persons should go to the website www.wa.gov/doc to download the job application.

Please send completed Washington State application to: Stafford Creek Corrections Center, Attn: Human Resource Office, 191 Constantine Way, Aberdeen, WA 98520. For additional information and job announcement you may call Angela at (360) 537-2202.

Unexpected Opening for ARNP or PA

Outpatient specialty practice of Rheumatology with two well-established Rheumatologists Dr. Robert Ettlinger and Dr. George Krick in Tacoma, WA. Evaluate, treat and follow your own patients, 4-5 days a week. Nursing support, X-ray, and Dexa in office.

Competitive salary depending on experience. On-job training, friendly supportive atmosphere, excellent hours and benefits. No call, holidays or weekends! Call 253.272.2261 or 253.572.3520, fax 253.627.9842 or email: REttlinger@Juno.com.

ARNP Needed in Clallam County

Clallam County Hospital District No. 1 is located in the NW corner of Olympic National Park and is close to the ocean, high country, hiking, fishing and hunting, and many in the community are active in the arts. We are seeking a Family Practice ARNP to work with two Family Practitioners (MDs) in our medical clinic. Prefer 3 years experience. We offer an excellent benefits package including paid malpractice and liberal paid leave. Please send CV to: Forks Community Hospital, 530 Bogachiel Way, Forks WA 98331. Phone (360)374-6271. Fax: (360)374-5220. www.forkshospital.org.

ARNPs Bellingham to Tacoma Wanted

The Lantern Group, Inc. provides comprehensive mental health services to skilled nursing facilities. Hiring ARNPs with psychiatric medication expertise for geriatric population, one day per week. Programs are in place with signed orders and consents. Medicare B, Medicaid, and Secondary insurance billings provided. Call Dr. Bruce Lexa at (206) LANTERN (526-8376).

Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner

Wanted for immediate opening at Sammamish Valley Psychological Services, PS., an established, highly collegial multidisciplinary behavioral health group practice with offices in Redmond and Woodinville. Group provides referrals, MCO contracts, billing, office staff, furnished office, voice mail/pager. Needs broad clinical skills in assessment, medication, and psychotherapy. Independent prescribing experience required. Must work well with managed care. Call Gregg Schimmel, Ph.D. (425) 883-2623 x23. Fax Vita (425) 883-6241.

Neurosurgery Practice Needs NPs

Washington: Tacoma, Puyallup, Federal Way - Rapidly expanding neurosurgery practice seeks an ARNP for clinical and hospital responsibilities. Benefits include bonus incentive, medical and dental insurance, vacation, continuing education and a 401K plan. Training will be provided. **Requirements:** Licensed as an ARNP in Washington State with prescriptive authority. Eligible for hospital privileges.

Please contact: Neurosurgical Consultants of Washington, Inc, PS, South Sound Neurosurgery Care Center, 1802 S. Yakima Ave., Suite 306, Tacoma, WA 98045 253.209.1075

Medical Staff: A NP's cane
Morbid: A higher offer than I bid.
Nitrates: Cheaper than day rates.
Node: I knew it.
Outpatient: A person who has fainted.
Post-Operative: A letter carrier.

CE Announcements

July 27, 28 and November 16, Optimizing Clinical Benefits with Hepatitis C Therapy, Seattle, Washington
Announcing a FREE Continuing Education Series for Registered Nurses, Nurse Practitioners, and Physician Assistants in Seattle, Washington on July 27, July 28, and November 16. Program Focus: Optimizing Clinical Benefits with Hepatitis C Therapy. For a complete listing of program locations, dates, and online registration information, please contact us at: www.AdvancMed.org or contact us at 1-800-396-9577. Nursing Participants will receive 4.0 CE contact hours. Physician Assistant Participants will receive 3.5 CME contact hours

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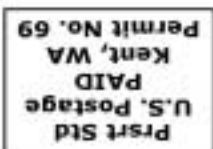
Ad Information

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*, 10024 SE 240th St, #102, Kent, WA 98031. Phone 253.852.9042. Fax 253.480.0002. Email care@nurse.net

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Healthy Humor

More Definitions from the Medical Dictionary
Impotent: Distinguished, well known.
Labor Pain: Getting hurt at work.



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