

Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner Care

Vol. 14, No. 5

Official Newsletter of ARNPs United of Washington State

June 2003

Support Bill Keeping ARNPs as PCPs for Medicaid Plans

by Marty Couret

Call your US Representative and let them know that you want them to support and co-sign HB 2295. This bill was introduced on June 3, would eliminate the option that state Medicaid plans currently have of denying ARNPs as primary care case managers.

Washington State allows NPs to be PCPs of Medicaid patients, but that system could change quite easily. Below is more information provided by the ANA.

The Medicaid Nursing Incentive Act of 2003 would restore a previous federal mandate to cover the primary care services of pediatric nurse practitioners, family nurse practitioners and certified nurse midwives. This mandate was eliminated by the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, which encouraged states to move Medicaid recipients into managed care but excluded APRNs as participants. The bill also proposes to expand Medicaid fee-for-service coverage to include direct reimbursement for all nurse practitioners and clinical nurse specialists (instead of only the family practitioners, pediatric practitioners and midwives who are currently covered). In addition, Medicaid managed care panels would be required to recognize the specialized services of select APRNs - such as the pain management services provided by nurse anesthetists and mental health services provided by clinical nurse specialists - thus clarifying the scope of providers required by managed care plans to specifically include APRNs.

For a letter to send to your representative, go to the legislative section of our website: www.nurse.org/wa/au.

ARNP Survey – Please Participate

by Louise Kaplan

We need your help! By now, all ARNPs licensed in Washington at the end of 2002 should have received a survey questionnaire from Marie-Annette Brown and Louise Kaplan. This survey is the second part of a study to compare prescribing barriers to practice before and after implementation of the law that allows ARNPs to prescribe Schedule II-IV drugs if they have a joint practice agreement with a physician.

NPs were sent a questionnaire based on whether or not they had obtained Schedule II-IV prescriptive authority. CRNAs received a survey that collects workforce information only. If you have already responded to the survey – Thank You! If you have not responded, please help us – and all Washington ARNPs – by responding as soon as possible. Your participation will allow us to un-

derstand whether or not the new law eliminated prescribing barriers to practice or if it created new ones.

Speaking With One Voice

There are over 3000 Nurse Practitioners spread across Washington in a variety of specialties. So it is not surprising that there are many Nurse Practitioner organizations. As the state Nurse Practitioner organization, AU worked collaboratively with many local nurse practitioner groups and state nursing organizations to get the word out about key nursing bills in the legislature. ARNPs United of Washington State would like to thank WSN, SNOW, AAPPN, PSNPA, AENP, NPGS, Bellingham Nurse Practitioner Group, Local NAPNAP, Local ACNM, and Local AANA for their assistance this legislative year

Update on H.R. 1119 the Family Time Flexibility Act

On Thursday, June 5, the U.S. House Republican leadership withdrew H.R. 1119 from Thursday's floor agenda because they lacked the votes to pass the bill. This bill would have allowed employers to substitute compensatory time off for time-and-a-half overtime pay.

The bill was withdrawn after intense lobbying efforts from union and labor organizations. The ANA sent a letter to every Member of Congress and also urged its members to contact their Representatives to urge them to vote against H.R. 1119. To date there is no word if and when this bill will be brought up for a vote. Thank you to all of you who called and supported your nurse colleagues.

Save The Date!

by Marty Couret

This year I had the honor of representing Washington State at the ACNP National Nurse Practitioner Symposium in Washington D.C. Washington Nurse Practitioners were well represented by former president Ed Gruber, Phyllis Zimmer, and Fiona Shannon. At this symposium, 300 Nurse Practitioners helped choose the national agenda of the ACNP. High on that agenda was Medicare and Medicaid. We were given the tools by the pro's and then set loose on the Hill. Fortunately, being a national politics novice, I was able to take Ed Gruber to all of my meetings. We were fortunate enough to speak to Patty Murray, Maria Cantwell and Jim McDermott's health legislative assistants. Together we were able to present our issues and provided a little NP education along the way. Other highlights included meeting Loretta Ford, the mother of our profession and Barbara Blakeney the first Nurse Practitioner to be president of the ANA. I have every intention on returning in Feb 7-

10, 2004. If you are interested in attending contact Kimberly at kim@acnpweb.org.

L&I to Back Pay ARNPs for Supplies

For years Labor and Industries has been paying 90% of the physician fee to Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants. However, this has extended beyond services to include professional items. Supplies such as crutches and drugs should have been reimbursed at 100%. The Department of Labor and Industries will take approximately six months to fix the system, and at that time they will adjust for all bills over the last three years.

They also plan on collecting back any overpayments made to ARNPs & PAs at the same time.

Nursing Career Night with the Seattle Storm!

Mark Your Calendars and don't miss this event! The Washington State Nurses and the Seattle Storm are excited to announce a new partnership in a joint effort to promote health, nursing careers and women's professional basketball. WSNA and the Storm are hosting a special "Nursing Careers Night" on August 8th before the Storm take on the Minnesota Lynx at the Key Arena in Seattle. As part of this special night all students interested in the nursing profession, along with their family and friends, are invited to the game. From 5:00-6:00 pm, the Key Arena court will be dedicated to nurses and those interested in finding out more about nursing as a career. The pre-event will feature speakers who will talk about the impact of nursing and why young people should choose a career in the field. Tickets regularly priced at \$23 and \$18 are available for \$16 and \$12, and entrance to the pre-game nursing event is included. All seats will be in the lower bowl of the Key Arena and all have a great view of the action on court. Game time is 7:00 pm. Come join the fun! To order tickets at these reduced rates, contact Amy Burdick at (206) 272-2606 and tell her you want to order tickets for the "Nursing Career Night — August 8th.

15 Minute Yearly Commitment to Your Profession

by Marty Couret

According to my phone records it only took me one minute to call one of my legislators this year. Therefore, it should only take you three minutes to call your two Representatives and one Senator. It may be necessary to call them several times as a bill progresses through the legislative process. Not that your legislators are forgetful, however, sometimes they need gentle reminders about bills that involve ARNPs. While this newsletter is a great way to communicate with over 3,000 ARNPs in Washington, it is too slow a media to keep up with the rapid changes in Olympia. For that reason we have created an email listserv au-leg@nurse.org to notify ARNPs

when to contact their legislators. Send an email to Marty Couret at au-legch@nurse.net to get added to that list. Many voices heard are better than a few.

ARNP Care Comes Once a Month

by Marty Couret

If you want to receive ARNP Care once a month you have to become a member of ARNPs United. If you only get Care once a quarter, you are missing out on legislative updates, continuing education programs, and job opportunities. Seventy five percent of your dues go directly to paying our lobbyist down in Olympia. So join up, support your profession, get involved and keep informed.

Go to our Website and print an application:
www.nurse.org/wa/au

Classified Ads

FNP

Part-Time/Full-Time position available in our Port Angeles Office. We are a family practice office with six Physicians and two Nurse Practitioners. Great opportunity for the right person. For further details contact Charlene Ringius at 360.452.7891. You may send a cover letter and resume to: Family Medicine of Port Angeles, 303 W 8th St., Port Angeles, WA 98362.

ARNP Positions in Kennewick, McKenna

The Lantern Group Inc. provides comprehensive mental health services to skilled nursing facilities. Recruiting ARNPs with psychiatric medication expertise for geriatric population at Nisqually Valley Care Center in McKenna and Life Care Center of Kennewick. Approximately one day per week, flexible with your schedule. You consult and make recommendations; the attending physician writes the orders. MedicareB, Medicaid, and Secondary insurance billings provided. Please call Dr. Bruce Leksa at 206.LANTERN (526.8376).

Family Nurse Practitioner Tacoma, WA

A new solo NP based family practice in Tacoma, Washington is looking for a Family Nurse Practitioner. Ideal candidate will have 3+ years of experience as a FNP in a primary care setting, a Masters Degree, and prescribing privileges/DEA#. This is a community based practice model with an innovative approach to primary care especially to clients with chronic illness. Flexible hours, full and part time positions.

Fax, email, or mail resume to: Bob Smithing, ARNP, NP Central, 10024 SE 240th St SE, #102, Kent, WA 98031, Fax: 253.852.7725 Email: bsmithing@nurse.net

Family Nurse Practitioner for Northgate, WA

An established NP based family practice in Seattle, Washington (by Northgate Mall) is looking for a Family Nurse Practitioner. Candidates must have 3+ years of

experience as a FNP 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 St SE, Suite 201, Kent, WA 98031, Fax: 253.850.8894 Email: mwiley@nurse.net.

FNP

Full-time opening for an experienced family nurse practitioner to work collaboratively with a family practice physician in Covington, WA. Primary responsibilities will be to provide quality healthcare to patients of all ages, providing disease management and education. Candidates must be, or qualified for licensure & certification in Washington State as an ARNP & RN.

Competitive salary and comprehensive benefit package. Please send resume to: MultiCare Health System, Provider Services, P.O. Box 5299, Tacoma, WA 98415-0299; Fax 253.403.5431; Email: providerservices@multicare.org. Please visit our website at <http://www.multicare.org>.

FNP

Full-time opening for a nurse practitioner to work at multiple urgent care centers and primary care clinics, with a primary home base 80% of the time in Lakewood, WA. Primary responsibility is to provide quality healthcare to patients of all ages. Flexibility in work location required. Experience in urgent care and family practice is preferred. Candidates must be, or qualified for licensure & certification in Washington State as an ARNP & RN.

Competitive salary and comprehensive benefit package. Please send resume to: MultiCare Health System, Provider Services, P.O. Box 5299, Tacoma, WA 98415-0299; Fax 253.403.5431; Email: providerservices@multicare.org. Please visit our website at <http://www.multicare.org>.

ARNP/CNMs

PPWW has built a reputation for the highest standards in reproductive healthcare, and advocate for Choice. PPWW is recruiting for candidates who share our pursuit of professionalism and support of the Mission.

We are seeking ARNP/CNMs to provide quality patient care to compliment our reproductive healthcare team. We have several opportunities to work FT/Silverdale, FT/Tacoma, FT/University Place, PT/Federal Way, PT/Kent, and PT/Float for the Centralia/Shelton/

Olympia clinics. Must have current WA State RN & ARNP (WHNP, FNP, Adult NP, or CNM) licenses, prescriptive authority, & 1+ yr. women's health care exp. pref.

To apply, fax your cover letter/resume to (206) 328-6818; email jobs@ppww.org, or mail to PPWW/HR, 2001 E. Madison, Seattle, WA 98122. Toll-free jobline 1-866-PPWW-JOB.

PPWW offers a solid benefit package. www.ppww.org. EOE.

Advance Registered Nurse Practitioner (part-time)

Provide skilled psychiatric care and medication Monitoring for agency's multi-cultural clients. Masters in Psychosocial Nursing and min. 3 years exp. In psychosocial nursing including min. 1 year in community health. ARNP with prescriptive authority. Skill and ability in crisis intervention, prescribing and monitoring psychotropic medication, basic physical assessment skills, and working with interpreters and Bilingual/Bicultural staff. Some cross-cultural experience preferred.

Send Resumes to ASIAN COUNSELING & REFERRAL SVC, Attn: HR, 720 8th Ave S, Ste. 200, Seattle, WA 98104. For more information call 206-695-7635. EOE

Please visit our website at <http://www.multicare.org>.

CE Opportunities

Seventh Annual Cardiac Whistler Conference

Date: June 26-28, 2003 • **Description:** Delta Whistler Resort, Whistler, BC 13.8 CEARP Hours -Registration Fee \$275 Registration Fee includes: Thursday afternoon opening reception (for entire family), breakfast on both Friday and Saturday. For a brochure contact KHezel@Providence.org or call 425.261.3691.

19th Annual Infectious Disease Conference

Date: December 11-13, 2003 **Description:** Four Seasons Olympic Hotel, Seattle. Registration Fee: \$350 (includes 3 breakfasts, 2 lunches, breaks and syllabus). 16.5 CEU's. For further information Fax: 425-261-3695 or Jeri.Sackett@Providence.org

Advances in AMI Care: Acute Management and Secondary Prevention

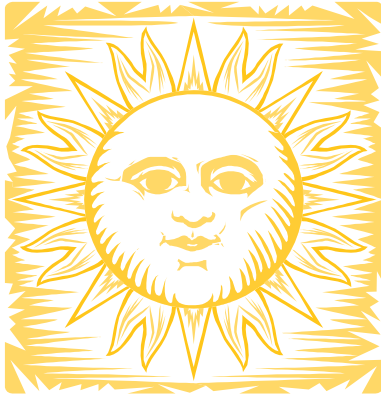
Date: September 29, 2003 **Description:** This one-day conference will bring together experts in the clinical management of acute myocardial infarction (AMI) and secondary prevention of coronary artery disease to provide participants an update on advances in the acute care of patients with AMI and secondary prevention. The information presented will enable healthcare providers to optimize the care of AMI patients. Where: Doubletree Hotel, SeaTac Airport Cost: \$85. Additional funding is provided by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Registration: www.qualishealth.org For more information contact Rosa Johnson at Qualis Health,

206.364.9700, ext. 2142. Continuing education credits pending for physicians, nurses, and pharmacists.

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 253.852.7725. Email care@nurse.net.



ARNPs United of WA State

10024 S.E. 240th St., Suite #102, Kent, WA 98031
253.480.1035 Fax: 253.852.7725
Email: au@nurse.net
Web site: <http://www.nurse.org/wa/au/>

Healthy Humor

- Q:** How are Winnie-the-Pooh and Alexander-the-Great similar?
- A:** They both have the same middle name!

ARNP Care

10024 S.E. 240th St., Suite #102, Kent, WA 98031
253.852.9042 Fax: 253.852.7725
Email: care@nurse.net
Web site: <http://www.nurse.org/wa/arnpcare>

Editors:

Robert T. Smithing, MSN, ARNP
Madeline D. Wiley, MSN, ARNP

Associate Editor:

Marty Couret, MSN, ARNP

Contributing Editor:

Susan Caverly, PhD, ARNP

Production Staff:

S. Abid, L. Thueringer, & A. Smithing

Publisher:

Nurse Practitioner Support Services

© 2003 NP Central

Subscriptions are \$25 per year, tax included. Ad rate sheet available on request.



Return Service Requested

ARNP Care
10024 SE 240th St, Suite 102
Kent WA 98031

Prst Std
U.S. Postage
PAID
Kent, WA
Permit No. 69