



Comprehensive Guide
NPG at ASRM 2008
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The Nurses Professional Group Newsletter

Fall 2008

Message from the Chair

by Maria Jackson
R.N., B.S., M.A.

I'd like to extend warm greetings to all of you!

The NPG Board has been working hard to address and meet the needs of our members. The face of the NPG Executive Board has changed in the last few months. Gwen Testo the Vice-Chair relinquished her duties due to personal and professional commitments. The NPG Board appreciates the time and effort Gwen has given the organization; her enthusiasm and insight will be missed. Nancy Harrington the former NPG representative to the Patient Education Committee will assume the Vice-Chair position and Angela Smith will be our representative on the Patient Education Committee.

Elections for a new Vice-Chair are ongoing. If you are interested in volunteering for a committee, or have a colleague who might be interested, please let us know.

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A list of the Bylaws, Standing Committees and Board Members, as well as other pertinent information can be found on the NPG website at: <http://npg-asrm.org/>. We welcome your ideas and suggestions.

The SART initiative, offering a one-year free membership to nurses working in SART member clinics, was a resounding success. According to the June 2008 ASRM Membership Report, NPG has 726 members, an increase of 138 members over the previous year. We are grateful that SART recognized this deficit and developed a plan to address the problem. We hope these new members take advantage of all the benefits the organization has to offer and renew their membership when the free year is up. If your membership is expiring, you'll be sent a number of reminders. The cost of renewing a membership is \$125 for nurses, and can be done online for your convenience.

Given the positive response, NPG with the help of the ASRM Executive Committee and the Membership Committee, has been raising the awareness of all physicians and nurses regarding the benefits of membership. We are asking physicians to support their nurses in any way they can. Their support is an affirmation of the nurses' importance to the practice, and may result in self-confidence and increased knowledge that translates to better patient

care and improved patient satisfaction.

Some of the benefits of membership include:

- Networking opportunities via a message board and list serve
- Educational opportunities including free online CME opportunities for members available on our website: npg-asrm.org
- Support and encouragement of nursing research by rewarding those whose abstracts are accepted for presentation with financial grants

In addition, since no formal educational training course in REI nursing exists, NPG has taken the initiative to address this deficit. We are finalizing the development of an online Certificate Course in REI Nursing. The course content and syllabus have been reviewed by the ASRM Practice Committee to insure accuracy. Announcements about the course will be emailed to the membership when the details are available.

In the interim, members can further their education and earn valuable contact hours by visiting the NPG website: <http://www.fertilityupdates.com/page.php>. On the site you'll find Fertility Updates, a continuing education program offered by Letters and Sciences.

The presentations on this website are reflective of those presented at the SMART ART™: From Physiology to

Clinical Success conference in Las Vegas. The SMART ART™ conference brought together an outstanding, expert faculty addressing healthcare professionals from throughout the U.S. and Canada, and provided a comprehensive update on scientific advances and patient management strategies in the ART field. To date, more than 500 nurses have earned CEUs in the 19 months this program has been available.

Committee Reports

Abstract/Research Committee
Janice Copeland, BSN, RN - Chair

The Abstract Committee was pleased to receive 22 nursing abstracts to review for the 2008 Annual Meeting in San Francisco. Authors chosen for an oral or poster presentation will be notified. As in past years, nurse authors who present an oral abstract will receive a \$1000 travel grant.

It's never too early to start a research project for next May's submission deadline! It's a wonderful way to share your nursing ideas or best practices with your colleagues. If you have questions, feel free to contact me at jcopeland@shaw.ca.

Patient Education Committee
Nancy Harrington RN - Chair

The Patient Education Committee has been busy with the release and revisions to the Patient Fact sheets listed below. The materials were revised or released in May 2008 and are available for your review on the ASRM website at: <http://www.asrm.org/Patients/FactSheets/fact.html>

Additional patient education materials are currently being developed and revised, and we will keep you informed as these materials are completed. These Patient Fact sheets continue to provide up-to-date information that is extremely helpful for the clinician to share with patients during the treatment process.

Materials listed below were released in May 2008.

- ♦ *Complications and Problems Associated with Multiple Births*
- ♦ *Conceiving After Tubal Surgery*
- ♦ *Endometriosis and Infertility: Can Surgery Help?*
- ♦ *Fertility Drugs and the Risk of Multiple Births*
- ♦ *Minimally Invasive Surgery*
- ♦ *Ovarian Drilling for Infertility*

Materials listed below were revised in May 2008.

- ♦ *Diagnostic Testing for Male Factor Infertility*
- ♦ *Endometrial Ablation*
- ♦ *Hydrosalpinx*
- ♦ *Stress and Infertility*

Program Committee
Sandra Vance - Chair

We hope to see many of you at educational offerings sponsored by the NPG at the ASRM Annual Meeting being held in San Francisco. There are two one-day postgraduate courses offered for nurses this year.

The Saturday course is titled, "Male Fertility Care". This course will explore caring for the male beyond routine testing, incorporating psychological issues, surgical considerations and fertility options. The Sunday course offering is, "The Nurse as Counselor: Psychodynamics of Infertility". This

course will address some of the day-to-day challenges nurses handle, including giving patients difficult news, discussing sexual dysfunction and donor gamete issues.

In addition to the post graduate courses, three nursing symposia are scheduled from 10:15 – 12 noon on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. The topics are as follows:

Monday: *Give and Take: Information Collection and Sharing in Third-Party Reproduction*

Tuesday: *Fertility Preservation*

Wednesday: *PGD & PGS: What is the Value?*

The faculty for these symposia are thought leaders in their fields and they'll be sharing the latest information on the topics to enhance your clinical practice.

In addition to the symposia, nursing luncheon roundtables are scheduled on all three days. The topics are varied and based on the needs assessment of the membership. There is something for everyone!

Finally, the nursing abstracts are scheduled to be presented on Tuesday from 3:15 – 5:15pm. Many interesting research abstracts submitted this year on a variety of topics. Please come support your colleagues as they present their research. There will also be poster presentations each evening. This is a great opportunity to speak to nurses who have done research and answer questions you may have on how to get started. We encourage all of you to start thinking about doing nursing research for the 2009 ASRM meeting in Atlanta, GA.

Your NPG Executive Board

The NPG Board is available to all of you if you'd like to contact any of us. We welcome your comments and suggestions. If you plan to attend the Annual Meeting please join us for a Wine and Cheese Members Meeting on Sunday, November 9th from 5:00 to 5:45pm. This is great way to network with colleagues and share your ideas. We hope to see you there.

CHAIR

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NPG at ASRM 2008

SATURDAY, November 8, 2008

Postgraduate Course 4

Developed in Cooperation with the Nurses Professional Group
Male Fertility Care

Faculty

Teresa Barry Longley, B.S.N., M.S.N., Chair

Peter T.K. Chan, M.D.

William D. Petok, Ph.D.

Susan Quallich, A.N.P., B.C., N.P.-C., C.U.N.P.

SUNDAY, November 9, 2008

Postgraduate Course 15

Developed in Cooperation with the Nurses Professional Group
The Nurse as Counselor: Psychodynamics of Infertility

Faculty

Teresa A. Barry Longley, R.N., M.S.N., Chair

William D. Petok, Ph.D.

Susan Quallich, A.N.P., B.C., N.P.-C., C.U.N.P.

Deidra T. Rausch, M.S.N., Ph.D., L.M.T.F.

Members Meeting - Wine and Cheese Reception

Sunday, November 9, 2008 from 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

MONDAY, November 10, 2008

10:15 am – 12:00 pm

Nurses Professional Group and the Mental Health Professional Group Symposium

Give and Take: Information Collection and Sharing in Third-Party Reproduction

Gretchen Sewall, R.N., M.S.W.

Tamara M. Tobias, N.P.

Michele L. Purcell, B.S.N.

Roundtables

12:15 pm – 1:15 pm

RTM29. *New Nurse Orientation*

Sherilyn Levy, R.N., M.S.N.

RTM30. *Coordinating Infertility Care in an OB/GYN Office*
Kathryn F. Poole, L.P.N.

TUESDAY, November 11, 2008

10:15 am – 12:00 pm

Nurses Professional Group Symposium

Fertility Preservation

Allison S. Rosen, Ph.D.

Lindsay N. Beck, B.A.

Roundtables

RTT29. *Nurse Burnout and the Effects on a Practice*
Ellen M. Tougias, R.N.

RTT30. *Ask the Accupuncturist*
Kyle Liston, M.T.O.M., R.N., B.S.N.

3:15 pm – 5:15 pm Abstract Sessions

Nurses Professional Group

WEDNESDAY, November 12, 2008

10:15 am – 12:00 pm

Nurses Professional Group Symposium

Preimplantation Genetic Testing: What is the Value?

Sherilyn Levy, R.N., B.S.N.

Kristin M. MacCutcheon, B.S.N.

Kathleen A. Miller, B.S., T.S.

Roundtables

RTW28. *Preserving Fertility Prior to Cancer Treatment*
Jennifer M. Wood, A.A.S.

RTW29. *Mind Body Practices in Working With Fertility Patients*
Diane Johnston, N.P., M.S.

RTW30. *IVF Case Manager Responsibilities and Patient Volume Ratios*
Sheryl A. Lipari, L.V.N.

UPCOMING ASRM ANNUAL MEETINGS

OCTOBER 17-21, 2009
GEORGIA WORLD
CONGRESS CENTER
ATLANTA, GA

OCTOBER 23-27, 2010
THE COLORADO
CONVENTION CENTER
DENVER, CO

OCTOBER 15-19, 2011
THE ORANGE COUNTY
CONVENTION CENTER
ORLANDO, FL

Nothing is as Powerful as a Personal Invitation

Tell your colleagues about ASRM and NPG.

The Nurses Professional Group (NPG) is composed of nurse members of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM). Our purpose is to foster the Society's goals within the practice of professional nursing. We are committed to improving patient care and providing a forum for networking and exchanging information among nurses.

As an ASRM member you enjoy the following benefits:

- ♦ Reduced rates for the ASRM Annual Meeting
- ♦ Access to ASRM practice guidelines
- ♦ Online membership directory
- ♦ Online access to *Fertility and Sterility*
- ♦ Subscriptions to ASRM publications at no extra cost
- ♦ Access to the ASRM Career Center

You may not know that there is a Nurses Professional Group (NPG) geared to enhance the collegial relationships and professional development of the Reproductive-Endocrine-Infertility (REI) Nurse. Membership in NPG is free of charge and affords you additional benefits such as:

New and improved website www.npg-asrm.org

- ♦ Message Board and List-serve that enables you to network with colleagues through email discussion groups
- ♦ Online CME opportunities
- ♦ Links to fertility news
- ♦ Educational opportunities

The nursing events at the ASRM Annual Meeting are made possible through the efforts of the NPG. The NPG offers members the opportunity to network and meet colleagues from across the nation and around the world. Perhaps you'll be inspired to develop and present your nursing research at this annual conference.

To join NPG, go to:

http://www.asrm.org/forms/membership_application.html to sign up.

- ♦ Click "Nurses" in Section 6

We hope you'll join us!