

President's Message

By Sharon Baranoski

This millennium year will be an exciting one for the National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel. As the newly installed president of NPUAP, I look forward to a very busy and exciting year. It is my honor and privilege to represent such a distinguished group of professionals and the mission of NPUAP. The faces of leadership have changed, but the commitment to the challenges of the year 2000 remain the same: To provide multidisciplinary leadership through education, public policy, and research in the area of pressure ulcer prevention and management.

Elizabeth Ayello, 1999 president, and Carrie Sussman, vice president, have completed their terms of office. We thank them for their commitment, organizational leadership, and dedicated service this past year. Their leadership has strengthened and prepared NPUAP for a very productive year 2000.

New 2000 executive team members are Stephen Sprigle, PhD, PT, as the new treasurer; Diane Langemo, PhD, RN, on her second term as secretary; and Janet Cuddigan, PhD, RN, as the new vice president. I look forward to collaborating with the new Executive Board and current Board members. New 2000 Board members are Dan Berlowitz, MD, MPH, and George Xakellis, MD, MBA. We are very pleased to have them on board. We wish Donald Saye, DPM, and Carrie Sussman, PT, adieu, and thank them for their years of dedication, commitment, and support of the mission of NPUAP. We will miss them both.

I am pleased to announce the new chairs of our 2000 Mission Committees. They are:

- Cochairs of Education—Barbara Bates Jensen, PhD, RN, and Diane Langemo, PhD, RN;
- Cochairs of Public Policy—George Xakellis, MD, MPH, and Courtney Lyder, ND, GNP, FAAN; and
- Chair of Research—Stephen Sprigle, PhD, PT.

We have developed new task forces, as well as continuing the Darkly Pigmented and PUSH task forces. We have enlisted the support of our alumni as we proceed forward to address the mission of our organization. An Alumni Advisory Council is in the process of being established. We hope to utilize our past colleagues as we pursue the prevention of pressure ulcers into the 21st century.

The newsletter will update you on the efforts of various projects and committee activities as we eagerly move into 2000. The Education Committee has completed a new series of slide sets that were recently debuted at the Healthy People 2010 conference in Washington, DC. NPUAP was honored to present a poster abstract for this very important governmental program. NPUAP will be exhibiting at numerous health-related conferences this year. We will continue our educational programs on Avoidable versus Unavoidable Pressure Ulcers and, of course, start the preparation for the 2001 consensus conference.

I welcome your ideas, suggestions, and support as we continue our overall team effort to decrease pressure ulcers in the 21st century.

NPUAP

Look Inside

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Committee Update

Research Committee

By Stephen Sprigle, Research Committee Chair

Four initiatives were identified for the year:

NPUAP Research Award and 2001

Conference Travel Awards

A \$1,500 Research Award will be given to an investigator early in her/his career, as has been done for the past two conferences. The Research Committee will release a call for proposals this spring for the 2001 award. In addition, up to three travel awards of \$500 will be given to students who submit quality posters to the 2001 conference.

Web Site Changes

Several small additions to the Web page were discussed along with a substantial initiative. A FAQ will be developed and posted, comprised of questions and requests received by NPUAP over the past few years. A graduate research assistant will be hired for a few months to research answers to these questions and compile appropriate references. We welcome suggestions about the Web site content and layout.

Support Surface Guidelines Initiative

Spurred by a request by Gaymar, the committee discussed a rather large initiative that would address testing guidelines for support surfaces. The committee discussed ongoing work in the development

of wheelchair cushion standards as well as the processes of standards and guideline development. The main barrier to this type of initiative is funding. Jeanne Perla is assigned the task of gauging interest from the support surface industry and will report to the committee by April. If interested, Jeanne can be contacted at 716-662-8658 or jperla@gaymar.com

Response to HCFA Web Posting

With the Public Policy Committee, a letter was penned to HCFA in response to a review issue posted to their Web site (#CAG-00017). NPUAP's letter questions HCFA's interpretation of results from a literature study by Blue Cross/Blue Shield, which concluded that insufficient data was available to judge the effectiveness of Group 3 support surfaces.

Committee Update

Public Policy Committee

By George Xakellis, Public Policy Committee Cochair

The Public Policy Committee has been moving forward with its agenda. Carrie Sussman and Janet Cuddigan presented a poster, "The Pressure Ulcer Healing Scale (PUSH) as a Measure of Quality of Life," at the official launching of the Healthy People 2010 in Washington, DC. The poster was well received during the conference. Courtney Lyder presented our Reverse Staging Position Paper at the HCFA MDS annual conference. His presentation was also very well received. We have also officially established a relationship with the American Health Care Association through the Coalition to Fix Medicare

Now. This coalition is comprised of approximately 20 organizations that examine policy issues that affect long-term care. NPUAP will only endorse those issues that are germane to pressure ulcer care.

The Public Policy Committee continues to move forward with its Challenge 2000 Initiative. This subcommittee, chaired by Carrie Sussman, was charged with the task to evaluate whether the goal to reduce pressure ulcers by 50 percent was achieved from 1989 to 1999. The task force has created a draft document of their findings. The task force hopes to disseminate its findings in the very near future.

Healthy People 2010 Exhibits

By Carrie Sussman, NPUAP Representative

The 20 year blizzard of January 2000 brought snow to Washington, DC, closed the government offices, airports, and schools, but didn't chill or slow down the launch of the nation's health prevention initiative for the decade—Healthy People 2010. The kickoff was headed by Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala and Surgeon General David Satcher. NPUAP was represented by Carrie Sussman and Janet Cuddigan with a poster “Measuring Pressure Ulcer Healing is Critical to Assessment of Quality of Life,” featuring the Pressure Ulcer Scale for Healing (PUSH) tool (Sussman, C; Cuddigan, J; Ayello, E; Lyder, C;

and Langemo, D). NPUAP also had an exhibit booth. Julie Wick and Cindy Sylvia assisted with staffing the booth.

The major highlight of Healthy People 2010 for NPUAP is the inclusion of the first national pressure ulcer prevention objective. Objective 1-16 is a measurable objective and will be tracked over the next decade. It reads: “Reduce the proportion of nursing home residents with a current diagnosis of pressure ulcers.” Target is eight diagnoses per 1,000 residents. Baseline is 16 diagnoses per 1,000 nursing home residents in 1997. (Data source: National Nursing Home Survey (NNHS), CDC, and NCHS.) In the discussion of the

objective it says, “The prevention of pressure ulcers depends on close observation, appropriate nutrition, and effective nursing care. The number of cases of pressure ulcers could indicate the overall quality of care provided to nursing home residents.”

Now that the pressure ulcer problem has reached this new level of national concern, there is an opportunity to make significant progress in reducing the prevalence of pressure ulcers across the country. NPUAP worked with the subcommittee chair developing the objective and has offered to work with the surgeon general's office to help track pressure ulcer prevalence.

Challenge 2000 Task Force Report

By Carrie Sussman, Task Force Chair

In 1989, Joanne Makelbust represented NPUAP as a testifier for the inclusion of a pressure ulcer prevention objective in the Healthy People 2000 Health Prevention Objectives for the Nation. Joanne offered an objective “to reduce pressure ulcer incidence by 50 percent by 2000.” This proposed objective became the NPUAP Challenge 2000. It did not, however, make it past the draft stage for Healthy People 2000.

In fall 1999, the NPUAP Board of Directors appointed a task force (Carrie Sussman, chair; Barbara

Bates Jensen; Janet Cuddigan; Laura Bolton; Rosalyn Jordan; Diane Langemo; Courtney Lyder) to assess how the NPUAP Challenge had been met. Elizabeth Ayello and Dan Berlowitz joined the task force in January.

Over the last several months, the task force has been working on

- a historical review of the NPUAP and NPUAP activities and achievements to raise awareness, and promote prevention and proper care of pressure ulcers.
- a comprehensive literature review of pressure ulcer prevalence and incidence rates during the

decade.

- preparation of preliminary graphs showing change in prevalence and incidence rates over time.
- Analysis of the findings from the literature.

The historical review was distributed at the Healthy People 2010 exhibit booth and to all attendees of the NPUAP 2000 annual meeting. The work schedule is set and tasks have been assigned to the task force members. The target is to have a final report of the task force at the August 2000 meeting.

Education Committee Report

By Barbara Bates-Jensen and Diane Langemo, Education Cochairs

The Education Committee will be cochaired during the year 2000 by Barbara Bates-Jensen and Diane Langemo. The major thrust of the Education Committee this year will be on planning for the NPUAP 2001 conference in February of 2001 and on dissemination of the Avoidable conference.

Slide Sets

A major thank you goes out to Sharon Baranoski, Rita Frantz, David Thomas, and the University of Iowa for completion of the revisions of slide sets I–III. The new series of slide sets are completed and ready for purchase. Drohan will handle all orders and forward

them to our fulfillment house, and orders will be filled promptly. Slide set prices are as follows: Set I is \$40.00; Set II and III are \$50.00; and each will have a \$10.00 shipping and handling fee attached. Slide set order forms will be posted on the Web page. We can now display the slides at conferences where NPUAP exhibits. We (Rita Frantz and Sharon Baranoski) will be working on slide set four—training slides for competency/skill testing with the goal of completing the set this year.

NPUAP Current Corporate Advisory (CAC) Members

Augustine Medical, Inc.
Eden Prairie, MN

Beverly Healthcare
Fort Smith, AR

Bio-Technology General Corp.
Iselin, NJ

Coloplast
Marietta, GA

ConvaTec
Skillman, NJ

Gaymar Industries, Inc.
Arlington, VA

HCR ManorCare
Toledo, OH

Heaton Publications
Albertsville, AL

Hill-Rom, Inc.
Charleston, SC

Huntleigh Healthcare, Inc.
Northport, AL

Hyperion Medical
Celebration, FL

Kendall Healthcare
Mansfield, MA

Kinetic Concepts, Inc.
San Antonio, TX

3M Health Care
St. Paul, MN

Medline Industries, Inc.
Mundelein, IL

MicroPulse, Inc.
Portage, MI

Molnlycke Health Care
Eddystone, PA

Pegasus Airwave
Boca Raton, FL

Ross Laboratories
Columbus, OH

Avoidable vs Unavoidable 2000 Conferences

The first Avoidable vs Unavoidable Conference in 2000 will be Monday, May 8, 2000 at the Chicago O'Hare Marriott. It will be cosponsored by the Northern Affiliate of WOCN. Registration is \$150, and vendor registration is \$300.

Our second Avoidable vs Unavoidable Conference of the new millennium will be Friday, August 18, 2000 at the University of Southern California, Department of Nursing in Los Angeles, California. Speakers for the conference will include current NPUAP Board members as well as past Board members (Nancy Stotts and Donald Saye) and Elizabeth Hogue as our guest speaker. The conference attendance will be limited to 130 attendees and 25 exhibiting companies. Attendee reg-

istration is \$150.00. CAC vendor exhibit fees are \$250.00 for a table top exhibit and non-CAC vendor exhibit fees are \$350.00 for a table top. The conference will be held in conjunction with a NPUAP meeting on August 17 and August 19. Plans are currently underway to offer the Avoidable conference in the Chicago area sometime this year and in Northern California (Sacramento area) in spring of 2001, and possibly Florida in fall of 2001.

2001 Conference

The NPUAP 2001 conference will be in the Washington, DC, area in February 2001. We are currently working to confirm hotel arrangements and will advise everyone as soon as the site is confirmed. CAC members on the planning committee include Cindy Sylvia, Donalyn Hyland, Robin Bassett, and Dave Carey. NPUAP members include myself and Joyce Black as co-chairs of the conference. The Conference Committee will solicit papers from speakers for placement in a conference monograph. In addition, they will compile a PDF file for distribution to conference registrants prior to the conference. The conference will be seeking abstract poster presentations, and a call for posters will be made available shortly.

PUSH Task Force

George Rodeheaver has agreed to stay on as current chair and this task force will be working to disseminate the PUSH tool into clinical practice over the next year.

NPUAP Exhibits

The NPUAP will be exhibiting at the following meetings this year:

- WOCN in Toronto, Canada, in June;
- SAWC in Dallas, Texas, in April; and
- Clinical Symposium on Wound Care in Nashville, Tennessee, in October.

We are also planning on exhibiting at the AHCA meeting for Long Term Care in Orlando Florida in October. (Thanks to Courtney Lyder for volunteering to staff the exhibit booth at this meeting.) We have had to cancel plans to exhibit at the National Association for

Home Care meeting in New Orleans in September due to budgetary constraints for this year. Further updates will be forthcoming as arrangements are confirmed.

Thanks to all the committee members who helped with the work of the committee at the January meeting.

NPUAP Newsletter

During the year 2000, three NPUAP newsletters will be developed and distributed under the direction of Julie Wick. Deadlines for submission of materials for future 2000 newsletters will be June 15 and October 16.

NPUAP

Educational Slide Sets

The National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel has three new slide sets available:

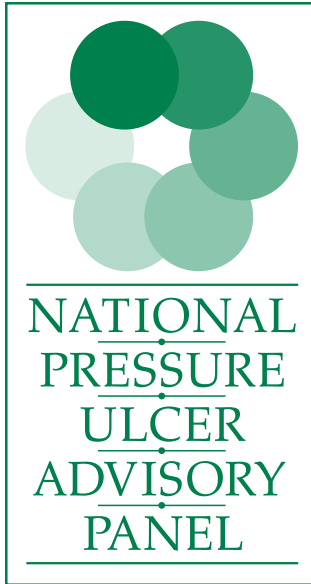
- #1—Pressure Ulcer Basics
- #2—Incidence, Prevalence, and Risk Assessments
- #3—Strategies for Pressure Ulcer Prevention

For an order form, contact NPUAP at:



11250 Roger Bacon Drive, Suite 8
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703-464-4849, ext. 4070 or 4071
Fax: 703-435-4390

or check the Web site at www.npuap.org



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NPUAP Important Dates

May 8, 2000

Avoidable/Unavoidable Meeting
Chicago, Illinois—
Marriott O'Hare

August 18, 2000

Avoidable/Unavoidable Meeting
University of Southern California

August 17 and 19, 2000

NPUAP Panel Meeting
Pasadena, California

February 23–24, 2001

NPUAP Research
Dissemination Conference
Bethesda, Maryland—
Hyatt Regency Bethesda