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National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel

the NPUAP

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

S3I Helps Improve Clinical Bedside Practice

Mary Ellen Posthauer, RD, CD, LD

"Where you stand on an issue may depend on where you sit or, as for millions of US elderly and disabled individuals at risk for pressure ulcers, where you lie."

This compelling statement introduced the Support Surface Standards Initiative (S3I) which is a process to translate research of support surfaces into clinical bedside practice. As an independent authority on pressure ulcers, NPUAP assumed the responsibility of coordinating the development of uniform terminology, test methods and reporting requirements for full-body support surfaces. The success of S3I depends on active participation of clinicians, manufacturers, researchers, and healthcare providers, and on funding to support operative costs such as laboratory, administrative and testing equipment. As the cost of healthcare continues to rise, the medical and financial impact of pressure ulcers has been recognized at the federal level which supported the incentive to explore the support surface alternatives for all clients.

Since 2001, S3I has coordinated the development of support surfaces standards and the validation process which was expected to require at least three years of continuous effort by the participants. The group consisting of stakeholders were divided into three areas: Terms and Definitions (T&D); Tissue Integrity; and Lifespan/Safety Evaluation.

In October 2004, S3I helped prepare a proposal to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) for the development of standards for medical bed support surfaces. The scope of the proposal involved standardization of terminology, test methods and disclosure for medical bed support surfaces including specialty beds, mattresses, mattress replacements and overlays. Submission of this proposal represented an important milestone for the initiative.

The Terms and Definitions committee voted in October 2005, on a document which will now be sent to selected clinicians in the pressure ulcer field for review and comment. The document represents a completion of phase one of the T&D committee as they move forward toward completion. A round of applause goes to Abbey Daniels who was the chair of this committee for two years.

There is still a considerable amount of work to be completed by the S3I Initiative as they move into the testing phase. Please refer to the web site for updates on the initiative.

I commend NPUAP board members David Brienza, PhD, Steven Sprigle, Pt, PhD, and Mary Jo Geyer, PhD, PT, CWS, who spearheaded the formation of S3I and continue to be active participants of the initiative. Laura Edsberg, PhD, and Karen Zulkowski, DNS, RN, CWS, are the current chairs of the Research Committee. Dave Brienza, PhD, and Karen Zulkowski, DNS, RN, CWS, are the current chairs of the S3I initiative, which is a sub-group of the Research Committee. NPUAP would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the many dedicated people who have participated and continue to lend their support to this critical initiative as it continues to progress. ▀

S3I has been generously supported over the past three years by the sponsorship of many companies and individuals. NPUAP acknowledges and appreciates their dedication to this important project which will benefit and improve the quality of life for the patients we serve.

**HCR Manor Care • Huntleigh Healthcare • SenTech
Tempur-Pedic • The ROHO • Hill-Rom, Inc. • Gaymar Industries, Inc.
Sharon Baranoski, MSN, RN, CWOCN • Brian James • Kinetic Concepts, Inc.**

Spotlighting Corporate Advisory Council Members

CONVATEC

ConvaTec is a global leader in the development and manufacture of advanced wound management, skin care and ostomy products. Headquartered in Skillman, New Jersey, ConvaTec has approximately 3,000 employees in 100 countries serving customers on six continents. The company is a division of Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, a pharmaceutical and related health care products company with more than 44,000 employees serving 100 global markets.

ConvaTec's business is based upon two franchises marked by a continual focus on customer needs, enduring global brands and a history of innovation. The ConvaTec Wound Therapeutics' franchise pursues a product development approach that combines advanced science with the everyday realities of wound prevention and management. The Chronic Care franchise develops innovative products and services that help people with an ostomy get back to their daily activities and live life to the fullest.

Within ConvaTec's franchises are several well-known brands such as SUR-FIT "Natura" ostomy system and DuoDERM dressing. These brands represent families of innovative products that, over the years, have had a significant impact on the lives of patients with an ostomy or chronic wound.

Today, ConvaTec is building on this strong heritage with newer brands such as Esteem synergy® ostomy system, an innovative ostomy system using a novel adhesive coupling technology; Versiva, a sterile dressing that combines several advanced technologies to support management of exuding wounds; and AQUACEL® Hydrofiber® Dressing, a patented sterile white fibrous dressing derived from 100 percent pure sodium carboxymethylcellulose used in the management of moderately to heavily exuding wounds. AQUACEL® Ag Hydrofiber® Dressing, an absorbent, antimicrobial barrier dressing composed of Hydrofiber® technology and ionic silver for use on partial-thickness

burns, surgical wounds and diabetic foot ulcers, continues the strong growth of the AQUACEL® dressing line.

ConvaTec's heritage of science and caring does not stop with innovative product brands. State-of-the-art programs such as Wound Therapeutics' ConvaTecComplete® and Chronic Care's ConvaTec Connections® are just two of the many product support programs the company offers to help health care professionals and patients achieve optimal health outcomes.

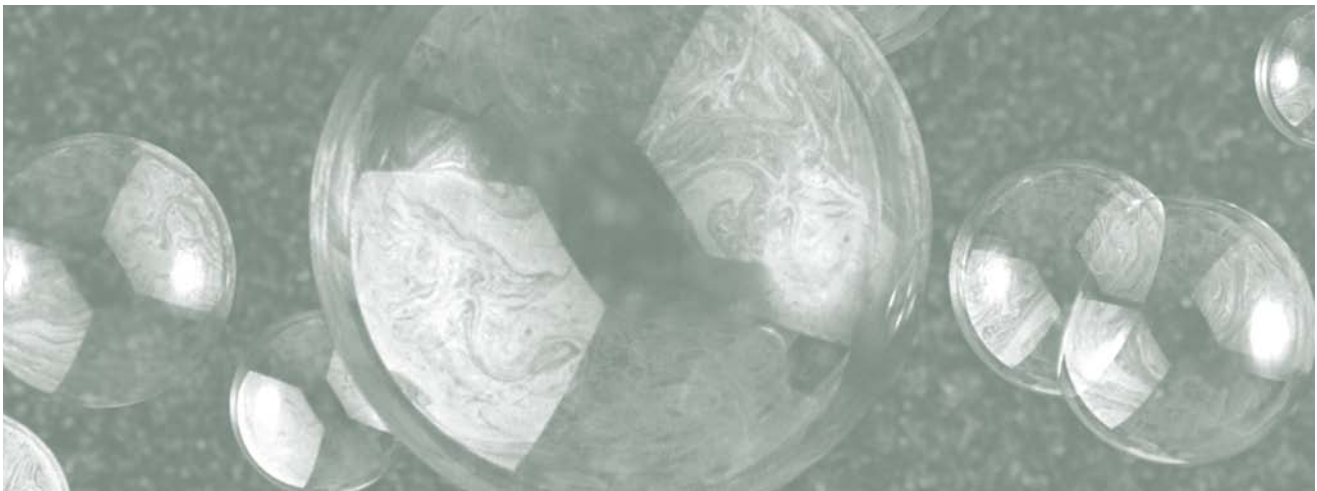
Innovation, caring and making a difference in people's lives™ — that's the vision of ConvaTec for more than a quarter of a century.

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Gaymar Industries, Inc.,

Gaymar Industries, Inc., is an innovative developer, manufacturer, and marketer of healthcare products and services. The company specializes in patient care solutions designed to prevent and treat pressure ulcers, as well as devices used for the control of patients' body

The CAC Council elected the representatives of Gaymar, Jeanne Perla, PhD, and Convatec, Joe Rolley, to represent the CAC members on the NPUAP Board.



Spotlighting Corporate Advisory Members, continued from page 2

temperatures. The focus is on providing products and services through the safe and effective application of clinically effective and cost effective.

Gaymar introduced its first product for the prevention and treatment of pressure ulcers: a patented design for an alternating pressure pad and pump. The Sof•Care cushions remain the industry standard for low cost, effective management of pressure ulcers. Following the successful entry into the pressure ulcer management field, Gaymar decided to enter the field of physiological temperature management and introduced special products for localized heat therapy as well as hyper/hypothermia systems for the systemic control of body temperature. These systems lent themselves to various care settings such as the operating room, recovery room, ICU, critical care area, and the patient's room.

Gaymar continues in its tradition of product and service innovation. In 1999 Gaymar introduced the ISOFLEX® mattress. This mattress is made of a unique, patented gel that offers revolutionary reduction in pressure and shear in a non-powered mattress. In order to demonstrate the uniqueness of the mattress, Gaymar's clinical team introduced the concept of the Isolibrium® Factor for documenting any products' ability to relieve pressure and shear.

Over the past 45 years, Gaymar has continued its tradition of product and service innovation. Dedicated to the prevention and treatment of pressure ulcers, the President of Gaymar Industries founded the NPUAP. Currently offering more than 200 products, Gaymar provides patients with unmatched efficacy, comfort, and safety. Gaymar is also known for providing health education, clinical studies, and clinical resources.

New CAC**Novartis Medical Nutrition**

Novartis Medical Nutrition is one of several key businesses found within the Consumer Health Division of Novartis AG. Novartis AG (NYSE: NVS), headquartered in Basel, Switzerland, is a world leader in pharmaceuticals and consumer health. We at Novartis Medical Nutrition are dedicated to maintaining and improving the health and well being of consumers and patients—at home or in health care delivery settings—by fulfilling their nutritional needs. In partnership with health care professionals, we offer the highest quality medical nutrition products and services that improve health and quality of life. The Novartis Medical Nutrition mission is:

We will be: "The source for nutritional health care solutions"

*With the Objective:
"To improve, extend and save lives"*

Committee Updates**Alumni Committee**

By Diane K. Langemo, PhD, RN, FAAN

NPUAP is looking into the history of the NPUAP logo and use of the color green in the logo. If you have information you could share about the origins of the color and the interlocking circles for the logo, please forward your information to Diane Langemo at dianelangemo@aol.com as soon as possible. ▀

Education Committee

By Catherine Ratliff, PhD, APRN-BC, CWOCN

NPUAP co-sponsored a Best Practice/Legal Perspectives Conference with the Tucson Affiliate of WOCN at the end of September. The meeting was very well attended and the informal response from the meeting was very positive. If you or your organization would like to co-sponsor a meeting with NPUAP please let us know.

Gaymar Industries has graciously offered to set up a scholarship for clinicians to attend the biannual consensus conference in memory of Roberta Abruzzese, EdD, RN, FAAN. Roberta was one of the founding members of NPUAP in the late 1980s. She also launched the journal *Decubitus* that is now known as *Advances in Skin & Wound Care*. We are currently working on selection criteria for the scholarship and welcome input for the criteria. ▀

Remembering a NPUAP Founder

By Diane Langemo, PhD, RN, FAAN

Dr. Roberta Abruzzese, FAAN, founding member of the National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel and founding editor of *Decubitus* (now *Advances in Skin & Wound Care*) passed away recently after a lengthy illness. Roberta was born and raised in Arkansas and demonstrated her scholarly excellence at an early age, graduating from prep school at age 16 as class valedictorian. She went on to earn her diploma in nursing at St. John's Hospital School of Nursing in St. Louis, MO, a bachelor of nursing degree at Marquette University and a master's and educational doctorate from Columbia University.

Dr. Abruzzese held positions as a staff nurse, nurse administrator, and nurse educator as well as journal editor throughout her distinguished career. She loved clinical practice and was a pioneer as well as influential leader in the skin and wound areas. Even as a national leader, she

remained most down-to-earth and approachable. Roberta shined in her role as a mentor to numerous individuals over the years, including myself. Seeking out novices in the areas of skin and wound care and enhancing their career development by encouraging, supporting, and mentoring them, was a true gift of Roberta's. She alone played a major role in the development of many leaders of today.

Roberta had a great deal of vision, energy, and fortitude, and she was one of the founding members of the National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel in the late 1980s. Concomitant with the founding of NPUAP, she launched the journal *Decubitus* in February of 1988. She authored numerous articles, book chapters, and a book; she developed and published a pressure ulcer risk assessment tool in the early 1980s; and she worked with Sharon

Baranoski, MSN, RN, CWOCN, APN, DAPWCA, FAAN, in developing a collaborative relationship between the journal and the Clinical Symposium on *Advances in Skin and Wound Care*.

"Roberta treasured knowledge, and she dedicated her life to expanding her own knowledge and disseminating knowledge to others, especially those at the bedside of patients in hospitals and nursing homes. Her greatest joy was to open the door of opportunity to young professionals.... Through gentle yet astute guidance, her passion for education and excellence in patient care rippled out to touch the lives of countless health care professionals and their patients ... Roberta ... invited people into the spotlight with her, not fearing that they might overshadow her. She reveled in the increased brightness from the illumination of 2 persons rather than 1. What a special person!" (Ayello, 2005). Roberta received a wide variety of honors throughout her career, including an International Sigma Theta Tau Mary Tolle Wright Founders Award for Excellence in Leadership; the NPUAP Kosiak Award for advancing knowledge and awareness of pressure ulcer prevention and treatment; and was one of few nurses to be inducted as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing. Roberta was a true lady, a true friend, a vital mentor, an excellent professional, an excellent educator, a true visionary, and an all around wonderful person. Your legacy will long be remembered! Rest in peace. ▀

Consensus Conference 2007



Please plan to join us February 9-11, 2007, in San Antonio, Texas, as we host a consensus conference to standardize terms and definitions for support surfaces. The conference will consist of Best Practice and Consensus using support surfaces as a focus. We will also re-examine any definition issues associated with Stage I and II pressure ulcers that may result after the introduction of deep tissue injury nomenclature into clinical practice. Which measures would be best to predict pressure ulcer risk? How does a nurse evaluate a product? How should a support surface be selected?



Help us take the next step. Join us in 2007.

Pressure Ulcer PowerPoint Presentations on CD

NPUAP offers four sets of educational CDs for purchase on our website. These CDs help explain, in detail, many of the questions that NPUAP membership might have regarding the defining, prevention and treatment of pressure ulcers. To place an order for a CD set, go to www.npuap.org/education and click on "New Educational CD Sets" link.

SET 1: Pressure Ulcer Basics is composed of 32 slides that define pressure ulcers and describe characteristics of Stages I-IV. This presentation:

- contains numerous clinical pictures depicting the stages as well as deep tissue injury;
- will be useful in teaching pressure ulcer basics to healthcare professions in all continuums of care; and,
- delineates appropriate staging systems for venous and diabetic wounds (i.e. CEAP classification system, University of Texas Diabetic Wound Classification System).

SET 2: Determine Prevalence and Incidence of Pressure Ulcers is a 25 slide presentation designed for clinicians, educators and researchers responsible for tracking pressure ulcer incidence and prevalence. It contains:

- methods/steps of conducting incidence and prevalence studies;
- formulas for calculating incidence and prevalence including examples; and,
- interpretation of study results.

SET 3: Strategies for Pressure Ulcer Prevention is composed of 42 slides addressing the components of a successful prevention program including:

- risk assessment tools with patient specific examples (i.e. Braden Scale, Norton Scale);
- skin inspection/skin assessment;
- preventive skin care including incontinence issues;
- proper positioning to prevent shear, friction, etc.;
- nutritional assessment;
- pressure reducing devices and support surfaces; and,
- the importance of accurate documentation.

SET 4: Pressure Ulcer Treatment is a comprehensive presentation with 117 slides covering all aspects of pressure ulcer prevention, identification and care, including:

- characteristics of pressure ulcers and other wounds (i.e. arterial ulcers/wounds, venous ulcers, diabetic wounds);
- in-depth pressure ulcer assessment guidelines (i.e. size, tissue type, exudates, pain, etc.);
- plan of care guidelines;
- detailed cleansing, debridement and dressing information;
- types of support surfaces including positioning techniques;
- adjunct therapies (i.e. hyperbaric, electrical stimulation, etc.);
- nutrition interventions; and,
- documentation tools (i.e. PUSH Tool, PPST).

