

INSIDE

Spring 2009, Volume 23

National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel

the NPUAP

The National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel (NPUAP) serves as the authoritative voice for improved patient outcomes in pressure ulcer prevention and treatment through public policy, education and research.

LEARN MORE ABOUT PRESSURE ULCERS AND NPUAP AT www.npuap.org

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11TH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE A HUGE SUCCESS!

The 11th National NPUAP Biennial Conference, *Ushering in NEW International Guidelines for Pressure Ulcer Prevention and Treatment: Public Policy & Clinical Practice* was a huge success! Over 525 registered participants took part in the conference, which launched the inaugural version of the **NPUAP-EPUAP International Guidelines for Pressure Ulcer Prevention and Treatment**.

Highlights of the conference included the plenary sessions in which the NPUAP guideline co-chairs **Janet Cuddigan**, PhD, RN, CWCN, CCCN and **Diane Langemo**, PhD, RN, FAAN introduced the background and overview of the guideline methodology and provided an overview of the treatment guideline. And the EPUAP guideline co-chairs, **Carol Dealey**, PhD, RN (United Kingdom) and **Thomas Defloor**, PhD, RN (Belgium), gave an overview of the prevention guidelines. In addition, **Joanne Lynn**, MD, Current Bureau Chief for Chronic Disease and Cancer in Washington DC and formerly

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

International Collaboration

Laura Edsberg, PhD

The NPUAP has been very busy already this year. Those of you who attended our 2009 Biennial Conference saw the release of the *New International Guidelines for Pressure Ulcer Prevention and Treatment*. The guidelines are the first international guideline and represent four years of intense work from the NPUAP and EPUAP.

The importance and relevance of international collaboration in today's world is increasingly important and the role of the NPUAP in

global collaborations is ongoing.

The NPUAP is a uniquely multidisciplinary organization involved in the prevention and management of pressure ulcers. NPUAP's public policy, research, and education committees work together to improve pressure ulcer prevention and treatment.

The Research Committee identifies and implements strategies for addressing the gaps in the state of the science in pressure ulcer prevention, treatment, and education. This work is evident in the Support Surface Initiative (S3I) work to create international standards for testing support surfaces, as well as the work in the Shear Force Initiative. These projects have brought together international collaborators including scientists, engineers, health care providers, and manufacturers.

The Education Committee develops
Continued on page 2 ➤

NPUAP Pressure Ulcer Prevention and Treatment Guideline Development Report

For the past three and one-half years, members of the EPUAP and NPUAP Guideline Development Group have been working diligently to draft International Pressure Ulcer Prevention and Treatment Guidelines. Initially a Gap Analysis was done to identify areas lacking in or missing from the currently available published guidelines. Following this, an exhaustive literature search was done from 1994 to January 2008 to identify peer-reviewed and published research studies on the prevention and treatment of pressure ulcers for the drafting of the evidence-based guidelines. Literally thousands of articles were reviewed for potential inclusion, evidence tables developed, and draft

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MEMBERS AS PARTNERS IN THEIR OWN WORDS

"As a **Corporate Advisory Council (CAC)** member of NPUAP, I have the ability to communicate with thought leaders in the area of pressure ulcers/wounds. I work as a partner with other companies and providers to further the cause of the treatment and prevention of pressure ulcers."

Kathy Whittington
Director, Wound Care Programs
Kinetic Concepts, Inc. (KCI)

"American Medical Technologies joined NPUAP as a **Provider Organization Council (POC)** member in 2007. We look to the NPUAP for guidance and expertise, and incorporate the NPUAP's work into all we do. Being a POC member has enabled our company to align itself with the NPUAP, gaining exposure, networking and sharing information to better the prevention, assessment, treatment and documentation of pressure ulcers."

Heather Hettrick
Director of Clinical Technologies
American Medical Technologies

MEET YOUR NPUAP OFFICERS FOR 2009



*NPUAP 2009 Officers:
Mary Ellen Postbauer,
Secretary; Barbara
Pieper, Treasurer;
Laura Edsberg,
President; and
Laurie McNichol,
Vice President.*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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and disseminates a variety of educational programs for health care providers, consumers, and others. Most recently the Committee planned and organized the Biennial Conference, which had record attendance. As the year continues, the committee will be busy planning regional conferences, webinars, slide sets, and dissemination of the new international guidelines. Watch our website for details in the coming weeks.

The Public Policy Committee is an extremely active committee, which promotes the development and implementation of quality care public policies related to pressure ulcer prevention and management through collaborations with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and other federal and state policy-making bodies.

The work of each of these committees is based on the state of the science and care in the field of pressure ulcers and that work is conducted around the world. We look forward this year to continuing our collaborations, as well as starting new collaborations with colleagues from around the globe. ■


Laura Edsberg, PhD
NPUAP President

11TH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

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with CMS, presented on adjusting for risk and pressure ulcer formation; and **Barbara Connors**, DO, MPH from CMS presented on the "present on admission" rule in acute care.

Day two of the conference consisted of two separate tracks: *International Guidelines Consensus on Implementation* and *Current Best Practice in Pressure Ulcer Management*. The Consensus participants discussed the needs for implementation of guidelines in various health care settings and in specific population groups, and the needs for public policy, research and education.

They also determined priorities for public policy, research and education. The Best Practice participants learned all about the treatment guidelines and discussed implementation in the clinical setting.

The conference co-chairs, **Joyce Black**, PhD, RN, CWCN, CPSN, and **Becky Dorner**, RD, LD, wish to thank all those on the Panel who assisted in preparing and providing this incredible conference. With more than 27 individual presentations, 72 poster sessions and 45 exhibitors, it was a two-year planning process. Kudos to all involved in making this the most well attended NPUAP Biennial Conference in the history of the organization. ■



President Edsberg addresses the conference attendees.



President Edsberg recognizes the leaders of the guidelines development, Diane Langemo, Janet Cuddigan, Carol Dealey and Tom Defloor.

11TH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE ACKNOWLEDGMENT

NPUAP THANKS THE SPONSORS & CONTRIBUTORS

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Outstanding Individuals Honored with NPUAP Awards

At its 11th Biennial Conference, NPUAP recognized three outstanding professionals by awarding them with the Kosiak, Stewart Founder's and Roberta Abruzzese awards.

KOSIAK AWARD

This award is presented at each biennial conference to recognize persons making significant contributions to the prevention and/or treatment of pressure ulcers through their leadership in the fields of, research, education and/or patient care.

The 2009 recipient of the Kosiak Award is **Sharon Baranoski**, president of Wound Care Dynamics, Inc. Ms. Baranoski has spent over 25 years of her professional nursing career working in the area of wound care and pressure ulcers. Over this period she has directed the Clinical Symposium on Skin and Wound Care, which she also founded. She was on the NPUAP Board of Directors from 1997 to 2001, serving as Education Chair and Co-Chair of the Biennial Conference, as well as President for two years. Ms. Baranoski has influenced, directed and provided care for patients with pressure ulcers for nearly 30 years. She has directed patient care for multiple departments and a few thousand nurses charged with preventing and treating pressure ulcers. Sharon Baranoski epitomizes the health care professional for whom the Kosiak Award was designed. She has contributed globally to pressure ulcer prevention and treatment through patient care, education, and research in innumerable, significant, and ongoing ways.

STEWART FOUNDER'S AWARD

This award is presented at each biennial conference to honor persons who have made significant contributions to the field of pressure ulcer prevention and treatment, particularly relating to public policy. This prestigious award reflects NPUAP's ongoing commitment to positively impact public policy to improve pressure ulcer prevention, treatment, education and patient care.

The 2009 recipient of the Stewart Founder's Award is **Joseph A. Rolley**, vice president, Global Government Affairs & Health Policy, ConvaTec, Inc. Mr. Rolley's work focuses on health policy, reimbursement and governmental affairs, primarily in the U.S., but also worldwide. Mr. Rolley has over 28 years experience in the medical device industry, including an intimate involvement in wound care issues across the entire continuum of care. Mr. Rolley has represented his company on the NPUAP Corporate Advisory Council (CAC) for several years and has been a very active member of the NPUAP Public Policy Committee during his time on the panel.

Past recipients of the award include **Dr. Thomas Stewart**, a founder of NPUAP, **Beverly Cullen** with CMS for her work in revising the interpretative guidelines for the F 314 tag in Long Term Care, and **Courtney Lyder**, ND, NP, FAAN, for his public policy work on behalf of NPUAP.

ROBERTA ABRUZZESE AWARD

This award provides biennial conference travel funds to a student showing interest and promise in the field of pressure ulcer research, treatment and prevention or education. The award, sponsored by Gaymar Industries, Inc., is named in honor of Dr. Roberta Abruzzese for her vision, leadership, and support in promoting educational endeavors in relation to pressure ulcer management. This year's recipient, **Richard A. Benoit, Jr.**, MSN, RN, CCRN, was awarded the 2009 Roberta Abruzzese Award at the Biennial Conference in February. Mr. Benoit is a doctoral student at the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, as well as a clinical nurse specialist and educator in the SICU of the Vanderbilt Medical Center. ■



President Edsberg and Past President Diane Langemo recognize Kosiak Award recipient Sharon Baranoski (center).



President Edsberg and Thomas Stewart recognize Stewart Founder's Award recipient Joe Rolley (center).



Thomas Stewart recognizes Abruzzese Award recipient Richard Benoit (left).



Poster Awards Presented at NPUAP Biennial Conference

During NPUAP's 11th Biennial Conference, 72 posters were presented and the organization's Research Committee honored several individuals for their outstanding posters. NPUAP congratulates the poster winners.

CONTRIBUTION TO FIELD

WINNER: Yusuke Ishikuro

TITLE: *Feasibility of a Novel Four Degree of Freedom Force Sensor Utilizing Change in Capacitance for Skin Interface Force Measurement*

HON. MENTION: JoAnn Maklebust

TITLE: *The Effect of Web-based Braden Scale Training on the Reliability and Precision of Braden Scale Pressure Ulcer Risk Assessments*

NEW INVESTIGATOR

WINNER: Priscilla L. Phillips

TITLE: *Development of an In Vitro Mature Biofilm Model Using Porcine Skin Explants and Assessment of Antimicrobial Dressings on Pseudomonas Aeruginosa Biofilms*

HON. MENTION: Todd Smith and Mary Meldrum

TITLE: *Utilizing Predictive Models for Evaluation of a Patient Medical Profile to Predict an Individual Pressure Ulcer Risk Assessment*

YOUNG INVESTIGATOR

WINNER: Rachel Williamson

TITLE: *Impact of Linen Layers to Interface Pressure and Skin Microclimate*

HON. MENTION: Samina Ahsan

TITLE: *Curriculum Development in Skin and Wound Care.* ■



Evan Call (right) recognizes Yusuke Ishikuro for Best Overall Contribution to Field poster.



Evan Call recognizes Rachel Williamson for Best Young Investigator poster.

GUIDELINE DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Continued from page 1

guideline statements written. These draft recommendations were then placed on the EPUAP and NPUAP web sites for stakeholder review. All stakeholder input was thoughtfully considered and much of it incorporated into the refinement of the draft statements.

At the NPUAP Pressure Ulcer Consensus and Pressure Ulcer Best Practices concurrent conferences in Arlington, Virginia, February 27–28, 2009, the DRAFT *Pressure Ulcer Treatment Guideline* statements were presented. Following the presentation, the Consensus Conference attendees divided into small groups to identify implementation strategies for a variety of clinical settings, e.g. acute care, long-term care, home health, etc. Following this, small discussion groups developed research strategies for practice, education, and public policy. The large group of attendees then prioritized these



research strategies, many of which will be incorporated into the final guideline document.

The Pressure Ulcer Prevention DRAFT guidelines will be presented at the European Tissue Viability Society in late April and a final revision made based on stakeholder and conference attendee input. It is anticipated the NPUAP-EPUAP International Pressure Ulcer Prevention and Treatment Guidelines will be available for distribution in late May or June of 2009.

The EPUAP co-chairs are Dr. Carol Dealey (UK) and Dr. Tom Defloor (Belgium), while the NPUAP co-chairs are Dr. Janet Cuddigan (Univ. of Nebraska) and Dr. Diane Langemo (Univ. of North Dakota). Many current and former NPUAP Board members as well as other experts in the field contributed to guideline development in the U.S., while current and former EPUAP Trustees and content experts in pressure ulcers also contributed. ■

NPUAP Model Adapted to Grassroots Level in Virginia

By Catherine Ratliff, PhD, APRN-BC, CWO-CN
and George Rodeheaver, PhD

The NPUAP is a distinguished group of experts which assists in the development of national policy pertaining to pressure ulcer prevention and treatment. Often, policies at the national level take significant time to reach the patient's bedside. What is needed is an organized pathway that facilitates this transition. In Virginia, we have tried to bring the national policies to the local level.

Public-private partnership

Dr. Rodeheaver, an alumni of the NPUAP Board, worked with a select group of organization leaders to establish the **Virginia Pressure Ulcer Resource Team (VPURT)** – www.vpurt.org. VPURT is similar to the NPUAP by including representatives from state government, the nursing facilities, healthcare professionals, and industry. VPURT has structured itself to be effective in public policy, education, and research at the state level.

In the recent past VPURT collaborated with AARP of Virginia to conduct a Summit on Pressure Ulcers in Long Term Care. The Secretary of

Health was the Honorary Chairperson and launched the Summit. The product of the Summit was a published document that the nine Strategic Action Priorities that the state needs to undertake in order to reduce our unacceptably high prevalence of pressure ulcers. However, even working at the state level does not immediately impact our nursing facilities.

“VPURT has structured itself to be effective in public policy, education, and research at the state level. In the recent past VPURT collaborated with AARP of Virginia to conduct a Summit on Pressure Ulcers in Long Term Care.”

Empowering stakeholders

In order to more effectively integrate change, Dr. Rodeheaver has worked with key leaders in Charlottesville to develop the Community Partnership for Long Term Care. This Partnership is dedicated to working with the local nursing homes to make available to them those pressure ulcer resources of which they are completely unaware. There is a critical misconception that because it's available, everyone has it. For example, not one nursing facility in the Charlottesville area has ever seen an AHCPR Guideline on Pressure Ulcer Prevention. The Partnership has changed that situation. Again, EDUCATION is the key factor and the Partnership is educating one-on-one.

The partnership meets on a quarterly basis and includes not only nurses and physicians from the facilities, but the bedside care providers as well. To pre-



vent pressure ulcers, one needs to work with those that directly care for patients. One of the projects that the partnership recently completed was to develop a laminated poster on pressure ulcer prevention. The laminated posters are displayed in patient rooms, bedside clipboards, employee identification badges, etc., to increase everyone's awareness of the importance of pressure ulcer prevention. We also have provided input on a pressure ulcer prevention CD, which will be used by the long-term care facilities.

Rising to the challenge

The goal of NPUAP is to reduce the incidence of pressure ulcers by fifty percent by 2010. However, we are not going to achieve that goal without organizing a grassroots program that puts an affiliate in every state. It would be wonderful if a partnership could be established with AARP so that the health division of each state affiliate could encourage a program dedicated to the prevention of pressure ulcers in the elderly that are admitted to assisted living, a nursing facility or require home health. It may be an impossible dream, but we have to continue to think aggressively. ■



NPUAP COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

By Diane Langemo, PhD, RN, FAAN

The NPUAP Public Policy Committee has been very active thus far in 2009. We have a number of activities in which we have been involved, as well as those in which we will continue to be involved during this year.

We have Task Forces working on developing NPUAP positions/recommendations on assessment, treatment and documentation of Deep Tissue Injury & Unstageable PUs related to the **OASIS**, the **MDS2.0**, and the **PUSH Tool**.

The Committee is following up on the 10/08 Medicare Present On Admission ruling. The Committee submitted a letter outlining our position on competitive bidding. The outcome was that Round 1 has been delayed 30-60+ days with the new administration. We are developing a position statement related to comparative effectiveness, noting that cost as well as clinical effectiveness must both be components in analysis and documentation, as well as payment, for PU treatments.

We hope to have a representative from CMS come to our August 2009 Panel meeting for an update on outcomes following implementation of the CARE Tool. ■

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

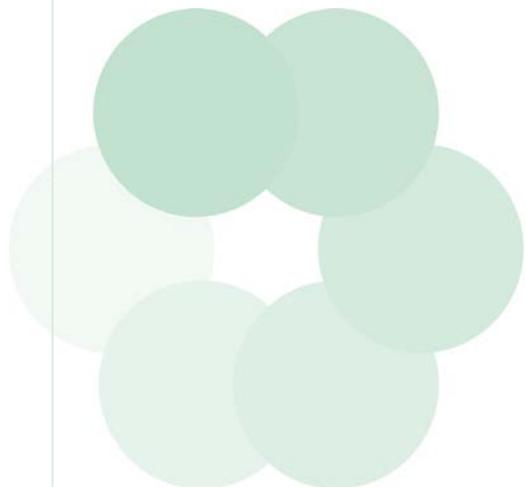
By Margaret Goldberg, MSN, RN, CWOCN

The NPUAP Research Committee met at NPUAP's regular meeting in January 2009, just prior to the Biennial Conference in February. The Committee has been busy with the Support Surface Standards Initiative (S3I) that has now seen its first official meeting of the United States Standards body for Support Surfaces with International Standards Organization convener Dave McCausland.

The ongoing quest now for the S3I remains the validation testing required to demonstrate that the standards generate accurate and repeatable results. Funding continues to be an issue and is still a major prerequisite to the implementation of this most vital work.

The Shear Force Initiative will quite soon be making available a PowerPoint presentation to enhance the understanding of the issues related to shear, and will include prevention strategies.

At the 11th Biennial Conference, the International Pressure Ulcer guidelines that the Panel members have been working on for many months were introduced. In collaboration with the EPUAP (European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel), the American NPUAP has taken the lead in developing this pressure ulcer treatment guideline. These are impressive documents that contain a wealth of information for those who work in this field. The Research Committee will maintain a bibliography that accompanies the Guidelines on the NPUAP web site, that it will be made available to anyone accessing the NPUAP web site. In this way, an enormous amount of information will be accessible to interested researchers and care providers and the Research Committee will keep this bibliography updated on a regular basis. ■



NAWC's Certification Program Granted Accreditation

The National Alliance of Wound Care (NAWC), a member of the Collaborating Organizations Council (COC) of NPUAP, announced that on September 11, 2008, its wound care certification program was granted a five-year accreditation by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA). This accreditation demonstrates the program's compliance with the *NCCA Standards for the Accreditation of Certification Programs*.

The NAWC awards qualified healthcare professionals with the Wound Care Certified (WCC) credential. Founded in 2003, the NAWC has credentialed more than 6,000 multi-disciplinary healthcare professionals including registered nurses, advanced practice nurses, medical doctors, physical therapists, licensed vocational/practical nurses, doctors of osteopathic medicine, physician assistants, podiatrists, physical therapy assistants and occupational therapists.

The NAWC is proud to join an elite group of more than 90 organizations representing over 200 programs that have received and maintained NCCA accreditation. It is the third national wound care certification organization to earn the accreditation, after the WOCNCB and the AAWM. ■

COMING SOON!

NPUAP's CD Set of teaching slides on the

**NEW Pressure Ulcer
Prevention & Treatment Guideline**

Available in June.
Stay tuned at www.npuap.org