

SGNA news

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***Congratulations to SGNA
2017 Award Winners***

See page 3 for the list.

Inside

President’s Perspective.....2

Innovators3

Member Spotlight4

Think Tank6

Editor’s Corner7

Save the Date8



HOT TOPIC

Programs that Enhance the Practice

Growing in your career is most likely one of the main reasons you decided to join SGNA. To help support that goal, SGNA has numerous special programs that can help you enhance your skillset to become a stronger member in your practice area.

Evidence-based Practice

Translating evidence into practice is one of the foundational areas where you can gain education that translates directly to your day-to-day practice. An emphasis on critical thinking, clinical expertise, patient preference and systematic research findings are the underpinnings for evidence-based practice.

Programs that are putting evidence-based practice, in practice include:

SGNA Nurse Fellowship Program

As a gastroenterology nurse, you would learn and be trained on evidence-based practices that can be applied to your daily work. The program is developed by the TCU Center for Evidence-based Practice and Research.

SGNA Scholars Program

The Scholars Program will give education to appropriately prepared gastroenterology nurses to build a repository of evidence applicable to the gastroenterology setting.

What you’ll get out of it:

- In-person systematic review training utilizing the TCU Center for Evidence-based Practice;

and Research: A Collaborating Center of the Joanna Briggs Institute;

- The opportunity to perform systematic reviews with the goal of building repository of synthesized research applicable to gastroenterology;
- The opportunity to share findings through SGNA resources, including the Annual Course.

Infection Prevention

We want to ensure you are providing the best in patient care. One way to do that is to focus on infection prevention, and more specifically, provide programs designed for you and the unit you work. Utilize the Infection Prevention Champions Program to achieve these goals.

What you’ll get from having a Champion in your unit or being a Champion yourself:

- Education for gastroenterology/endoscopy staff on infection prevention and control topics;
- Maintain high quality control within the endoscopy arena;
- Have the opportunity to address performance improvement needs;
- Access to the Infection Prevention Toolkit and additional resource such as discussion forums.

In this issue of *SGNA News* we go one-on-one with members who have leveraged a range of SGNA programs in order to take the next step in their careers. These individuals have utilized these programs, and many other SGNA opportunities, in order to strengthen their position and to best enhance the practice. ●



Stronger team, better care

Michelle Day, MSN RN CGRN, 2016–2017 SGNA President

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SGNA is an organization of 8,000+ registered nurses and other healthcare providers functioning in administrative, clinical, educational and/or research roles in the management of individuals with GI health problems.

SGNA News is published to provide association and industry information for the benefit of its members. Reference to any company or product within SGNA News should not be considered endorsement or approval.

Mission & Purpose

The Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates, Inc. (SGNA) is a professional organization dedicated to the safe and effective practice of gastroenterology and endoscopy nursing. SGNA provides education, training and evidence-based GI/endoscopy practice documents to enable our community to provide the very best patient care. With more than 8,000 members, SGNA is an influential voice on issues impacting the specialty. SGNA continues to collaborate with other healthcare organizations that share our ultimate goal of empowering GI/endoscopy professionals to deliver the best possible care. Additional information is available at www.sgna.org.

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What an exciting time at the SGNA 44th Annual Course in New Orleans — we even had our own parade! I hope you brought something you learned back to your units. More importantly, I hope you are planning to share what you learned with others. Sharing what we learn is one way we continue to build a strong team. The Annual Course provided opportunities to network, mentor, develop leadership skills and attend outstanding educational sessions all while

of your mentors and let them know how they inspire you. I just mailed some handwritten notes to a few of mine, to thank them for their guidance throughout the years.

I want to take this opportunity to thank our Program Committee members, speakers and the poster authors for sharing their knowledge with us. When we participate in the educational sessions and seek opportunities to develop and exercise our leadership skills, we grow both personally and professionally. Lifelong learning is essential to maintain knowledge of current practice and to provide high-quality care to our patients.

The cornerstone of high-quality healthcare is patient safety, and nurses are critical to the surveillance and coordination that reduce adverse outcomes. Much work remains to be done in evaluating the impact of nursing care on positive quality indicators. We must all work together and bring our individual knowledge and skills. We must continue to ask questions, search for evidence, evaluate evidence and share outcomes in all of our practice settings.

Lifelong learning is essential to maintain knowledge of current practice.

surrounded by the centuries of history, culture, sights and sounds of New Orleans.

We had numerous opportunities to connect during the Annual Course, including at the SGNA Zone, in between educational sessions and at networking events. I even spoke with some of you on the shuttle buses going to and from the convention center. Thank you for sharing your stories with me. Your enthusiasm for our specialty is inspiring! I hope many of you accepted my challenge to speak with one

I invite you to be a part of building a stronger team by being leaders and mentors, and committing to lifelong learning. Our challenge is to use that energy from the Annual Course to keep improving and to keep advancing the practice of gastroenterology. We are fortunate that SGNA has so many programs that enhance our practice; I hope you take advantage of the opportunities we have and continue to improve the practice of gastroenterology. ●



Congratulations to SGNA 2017 Award Winners

Distinguished Service Award

James (Jim) Collins, BS RN CNOR
Sponsored by Diversatek Healthcare

Gabriele Schindler Clinical Excellence Award

Janet Hannah, RN CGRN
Sponsored by Fujifilm Medical Systems U.S.A., Inc.

Outstanding Regional Society

Region 7, Southern California
Sponsored by ERBE USA, Inc.

Regional Society Member of the Year

Kathryn Lee, RN CGRN

Flame Award

Chesapeake Regional Medical Center
Sponsored by Olympus America Inc.

Annual Course Scholarships

Hope Williams, BSN CGRN
Annett Schmit, BSN RN CGRN
Pamela Nero, BSN RN CGRN
Barbara Suwak, RN CGRN
Catherine Fedak, BSN RN CGRN
Sponsored by Diversatek Healthcare and ERBE USA, Inc.

First-Time Attendee Annual Course Scholarships

Stacy Stanfield, BSN RN CGRN
Heather Breault, BSN RN
Jessica Singleton, BSN RN
Ma Azylea Alcoseba, BSN CGRN
Sarah Cole, BS ADN RN
Sponsored by Diversatek Healthcare

Train the Trainer Scholarships

Donna Cook, BSN RN
Tammy Gremillion, BA RN CGRN
Debbie Luteran, BSN RN CGRN
Doris McClodden
Emily Salisbury, ADN
Sponsored by Medivators, A Cantel Medical Company

Novice Writer's Award

Advances in Endoscope Reprocessing Technology and Its Impact on Pathogen Transmission
Cathleen Shellnutt, MSN RN AGCNS-BC CGRN
Sponsored by Lippincott Williams & Wilkins - WKH

Excellence in Clinical Practice Writer's Award

Meaning of Adherence in Hepatitis C-Infected Military Veterans
Frances H. Phillips, PhD APRN ACNS-BC
Sponsored by Lippincott Williams & Wilkins - WKH

Education Poster Winners

First Place
Jazz up Our Journey in SGNA's Healthcare Policy Committee
Katherine Vinci, RNC CGRN

Second Place
Esophageal High Resolution Impedance Manometry Studies; A Nurses Role

Susan Buchman, DIPL CGRN
Linda Marks, BSN CGRN

Third Place
Patient Satisfaction Scores: Measuring Customer Perceptions and Values to Promote Patient Centered Care

Linda Vainer, RN CGRN
Maureen Stresinshe, BSN RN
Julie Forsberg, DIPL CGRN

Research Poster Winners

First Place
Assuring Quality and Safety for Patients Undergoing ERCP and EUS
Katherine Leistico, BSN RN CGRN
Laura Schaefer, MS BSN RN CGRN
Kristina Schneider, BSN RN
Heather Feld, BSN RN CGRN
Michele Drogier, ADN RN CGRN
Renee Piemeisel, LPN

Second Place
A Comparison of Bowel Preparations for Colonoscopy in Constipated Adults
Lisa Kunz, BSN RN CGRN

Third Place
Can the use of CO2 for Insufflation Reduce Pain Related Complications?
Kim West, RN CGRN



What It's Like: The Story of Infection Prevention Champion

By Karen Wilson, MSN RN CGRN

Ever wonder what it's like to be an Infection Prevention Champion? Karen Wilson, MSN RN CGRN, provides a first-hand perspective of her journey to become a champion.

Even more exciting to me is that the staff now will research infection issues and practices to be sure that we are following the latest evidenced-based practices.

As the Clinical Coordinator for the GI lab at Parker Adventist Hospital, I found that participating in the Infection Prevention Champion program to be the most beneficial program in which my hospital has ever participated. I have over 25 years of GI experience, and thought I knew what Joint Commission and State surveyors were looking for when they assessed units. But by participating in the program I learned how to do an in-depth unit risk assessment, as well as how to evaluate and apply standards for multiple infection prevention organizations, such as Association for the Advancement

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When I first started as a Champion it was at the perfect time as my hospital system was preparing for Joint Commission and was in the process doing risk assessments on each GI Lab within our system. I wanted to learn as much as possible about infection prevention, but wasn't sure where to start. My first step was to review all the resources available on the Champions website, such as the Essential Elements of a Reprocessing Program for Flexible Endoscopes-recommendation of the Healthcare Infection Control Practices

Advisory Committee (HIPAC 2016), as well as the SGNA Standards and Practice Guidelines. I then connected with our hospital's Infection Preventionist to learn more about the risk assessment that was being done and how I could become more involved. In addition, I asked the GI staff what they wanted to learn about in terms of infection prevention. With this information I was able to come up with an education plan, as well as infection prevention goals for our unit. If I ever had a question or couldn't find information, such as where the Unit Need Assessment form was located, all I had to do was contact SGNA and they helped me find what I needed.

When Joint Commission and the state surveyors came they were very impressed with the work that we had done and found no deficiencies. Even more exciting to me is that the staff now will research infection issues and practices to be sure that we are following the latest evidenced-based practices. Due to the experience and learning I received by being a Champion I have been asked to be a member of the hospital's Infection Control Committee, as well as be the key person for educating and training all units who have flexible scopes on the proper method for reprocessing them. ●

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A ‘Scholar-ly’ Discussion

The Scholars Program provides education to appropriately prepare gastroenterology nurses to build a repository of evidence applicable to the gastroenterology setting. Members of the 2017 Class of SGNA Scholars sat down to describe why the program is such a valuable resource to gastroenterology professionals.

Linda Curtin, MSN RN CGRN

Signature Healthcare

Simi Joseph, DNP APN NP-C

GI Solutions of IL

Maria Glenia Manguerra, MBA RN CGRN

Dallas VA Medical Center

Heidi Miller, MAEd RN

University Hospitals St. Johns Medical Center

Why did you apply for the SGNA Scholars program and what value do you receive by participating?

Joseph: I applied for SGNA Scholars program to advance my skills in research. Even though I have my doctorate in nursing, systematic review is a new area that I have never learned in-depth. I would like to pursue a research career in my clinical practice and am very excited to answer some unanswered questions in gastroenterology.

Miller: I applied to the SGNA Scholars program because I have a deep interest in scholarly articles that impact the everyday nursing practice. I am a retired Biology and Advanced Placement Biology teacher with a long background in nursing as well. When I saw a Master’s level program, not restricted to MSNs, I jumped at the chance to be involved. I believe in lifelong learning and not just doing things and tasks in nursing simply because that’s the way it has always been done, but rather because evidence tells us to go in a different direction. I’m looking forward to delving deeper into topics of interest for endoscopy nursing and bringing this information back to my staff and hospital so we remain on the cutting edge of community care.

Manguerra: I applied for this training for professional and personal growth. I believe that through this training, I would be able to contribute to improve the care in the GI setting. I work for the veterans and realized that there are so many issues or concerns in their care. It is important to me to work for veterans because I feel that I am giving back to our heroes who give their life for our freedom. I would like to help improve their care in a small way and be able to share it with other VA facilities.

In what ways would you say that the Scholars program has become a vital resource for building a repository of evidence related to the GI/endoscopy setting?

Joseph: From my understanding, systematic review is the highest research one can do in clinical research. I believe systematic review is a vital resource in GI/endoscopy area due to its strong influence in changing policy, guideline, or practice.

Curtin: GI nurses provide frontline nursing care that directly contributes to patient’s overall health. GI nurses have a responsibility to define the work they do, identify the contributions they make, and to improve upon the practice they provide. The SGNA Scholars program provides the GI nurse an opportunity to develop knowledge/science specific to their practice and to improve the lives of the patients they care for.

What would you say to encourage your peers to apply for the Scholars program?

Manguerra: I would encourage my peers in gastroenterology to continue to explore the research interest associated with the area in which you are passionate, and to work and bring a positive change. The Scholars program will be an asset to gastroenterology nurses and it is provided by JBI, which is a well-known evidence-based practice training institute.

Curtin: I encourage all SGNA members to take advantage of the opportunities provided through our professional organization. I am so fortunate to have benefited from a wide range of SGNA-supported services such as educational scholarships, opportunities to attend national conferences, and now the Scholars program! I am grateful for the support I have received from the SGNA and feel strongly that I give back through service opportunities. I have been so fortunate to participate in the Train the Trainer program, serve as a member of the Healthcare Policy Committee, and as a public member of the SGNA Budget, Finance, and Audit committee. I am excited to be welcomed into the SGNA Scholars program and can only hope to give back as much as I have received in return for their interest in my professional development. SGNA is truly interested and devoted to their membership.

Miller: To encourage new applicants, I would first get the word out about the program, and possibly highlight actual differences made by this scholarly group. If I knew something I was doing in practice was influenced by a Scholar’s work, I might wonder more about the program.

Manguerra: I would tell my colleagues that it is not enough just to go to work and finish your job on a daily basis. It is more rewarding if each one of us can make a difference in someone’s care. ●



The Drive for Mid-Year Membership

Rhonda Maze-Buckley, RN, SGNA News Editor

What a beautiful time of year! I hope everyone is able to enjoy the summer. During these mid-year months, I want to encourage everyone who is not yet a member to take advantage of the mid-year membership. Current members should encourage new members to join; make sure you are listed as the referral to win special prizes.

As GI professionals it is so important to be a part of a larger network of professionals, and membership in the society gives you access to many different programs and tools that can enhance your practice.

As GI nurses and associates, we are all continuously learning and seeking out education opportunities in order to provide the very best care to our patients and their families. This journey is a very personal one

and requires some thought and planning. Learning should be planned and managed in a way that gives you the most current evidence-based knowledge and skills necessary to provide safe and effective care.

With SGNA there are two great programs to help you on your journey!

The Infection Prevention Champion program gives you the tools to educate yourself and your unit on infection prevention/control topics and resources to ensure you are maintaining quality practice by supplying educational resources, professional society guidelines, manufacturer guidelines and best practice tools..

The SGNA Special Interest Groups (SIGs) are also great resources for GI professionals. The SIGs are

a place for SGNA members to share resources, discuss issues and develop content on specialty topics. SGNA recently started three new Special Interests Groups, adding to the four that have been hard at work for the past year. Groups include Associates/Technicians, Hepatology, Management, Pulmonary Procedures, Advanced Procedures, Educations and IBD.

Using these programs and resources can empower GI professionals with the specific knowledge that leads to improved care and clinical outcomes. Being in the loop and having access to these programs is just one of the many reasons why each of us should be encouraging our peers to take advantage of the mid-year membership drive.

Can't wait to see the new faces of Champions and SIG members at next year's course! ●

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