

# News of The Academy of Neonatal Nursing

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## Enjoy Hawaii While Learning the Latest in Neonatal Care

There is still limited space available for the 4th National Advanced Practice Neonatal Nurses Conference at the Sheraton Waikiki in Honolulu, Hawaii. Internationally recognized guest speakers will share their latest findings on a wide range of current neonatal topics, while the afternoons will be free for participants to enjoy the splendors of beautiful Hawaii. Academy members will receive a discount on conference tuition. Save more by recruiting a member!

Tracy Karp, RNC, MS, NNP of the Primary Children's Medical Center of Salt Lake City, will guide participants through the discussion of current clinical dilemmas, while Jatinder Bhatia, MD, Chief Neonatologist from the Medical College of Georgia, will discuss what does and doesn't work in the treatment of NEC. How familiar are you with the use of hypothermia to manage hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy (HIE)? How about the use of the amplitude-integrated electroencephalogram (aEEG)? Lu Ann Papile of Baylor College of Medicine will be presenting the results of this promising treatment, which may change the way we treat and monitor neonates with HIE (See In the Works and Academy News Briefs). For a complete listing of speakers and topics, go to [www.neonatalnetwork.com](http://www.neonatalnetwork.com).

## ANN's Executive Committee Update

Academy News asked each of our executive committee members (Pat Johnson, Jody Ridky, Deb Fraser Askin, and

Ginny McCann) to share their updated CVs. Academy News had the privilege to speak with Pat Johnson about her CV and her work in the NICU.

Pat Johnson, MS, RN, NNP, MPH, charter member of the Academy of Neonatal Nursing, is an awarded leader and nationally recognized educator, consultant, speaker, and expert in neonatal care. She is the first NNP to define and publish the current national model for neonatal nurse practitioners, and she piloted the NNP role in the first reported demonstration trial in 1973.

## Baby Nicutie





As past president and founding member of the National Association of Neonatal Nurses (NANN), Pat served over ten years on the board of directors and was the first chairperson/president of the Special Interest Group for Advanced Practice Neonatal Nurses. Among many other accomplishments with NANN, she was instrumental in expanding and coordinating the Association's involvement and contributions to national initiatives advocating for newborns, children, and families.

Pat is president of the Foundation of Neonatal Research and Education, (FNRE), a nonprofit organization that offers scholarships and research grants to neonatal nurses. FNRE supports advancement of nursing knowledge through education and research toward the improvement of nursing practice for the benefit of infants and their families. (For more information on FNRE scholarships, go to [www.inurse.com/fnre](http://www.inurse.com/fnre) or follow the FNRE link at [www.academyonline.org](http://www.academyonline.org).)

Pat obtained her BSN from Mankato State University in Minnesota and her MSN from the University of Utah, where she wrote her thesis on the expanded role of the neonatal nurse. She recently received her master's degree in public health administration and policy (MPH) from the University of Arizona. Pat coordinated the Arizona NNP Program for ten years and established two successful NNP services, one in Minnesota and one in Arizona. Pat currently practices as an NNP for NICUs with the Maricopa Integrated Health System, the Banner Health System, and Neonatology Associates, Inc. For an outstanding history of the NNP written by Pat, go to the August 2002 issue of *Neonatal Network*<sup>®</sup> and check out "The History of the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner: Reflections from 'Under the Looking Glass'".

A strong advocate for the Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP), Pat feels that nurses are curtailing their ability to participate in health care decisions by being underrepresented. In a recent telephone interview, Pat spoke out about this issue. "The DNP may add to the professional and social credibility of nursing. Other health practice professions offer a doctorate for their specialty, why not nursing? The DNP would potentially add an equitable voice at leadership tables."

Pat Johnson is a true pioneer in neonatal nursing who continues to work tirelessly for the health of sick newborns and the education of neonatal nurses. The Academy of Neonatal Nursing is proud and privileged to have Pat on its board.

ANN's executive committee members Ginny McCann, Deb Fraser Askin, Jody Ridky, and Pat Johnson have shared

their CVs with Academy News. For the CV update of these inspiring nurses, go to [www.academyonline.org](http://www.academyonline.org) and click on Academy News. Ginny's interview is in the September/October 2006 issue, Deb's and Jody's interviews are in the November/December 2006 issue.

## In the Works

Continuous monitoring of the brain in neonates with HIE is being done with the Cerebral Function Monitor (CFM) or aEEG to determine which infants are candidates for hypothermia therapy (either systemic or cranial hypothermia [See Academy News Briefs] is induced in the severely hypoxic neonate). The CFM has a high sensitivity, specificity, and predictive value for long-term severity of HIE if recordings are taken within 6 to 12 hours of a perinatal asphyxial event. A high reading indicates high brain activity, while a low reading indicates low activity. The results of induced hypothermia are very promising; however, the American Heart Association Neonatal Resuscitation Guidelines for Pulmonary Resuscitation recommends further clinical trials.<sup>1</sup> For more information, check out the large, multi-hospital study, "Whole-body hypothermia for neonates with hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy" in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, 353, (2005), 1574-1584.

## Check It Out!

*Essential Nursing Competencies and Curricula Guidelines for Genetics and Genomics* were established in September, 2005, by a consortium of health professionals and supported by the National Human Genome Research Institute, National Institute of Health, Office of Rare Diseases, National Institutes of Health, and the American Nurses Association. These competencies and guidelines were endorsed by 47 professional nursing organizations. Genetic and genomic science is redefining the understanding of the continuum of health and illness, as options for care will increasingly include genetic and genomic information. In a recent telephone interview, ANN's genetic expert and representative, Julianne Schiefelbein, MAppSc, MA(ED), Grad Dip Clin Teach., Graf Cert. Human Genome, CMN, NNP, RNC, CPNP, and ANN representative on the consensus board, stated that "the next step will be how to integrate genomics into nursing education and practice." She suggested that ANN members go to the Cincinnati

1. EEC Committee, Subcommittees, and Task Forces of the American Heart Association. (2005). American Heart Association guidelines for cardiopulmonary resuscitation and emergency cardiovascular care. Part 13: Neonatal resuscitation guidelines post resuscitative care, induced hypothermia. *Circulation*, 112, (24 Suppl) IV 1-203.

Children's Hospital website for a free online continuing educational module for nurses on genetics. Go to [www.cincinnatichildrens.org](http://www.cincinnatichildrens.org), and type "Genetic Education Program for Nurses." Check it out!

## JCAHO's Official "Do Not Use" List

How familiar are you and your unit with the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organization's (JCAHO's) 2006/2007 Patient Safety Goals? Here is a sampling of some commonly used abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols that should not be used in orders or other medication-related documentation that are handwritten, entered into a computer, or appear on pre-printed forms. JCAHO recommends that each of the following be written out and the abbreviations not used. (For a complete list, go to [www.jointcommission.org/PatientSafety/DoNotUseList2006](http://www.jointcommission.org/PatientSafety/DoNotUseList2006).)

- Do Not Use: U (unit). Why? U may be mistaken for "0," the number "4," or "cc."
- Do Not Use: IU (International Unit). Why? IU may be mistaken for IV or the number 10.
- Do Not Use: QD/qd or QOD/qod (every day or every other day). Why? QD and QOD may be mistaken for each other.
- Do Not Use: MS. Why? MS may mean morphine sulfate or magnesium sulfate.

## Academy News Briefs

- On April 13, 2006, the FDA approved ibuprofen lysine 10 mg/ml (NeoProfen, made by Ovation Pharmaceuticals, Deerfield, Illinois) for closing a patent ductus arteriosus in premature infants weighing between 500 and 1,500 gms and who are no more than 32 weeks gestational age. It is indicated for use when usual medical management such as fluid restriction and respiratory support is ineffective. For more information, go to [www.medscape.com/viewarticle/530903](http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/530903) or to [www.ovationpharma.com](http://www.ovationpharma.com) and click on "Latest News."
- Natus Medical's Olympic Cool-Cap won FDA approval on December 21, 2006. The Cool-Cap can be used alone or with a cooling blanket for systemically induced hypothermia for the treatment of HIE. The cap keeps the newborn's head cool through a steady flow of water that is kept at a controlled temperature. Dr. Daniel Schultz, director of the FDA's Center of Devices

and Radiological Health, said this announcement will bring "new hope to parents of approximately 5,000-9,000 babies each year born in the United States with moderate to severe HIE." He adds that, until now, no effective treatment for these infants other than "supportive care has existed. Up to 20 percent of the infants died, and 25 percent suffered permanent disability because of neurological deficits." The manufacturer, as a condition of this FDA approval, will be setting up a registry of all patients using the Cool-Cap and gathering information on its use and effectiveness. For more information go to [www.medicalnews-today.com/healthnews](http://www.medicalnews-today.com/healthnews), or [www.olymed.com](http://www.olymed.com).

## The 2007 Academy of Neonatal Nursing Scholarship Awards

Once again, ANN is seeking applications for two scholarships: The Academy Conference Scholarship Award and The Academy of Neonatal Nursing Scholarship Award. If you are in school pursuing academic advancement in neonatal nursing, or wish to attend The National Neonatal Nurses Meeting in Las Vegas, these scholarships can help you attain these goals. ANN wants to help! The deadline for completed applications is May 1, 2007. Last year's winners, Carolyn Terry RN, BSN, of Meriter Hospital in Madison, Wisconsin and Nadine M. Schuniak, RNC, of Georgetown Medical Center in Washington, DC, enjoyed the 2006 meeting...this year it's your turn!

To apply for these scholarships, simply go to [academyonline.org](http://academyonline.org) and click on Scholarships/Awards, then the specific award. You will also notice on this site information for the 2007 Excellence in Neonatal Practice Award. The Academy of Neonatal Nursing wishes to recognize the accomplishments of those nurses who strive to provide the best care for their patients, and have an unbending will to do their best. Now is a good time to consider if you or a colleague qualify for ANN's most prestigious award! Deadline is June 30, 2007. Go for it!

