

**ONCOLOGY NURSING SOCIETY  
NURSE PRACTITIONER (NP) SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP MEETING  
APPROVED MINUTES**

**DATE:** Thursday, April 30, 2009  
**PLACE:** Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center- Room 203A, San Antonio, TX  
**TIME:** 11:15 AM – 12:45 PM  
**RECORDER:**

**ATTENDEES:** 44 attendees that included 36 NP SIG members (List of attendees attached)

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

NP SIG members and guests were welcomed to the 2009 ONS Congress NP SIG meeting. The objectives of the meetings were: 1) to appraise strategies designed to achieve the NP SIG mission and goals; 2) to review the most current information on AOCNP® certification; and 3) to discover the value of networking within the NP SIG. The agenda was reviewed: NP SIG History and Membership Status; Mission, Strategic Plan; Recognition; ONS Leadership Opportunities; AOCNP® and APRN Regulation Updates; Legislative Updates; Mentorship; Topic and Abstract Submissions; Job Description Registry; Certification Challenge; Discriminatory Language Project; Research Projects; and Speed Networking. In response to a NP SIG Communiqué request several NP SIG members donated gift bags representative of their home states with a networking message to be awarded as door prizes at the end of the meeting.

**II. Approval of 2008 Minutes**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the 2008 ONS Congress NP SIG meeting held on May 16, 2008, in Philadelphia, PA. The members were polled and approved the minutes. There were no revisions or approval objections.

**III. NP SIG History and Membership Status**

The NP SIG history was reviewed. Initially, the NP SIG was formed by 13 dedicated NPs, now there are 1,427 NP SIG members, an increase of 73 members in the past year. The NP SIG is the third largest SIG. Thirty-two percent of the 2,119 NP ONS members are not members of the NP SIG.

The past nine Coordinators who led the NP SIG over the past 19 years were recognized: Rebecca Hawkins, Karen Greco, Kathleen Murphy- Ende, Laura Stempkowski, Mary Pat Lynch, Terri Armstrong, Diane Cope, and Wendy Vogel.

Next year we will be celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NP SIG.

**IV. Mission Statement/Strategic Plan**

The NP SIG mission statement, “The NP SIG is dedicated to promoting high standards and fostering the professional development of oncology nurse practitioners in their role as advanced practice nurses in oncology” was discussed.

The strategic plan has been revised 11 times. The current strategic plan is: 1) to increase resources in order to ensure the continued growth and strength of the NP SIG, and, ultimately, ONS; 2) to develop products, services, opportunities, & knowledge base that promotes excellence in advanced practice oncology nursing; 3) to identify members as resources for project teams, leadership teams, various ONS projects or other collaborative opportunities; and 4) to promote networking opportunities for the oncology NP.

**V. Leadership Announcement**

Due to a personal decision the NP SIG Coordinator-elect Christa Braun-Inglis, RN, MS, FNP, ONC® of Honolulu, Hawaii will not be accepting the role of Coordinator at the end of this Congress. The next elected Coordinator will lead the NP SIG beginning at close of Congress 2010.

Stop by the NP SIG Poster # 24 on Saturday from 1600-1800 to meet with NP SIG leaders Braun-Inglis, Wholey, and Biedrzycki to learn about NP SIG opportunities.

The NP SIG poster highlights the many opportunities for members to become more involved. Drop off your business card at the NP SIG Poster for your chance to win a Starbucks gift card donated by Marilyn Hass.

## **VI. Recognition**

Certificates of recognition were awarded to: Christa Braun-Inglis, Diane Cope, Marilyn Haas, Annette Kuck, Kathy Krantz, Janet VanCleve, Wendy Vogel, Megan Wholey, and Jennifer Wulff.

The ONS Congress Team, the San Antonio Chapter, the Room Monitors, the Moderators, the Presenters, the Reviewers, the Greeters, and the Staff were recognized and a round of applause was provided.

## **VII. ONS Leadership Opportunities**

Through May 20, ONS is accepting applications for the Leadership Development Institute. It will be held October 22-25 in the Woodlands, Texas. The NP SIG welcomes the opportunity to work with LDI members. Please consider the NP SIG when developing your project.

The ONS Steering Council is currently accepting applicants. This is a wonderful opportunity for interested NPs.

The ONS Town Hall meeting will be held Saturday, May 2 from 1230-1400 in room 214 C/D.

## **VIII. AOCNP® and APRN Regulation**

Cyndi Miller Murphy, RN, MSN, CAE, Executive Director of ONCC presented an overview of the AOCNP® certification, reviewed regulations, and answered questions. The role, initial graduate education specialty focus, and post-graduate program specialty focus data from the 2008 ONCC Survey of Oncology APRNs were presented. There were 1248 responses (33%).

Information on the APRN Model that is endorsed by ONS and ONCC was presented. It is targeted for implementation in 2015 and has implications for oncology APRNs. The impact of the new model on oncology advanced practice includes” 1) broad educational preparation and certification will be required; 2) specialty credentials will not be required by regulatory bodies; and 3) non regulatory mechanisms will be the driving forces for nurses to demonstrate specialty competencies. Specialty competencies do not have to be obtained within the formal graduate program. Some specific challenges for oncology include: 1) need to demonstrate the value of specialty certification; 2) oncology APRNs must be encouraged to attain and demonstrate specialty competencies; And 3) employers and others must be encouraged to require certification for specialty practice.

## **IX. Legislative Updates**

Legislative issues were presented by Wendy H. Vogel, MSN, FNP AOCNP®, the NP SIG's immediate past Coordinator. NP Vogel introduced data from the Pearson Report, published annually in the American Journal of Nurse Practitioners, available at [www.webnp.net](http://www.webnp.net). There are 147,295 NPs in the U.S. NP safety data is available through the National Practitioner Data Bank and the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank. Overall national occurrence ratios are: for NPs 1:173; for MDs 1:4; and for Dns 1:4. Use the Pearson report for legislation, patients, physician colleagues and own profession.

Currently eight states have restrictions that prohibit NPs with earned doctorates being addressed as a doctor: AK, CT, GA, ME, MS OH, OK, and OR. NP Vogel encouraged NP SIG members to strive to remove these statutory restrictions.

Discriminatory language issues continue. NP Vogel provided an example in which she made a difference in making a pharmaceutical company acknowledging and changing with discriminatory practice.

Policy "clarification" was announced in the CMS 2009 Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) final rule. Issue for us is billing for chemotherapy when NP is supervising in outpatient hospital owned clinic.

FDA Authority over tobacco: H.R, 1256, on 4/2/09 House passed in support. Next to Senate, then to President for his signature. Your voice is needed for support. <http://www.acscan.org> and <http://www.ons.org/lac/onstat.shtml>

ASCO predicted that by 2020 the demand for oncology services will significantly outpace the supply of oncologists available to provide patient care. Demand for oncology services will increase by 48% by 202. Number of oncologists expected to grow by only 14% during this time. This equals a shortage of as many as 4,080 oncologists.

Patrick Cobb, MD, President of Community Oncology Alliance indicated that there is "value in using mid-level practitioners".

ASCO study indicated that 54% of oncologists work with non-physician practitioners. Only half of these practitioners perform advanced activities. NP Vogel indicated that we are poised for a much larger role in healthcare, and asked if we are ready.

## **X. Mentorship**

Christa Braun-Inglis, MS, APRN, FNP-BC, AOCNP® presented information for formal mentoring through National ONS at <http://www.ons.org/membership/mentoring/index.shtml> as well as NP SIG mentoring opportunities at [www.3creekmentoring.com/ONS](http://www.3creekmentoring.com/ONS). There are benefits of being a mentor and a mentee. She explained that there are specific mentoring opportunities as a member, advocate, leader, ethnic minority, student, abstract writer, manuscript writer, and SIG member.

## **XI. Job Description Project**

Diane Cope, RN, PhD, AOCNP® explained the concept of and process of submitting to the NP SIG Job Description Project. NP SIG members are encourage to send their job descriptions to [dggcope@comcast.net](mailto:dggcope@comcast.net) along with permission to post. NP SIG members frequently request examples of oncology nurse practitioner job descriptions. Having multiple job descriptions available will be a great resource.

## **XII. SIG Certification Challenge**

The NP SIG collaborated with ONCC to conceptualize and develop the SIG Certification Challenge. Modeled after the certification challenge that already exists for chapters, the goal is to increase the percentage of SIG members who are certified. Coordinators received information regarding their certification numbers. The SIG with the highest percentage increase will be recognized at their 2010 Congress SIG meeting.

As of 4/15/09, 54% of the NP SIG members were oncology certified, and ranks six among the other SIGs for the highest percentage.

## **XIII. Discriminatory Language Project**

Marilyn Hass, RN, PhD, AOCNP® shared information on the discriminatory language project, and distributed pilot surveys for SIG members' input. We anticipate an online survey among a randomly selected group of oncology NPs.

## **XIV. Work Teams and Project**

Volunteers are welcome to join in any and all of the projects previously mentioned, as well as to work with the NP SIG's newsletter, virtual community, membership and research. Contact any of the NP SIG project chairs or leaders during Congress, or contact Coordinator Biedrzycki at [NPBiedrzycki@aol.com](mailto:NPBiedrzycki@aol.com) later.

## **XV. Special Thanks**

In conclusion, the work that is done for the NP SIG would not be possible without the tireless and ever encouraging efforts of our colleagues at the ONS headquarters. The following ONS staff were acknowledged for their dedication to furthering the success of the NP SIG: Carol DeMarco, Amy Nicoletti, Diane Scheuring, and Angie Stengel.

## **XVI. Speed Networking**

Prior to the start of speed networking, NP SIG members were given five index cards of a single color: green, pink, orange, and yellow; and were advised to write their names on five index cards. NP SIG members would have 2 minutes to speed network. During this time they may discuss whatever they want. While there are no rule about what is discussed, some may chose to ask about oncology practice, a clinical issue, or experiences at Congress. In honor of the conference state of Texas a cow bell will be clanged to mark time to change to the next speed networker. To start those with a green card will find a pink card match, and orange cards will find a yellow card match. They will network for two minutes. At the sound of the cow bell those with pink and yellow cards will move right to the first available green or orange card. At the sound of the cow bell again the green and orange cards will move to the left (yellow and pink cards do not move this time). Match up with the first available pink or yellow on your left. These processes were repeated as time allowed

## **XVII. Raffle**

NP SIG members who attended the meeting were included in a raffle. Multiple NP prizes donated by the NP SIG members were awarded to the attendees.

## **XVIII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1245.

## Attendees List for NP SIG Meeting

**SIG Members****E-mail****Specialty**

Dora Agyemans	agyemoundg@sjchs.org	Surg onc
Jennifer Alisangot		Med onc
Brittany Altermatt	bmaltermatt@gmail.com	Med onc
Michele Barber	msbarberra@hotmail.com	Med onc
Barbara Biedrzycki	NPBiedrzycki@aol.com	Immunology
Christa Braun-Inglis		Med onc
Annette Bross	wabross@att.net	Heme onc
Gisele Castonguay		Med onc
Amy Clark	Amie.clark@hci.utah.edu	Med onc
Diane Cope*	dgcope@comcast.net	Heme onc
Judy Devlin	Judith.develin@utsouthwestern.edu	Heme onc
Peg Esper	pesper@umich.edu	Med onc
Renee Gunther		Med onc
Marilyn Haas		Radiation
Rebecca Ingle	bjingle@comcast.net	Heme
Michelle Karlin	mkkfamily@sbcglobal.net	Rad onc
Marilyn King	candmking@cox.net	Heme onc
Coleen Lee		
Heather Mackey	Mackey@triad.rr.com	Onc infusion
Kelley Mayden	kdunrun@charter.net	Heme onc
Katen Moore		Med onc
Karen Overmeyer	Karen.overmeyer@hcahealthcare.com	Med onc
Denise Renki	dreinke@umch.edu	Med onc
Jean Rosiak	Jeannie@wi.rr.com	Breast onc
Lynn Scallion	Lynn.scallion@duke.edu	
Debbie Selm-Orr	Deborahselmorr@hotmail.com	Med onc
Gary Shelton	Gary.Shelton@nyumc.org	Med onc
Karen Shore	Karen.shore@jci.edu	Heme Onc
Julie Smit	Julie.smit@hci.utah.edu	Med onc
Sandra Urban-Lynch	Urban-lynch@southwest.org	Med onc
Mary Vecchip	<a href="mailto:Vecchip.mary@huntedonhealthcare.org">Vecchip.mary@huntedonhealthcare.org</a>	Comm. Ed. / outreach
Wendy Vogel	wvogel@charter.net	Heme onc
Megan Wholey		Med onc
Kristi Wiggins	Klw14@duke.edu	Breast onc
Gail Williams	Gail.williams@jefferson.edu	Med onc
Sara Wood		Psychiatry

**Not SIG Members**

Yvonne Barnes	Yjb1345@bjc.org	Ped BMT
Catherine L. Carroll	Ccarrol9@hfhs.org	Heme once
Pamela Esquivel	pesquivel@ltn.edu	Surg onc
Nicole Stallings	Nstallings215@aol.com	Out-pt. onc
Karen Trew hitt	trewhitk@mail.nih.gov	Med onc
Karen Underhill	kunderhi@gmail.com	Med onc

Peggy Welch	dswelch@comcast.net	Onc infusion
Brenda Whigham	bwhigham@aolc.com	Med onc

\* Interested in being in a work group. Note that one person marked an interested in serving in a workgroup.