

ANSA WEBSITE

We have a new web address: www.anaemianurse.org

We also have a new Webmaster called Toby Wheeler

If you have any ideas for the web site or anything you would like to see on it, Please inform Deborah.

The Newsletter and register of members will be posted on the website, please let us know if your details are incorrect or need updating.

Send your ideas and suggestions for future newsletters to Deborah.



The ANSA Executive is working to improve both the number and quality of services available to ANSA members. A positive result of this has been an encouraging increase in membership - we are now up to 117!

The ANSA website: www.anaemianurse.org is continually changing. You can log on to find details of a regional meeting near you, and the power point presentations from this year's annual conference are now available.

The first ANSA Masterclass, held in London on the 7th and 8th June was a resounding success. 28 ANSA members enjoyed a full programme of presentations on the theme, "Cancer-Related Anaemia". Discussion was lively and we all left feeling that we had learned a lot.

The second ANSA Masterclass is shaping up to be even better. It will be held on October 4th and 5th in Manchester. Topics include: Treatment options for oncology and haematology patients: the pharmacology of erythropoietin agents; Managing anaemia in oncology patients; Benefits of using erythropoietin agents in the oncology/haematology setting; The pharmacology of iron agents.

Plans are underway for the 2004 Annual Conference. By popular request it will be held again at Eastwood Hall, Nottingham on the 22nd and 23rd April, 2004. Now is your chance to contribute to the programme. Please email your ideas to the committee or the ANSA Secretariat.

I look forward to record numbers at the masterclass this October and at the next annual conference in April 2004.

Best Wishes

Karen Jenkins
President, ANSA

Treasurer's Report:

Autumn is the traditional time to prepare the budget for the coming year. Together, the ANSA Executive has identified and prioritised projects to help us realise the ANSA aims of providing a forum for sharing best practice and helping ANSA members to keep abreast of new developments by providing leading edge training and professional development. We have scheduled meetings with our five corporate sponsors: Amgen, Ortho-Biotech, Roche, Syner-Med and Vitaline to discuss the 2004 ANSA Business Plan.
Lynn Fullerton.

Executive Committee

President – Karen Jenkins
Secretary – Marie Chowrimootoo
Treasurer – Lynn Fullerton
International Liaison Officer - Lesley Bennett

Regional Chairs

Pam Airey – Scotland
Sandra Barnes – East Birmingham/Nottingham/Derby/Leicester/Lichfield/Coventry/Solihull
Eleanor Maloney – East Anglia/Essex/Herts/N.Thames
Alison Roche – S.Thames/South of the M4
Pat Sirrett – West Birmingham/Sandwell/Wolverhampton/Shrewsbury/Worcester/Hereford/S.Wales
Nancy Tannahill - N.Wales/M62 corridor/Lancashire/Yorkshire
Deborah Spencer – Newsletter Editor/Web page contact

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If you wish to become more involved in ANSA activities, Write to Us.

OTHER NEWS

2nd Master Class - 4-5 October 2003

Regional Updates

Summary of 2003 Annual Conference

New Innovations in Practice Scholarship

to attend the Anaemia Module
at Hertfordshire University

Annual Conference

April 22nd & 23rd 2004
Hayley Conference Centre
Eastwood Hall, Nottingham

Special Theme:
"Innovations in Practice"

Scholarship Award available
Early Registration deadline
16 January 2004



ANSA

Anaemia Nurse Specialist Association

What a time for the Fire Alarm to go off. All I said was "Good Morning" and I cleared the room.



REGIONAL MEETING 27th June 2003

Bass Brewery Museum
Supported by an educational grant from Amgen.

Summary of the Agenda

Sandra Barnes, Birmingham Heartlands
Welcome & Introduction to GroupWork

Marie Chowrimootoo, St Georges. London
All About ANSA

Dr Richard Fluck, Derby City General
Contemporary Issues in Anaemia

Pat Sirrett, Queen Elizabeth Birmingham
Iron Management

Dr Mark Thomas, Birmingham Heartlands
LVH, Hypertension, Anaemia

Lynne Fullerton, Nottingham City Hospital
Competencies

Meeting Evaluation

From the evaluation it is clear that most of the delegates felt that the "Agenda" provided sessions that were both useful and relevant.

The most rewarding comment for the Day

"As a staff nurse new to the Renal Unit I have gained some very useful information, which I can share with my colleagues."

Out of 19 delegates, 17 stated they would attend another ANSA meeting.

Thank You MESSAGE FROM THE REGIONAL CHAIR

I would like to thank all delegates who attended the 1st Regional ANSA meeting for their valuable input during the day.

The afternoon workshop highlighted inconsistencies in the knowledge and understanding of competencies.

Competencies are high on the political nursing agenda and are to become an integral part of nursing practice. ANSA both locally and nationally view this as a high priority and an area that requires further development.

With this in mind, elements from the meeting will be taken forward and presented at the next National Meeting 2004.

Thank you to Lisa Proctor for her help during the meeting. A special thank you to both Debbie Stanton from Amgen and Cathy Johnson from Derby for their help in putting this day together.

Sandra Barnes
Please feel free to email comments
Sandra.Barnes@heartsol.wmids.nhs.uk

Anaemia Nurse Specialist Association (ANSA) 2nd Annual Conference 2003

Feedback from the Annual Conference was very positive. The delegates, gathered at Eastwood Hall Nottingham, enjoyed a very well planned conference at a wonderful venue with excellent speakers.

The conference was opened by the Keynote speaker Professor Don Silverberg, from Tel Aviv, Israel, who gave an excellent presentation entitled 'The Cardiorenal Syndrome Does it Exist?'

He spoke about the problem of iron deficiency in the anaemia of chronic disease and the success of treating this group with intravenous iron sucrose. He described the cardiorenal anaemia syndrome as a vicious circle of destruction. The conclusion was that anaemia causes both CHF and CKD. He discussed his study (JACC 2000) and felt that anaemia related to CHD and CKD required a multidisciplinary approach between Cardiologists and Nephrologists.

He concluded that correction of anaemia seen in CHF has profound benefits with respect to cardiac function, renal function, quality of life and that inter-speciality co-operation is essential to improve patient outcomes.

Other speakers included:

Dr Steven Thomas, from King's College Hospital, London who presented on the Progression of Renal Disease and Diabetes. Diabetes is now one of the most common causes of CKD and anaemia in this population is being diagnosed even without renal impairment. Early detection and treatment of anaemia in this group of patients could prevent future cardiovascular complications.

Dr Judith Marsh, Consultant Haematologist from St George's Hospital, London, covered the topic of Pure Red Cell Aplasia (PRCA) extremely well. She explained the classification of PRCA, the causes of acquired PRCA, including viruses and drugs. She then described the investigations and treatments that can be offered. Her presentation gave an in depth explanation of PRCA and left the audience with a clearer understanding of the disease.

Marie Chowrimootoo (Anaemia Nurse Specialist St George's Hospital London) presented a case study of a renal patient who had experienced PRCA induced by rHuEPO.

Professor Michael Kemeny, Consultant Immunologist, King's College Hospital, London offered a scientific, immunological explanation for drug induced PRCA and discussed the possible reasons why rHuEPO may cause this. These interesting presentations on PRCA led on to a lively panel discussion with audience participation.

Emily Okukenu, Nurse Specialist Association of Specialist Practitioners of Transfusion (SPOT). Her talk entitled 'Mad Cows and Englishmen' looked at the growing problems of blood transfusion, reduction in donors, cell salvage and the need to explore alternatives to transfusion.

Sue Woodcock from St Helier Hospital, Surrey addressed the educational needs for Specialist Nurses. ANSA are working towards supporting these educational needs.

Lynn Fullerton (Anaemia Nurse Specialist, Nottingham City Hospital) gave an update on nurse prescribing and an in depth account of her own experience and the pathway to become a supplementary prescriber.

The conference was stimulating and the feedback from delegates was very positive. As the venue was so popular ANSA will be holding next years conference at the same place. Please provide your ideas for speakers or topics to the Executive Committee or the ANSA Secretariat.

More details of the above presentations can be found on our website.

Greetings from the M62 corridor!

A couple of study days had been organised and I was fortunate to be able to introduce ANSA to the attendees.

In **JUNE** – at St. David's Ewloe, North Wales and held mainly for Oncology, Haematology and Blood Transfusion Nurses

"Past, Present and Future of Anaemia Management"

Topics included "Reduction in the Pool of Blood" with a Laboratory Technician presenting the history of blood transfusion tests, availability of blood and the main issues of blood transfusion.

Toni Jarvis from Wrexham presented the title topic from a Renal perspective.

Dr. Martin Bexon presented "Erythropoietin Anaemia Management" which included Oncology, Haematology and Renal conditions.

In **JULY** – at Manchester Royal Infirmary an Anaemia Study Day

This day was organised and chaired by Sue Perrin an ex ANSA committee member and was aimed at anaemialink nurses covering topics such as;

"The timely intervention of anaemia management in pre dialysis,"

"The role of the Anaemia Co-ordinator ."

"Iron management,"

"The role of the Link Nurse in HD, Satellite Units, Transplant and Nephrology" Both days were a great success and I feel that there will be an increase in the ANSA membership!

There may be the opportunity to hold another study day in the North either before Christmas or early in the New Year and Ideas for topics would be gratefully received.

Many thanks to both organisers for inviting me.

Regards,
Nancy

Pam Airey, Scotland Regional Chair

Pam is Anaemia Co-ordinator /Predialysis Sister at Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary NHS Trust. She has worked in renal nursing for 9 years and have done anaemia management for the past 7 years. Pam ran a very successful Scottish Anaemia Group meeting on 1st September.

See website for details.

Contact Details: Tel 01387 241808 Fax: 01387 241604
Email: p.airey @dgri.scot.nhs.uk

Irish Anaemia Management course

Karen ran a 2-day Anaemia Management Course in Dublin for Irish nurses involved in anaemia. This made possible by an unrestricted educational grant from Roche.

Overseas Members

Lesley Bennett is now acting as the representative for overseas nurses and has travelled to various countries to promote ANSA. We now have 10 overseas members. ANSA is hoping to encourage other nurses from Europe to join, so if you know of any nurses who are involved in any aspect of anaemia management who would benefit from ANSA membership, please ask them to contact Lesley directly as she would love to hear from them. Lesley's e-mail address is :
Lesley.Bennett@orh.nhs.uk

WHAT'S NEW?

ANSA is introducing Innovations in Practice Awards. All members will be encouraged to submit abstracts by the 31st December. Applications forms will be available shortly. To encourage you to put pen to paper, the author of the winning abstract will receive sponsorship for the Renal module at Herts. University from ANSA. Abstracts will be displayed on the website for members to read.



Dr Steven Thomas, King's College Hospital

Just to let you know the agenda is almost complete for the regional meeting, which will be held on the 13th of October in central London. All members are welcome to attend and overnight accommodation will be available for long distance travellers. Regional members will receive personal invitations through the post in the next few weeks. If you are interested in attending and are outside the region please let us know as soon as possible. We look forward to seeing you there!

Ali and Eleanor
PS Congratulations to Alison who recently married and is now Alison Roche!

NEXT REGIONAL MEETING: July 2004 - Venue and Date to be arranged