

6th ANSA ANNUAL CONFERENCE Hayley Conference Centre, Nottingham, 19th-20th April 2007

This year's annual conference was again well received by delegates and we were treated to some outstanding presentations around the theme of "Evidence for Practice."

The conference started with not one but two workshops. Roche and Shire both sponsored workshops focusing on "Innovations in Anaemia Treatment" which had delegates voting via electronic key pads and "Pushing the frontiers in anaemia management". Both workshops involved experts sharing their knowledge in a variety of ways!
Dr Christopher Winearls, our Key Note Speaker, followed the workshops. He gave an excellent presentation on Haemoglobin Targets – History, Choir and Create Studies, which was well evaluated by all. There was then time to relax and catch up over dinner with barn dancing to burn off any extra energy.

Friday morning began with the AGM. ANSA have had yet another active year with successful NICE study days, BRS and EDTNA affiliation, RCN collaboration including a satellite workshop with RCN Nephrology Nurses forum. Membership is still healthy with increasing numbers from PCT's following the NICE study days. The 1st module of "ANSA academy" was live from that weekend with plans for module 2 in the next year. ANSA said a sad farewell to two members of the executive committee, Pat Sirrett and Nancy Tannahill. There was a change in Presidents; Alison Roche retired as President after a very busy and successful term to be replaced by Cathy Johnson, Derby Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

The conference program had a wealth of speakers, giving ANSA members in-depth education on a variety of subjects.

The speakers included;

Dr George Mellotte, Consultant Nephrologist - Iron Metabolism and the role of Hepcidin.
Professor Swee Ley Thein, Professor of Molecular Haematology – Managing iron overload.
Cathy Johnson, Anaemia Specialist Nurse – HB Cycling
Alison Roche, Consultant Nurse – The Renal Nurse's perspective on NICE Anaemia in CKD Guidelines.
Dr Richard Fluck, Consultant Nephrologist – Utopia
Dr Alex Hodsmann, Registrar – Reality
Donna Macarthur, Head of commissioning – Funding the reality.

More details on the above presentations can be found on the ANSA website.
Yet again the conference was a big success, judging from the evaluations, and plans are well underway for next one on 24-25th April 2008 at the Queens Hotel, Leeds.

Innovations in Anaemia Management

Natasha McIntyre, Consultant Nurse
Karen Jenkins, Consultant Nurse Renal Services, East Kent Hospitals NHS Trust

The 'Innovations in Anaemia Management' workshop held at the 6th annual ANSA conference in April 2007 examined the evolving role of nurses in anaemia management and looked towards future innovations in the field.

An ageing UK population, alongside the recently introduced NICE guideline on the management of anaemia associated with chronic kidney disease (ACKD)¹ and the renal disease National Service Framework (NSF)², has increased the number of patients requiring treatment of ACKD without a significant increase in resources to support it. As a consequence, the role of healthcare professionals responsible for anaemia management is changing, in order to ensure that patient care is not compromised.

The workshop explored the changing face of anaemia management, using best practice case studies as examples, and looked at ways in which care could be optimised to improve patient outcomes. It was clear that the recently introduced guideline has had a significant impact on anaemia management, leading to many units revising their protocols, with some discharging their patients into the community to free up resources.

Others are implementing a shared care approach across primary and secondary care. For example, some units are setting up satellite iron clinics for patients in the community and developing protocols to facilitate administration of iron in the primary care setting. Workshop attendees highlighted the importance of regular and maintained communication between primary and secondary care, alongside implementation of robust patient monitoring, in order to ensure successful implementation of shared care programmes. By the end of the workshop, shared care approaches were advocated by over 70% of the attendees,³ although concern was expressed around funding and potential for reduced quality of care for patients, which may need to be addressed.

In order for shared care programmes to work, education and support packages are needed for both renal and non-renal healthcare professionals to facilitate understanding of all therapy options, cost implications and practicalities of anaemia management, now and in the future.

In conclusion, the workshop demonstrated how staff approaches to anaemia management are evolving to meet the needs of this growing ACKD population. Healthcare professionals who are responsible for anaemia management are being creative, innovative and striving to provide a seamless service for their patients.

The workshop and the development of this article have been sponsored by Roche Products Ltd. Natasha McIntyre, in her capacity as nurse consultant, is currently working with Roche Products Ltd.

References

1. NICE guideline on anaemia associated with chronic kidney disease. <http://www.nice.org.uk>. Last accessed 27 June 2007
2. National Service Framework for renal anaemia. www.dh.gov.uk. Last accessed 27 June 2007
3. Digital voting answers from the 'Innovations in Anaemia Management' workshop held at the 6th annual Anaemia Nurse Specialist Association (ANSA) conference. April 2007

Project "Time"

ANSA members were invited to attend an advisory board hosted by Roche at EDTNA recently. A new patient education initiative "TIME" was launched. This is a multi module education programme targeted at teaching patients more about managing their disease. It has been created in short snappy sessions – facilitated by prompts, flash search and support information. The first three modules, vascular access, salt & water retention and exercise are due to be launched with a training package in early 2008. Keep an eye out for these as they will be freely available for use. We will keep you informed as the modules become available. ANSA supports this project along with the NKF.



Dr. Chris Winearls, Key Note Speaker at the 2007 ANSA Conference



Innovations in Anaemia Management
Roche Seminar

ANSA NEWS

Autumn Edition 2007

Welcome to the autumn 2007 edition of ANSA News. My first year as President of ANSA is just flying by.

Our Activities so far this year include:

- Hosting the third and final study day to help with the implementation of the Anaemia Management in CKD Guidelines. More than 200 professionals have attended and all thought the days were informative and left with practical advice for improving their practice.
- A Strategy Planning weekend for the ANSA Executive – intense and revealing, but well worth the effort as it has injected a new energy into the group who all want to offer an even more innovative forum for ANSA members.
- ANSA members have participated in a National survey about the time they are able to spend with patients.
- ANSA co-hosted the Internet Café with Doctors.NetUK at the BRS Conference in Birmingham this summer. ANSA was right in step with the delegates who all wore the ANSA colours and logo on their lanyards!
- Co-operation with the RCN Nephrology Nurses Forum to offer a CKD workshop at the RCN Conference in Harrogate.
- Actively participating on the BRS Council
- Meeting with Corporate Members as requested, to act as an advisory board

We are currently putting the final touches to the 2008 ANSA Annual Conference to be held in a venue new to us: Queens Hotel, Leeds. The hotel is ideally situated just 3 minutes from the mainline train station, and an easy 10 minute walk to an impressive shopping area. The dates to put in your diary now are: 24th & 25th April 2008. Registration fee is highly subsidised for members, so if you haven't yet sent in your membership renewal, do so now!

You will be pleased to learn that once again we are able to offer an exceptionally strong programme – including an afternoon featuring in-depth workshops – one on non-response, and one on optimising anaemia in HD patients. Donal O'Donoghue, the Renal Tsar, has agreed to be our Key Note Speaker and will be giving us tips on how to deliver a World Class Service.

To help you keep learning in between the ANSA conferences and study days, do test your knowledge in the ANSA Anaemia Academy. Directions for registering on-line can be found below.

I am delighted to welcome three ANSA members to the ANSA Executive. They are: Sharon Benton from Truro, Susan Pickard from Basildon and Kate Taylor from Nottingham.

Finally, I would like to thank all our Corporate Members for their continuing support. They are Amgen, Ortho-Biotech, Roche, Shire, Syner-Med and Vitaline.

I look forward to seeing you in Leeds in April 2008.

With best wishes

Cathy Johnson,
ANSA President

ANSA Anaemia Academy

Hopefully you've had the opportunity to start our 1st module of the e-learning series of the ANSA Anaemia Academy. This module, generously sponsored by Amgen, was launched at the national meeting back in April). If not, it is not time limited and you can access it via a link on the ANSA website www.anaemianurse.org or via the DNUK Nursing website. Simply register (a once-only requirement) on www.uknursing.net/registration. Have your NMC number to hand. Choose a username and password, and then go to www.uknursing.net/anaemiaacademy to begin your training. There has been a fantastic response, so far with over 650 GP's starting the module (416 passed it) – so ANSA has something to teach GP's!

There has been a smaller number of nurses completing the module but the nursing website is a newer phenomenon, and the numbers are growing. We really recommend that you have a go, it is challenging and confidence building - all in the same package. The ANSA Executive is working towards developing the second module, featuring more case studies based upon patients with renal disease, but also featuring the more common co-morbid factors of diabetes, chronic heart failure and autoimmune problems. It is hoped we will be able to link the module outcomes to the KSF framework so members can use their certificate as evidence towards achieving specified objectives within the appraisal process. Kate Taylor, PDN head at Nottingham City Hospital and ANSA exec member is taking the lead on this. See the ANSA website for further developments as they progress.

NICE Meeting

ANSA held the 3rd Study day to support nurses with the implementation of the NICE guidelines on Anaemia Management in CKD. Delegates enjoyed a new venue in central London, the Cavendish Conference Centre. Keep a note of it, we will be using it again – excellent venue and facilities as evidenced by comment from delegates.

There was a great mix of nurses from different renal units and across primary care; the speakers provoked discussion and sharing of practice. Aspects of the evaluation feedback put it in a nutshell.

- "a great refresher of practical anaemia management of iron deficiency"
- "nice to know our work colleagues have contributed to the NICE guidelines"
- "Highlighted the need to continue looking at individual patient's needs as well as the guidelines"

This brings to a close the series we have held to support NICE implementation and our thanks go to Amgen for the support of the project.

Look out for: Workshops at the national meeting using Nice Algorithms as quality improvement tools in the clinical management of anaemia in HD and poor response.

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

Dates for your Diary

Renal Pharmacy Group Conference, Birmingham
October 19th - 20th 2007

ASN, San Francisco
1st - 4th November 2007

EDTNA UK Seminar, Bristol
November 18th - 19th 2007

Liverpool Care Pathway National Conference, London
November 28th 2007

World Kidney Day
13th March 2008

ANSA Annual Conference, Leeds
24-25 April 2008

BRS/RA Conference 2008, Glasgow
13th - 16th May 2008