

Welcome to 2006 – A Happy New Year to everyone! I can't believe Christmas has come and gone for another year.

This letter is a team effort from both Karen and I. As you may be aware Karen has been doing a sterling job holding the fort as President whilst I am on maternity leave (so much for standing down last April!)

The past year has been a busy one for ANSA, with a successful National Meeting, Cardiology Masterclass, Clinical Skills day and Regional Meetings. In addition ANSA members have been presenting their work within the Anaemia Special interest group workshop at EDTNA in Vienna.

The Cardiology Masterclass, held in December in Stratford was sadly the last of the Masterclass series for the time being, but be assured there are plans for other educational ventures for 2006. For those of you who missed it, the presentations can be accessed via the website.

Your feedback from the annual conference has, as always, generated new ideas. We will be concentrating on smaller and more interactive days as many members are moving into advanced roles and looking to diversify their clinical skills and practice.

The first clinical skills day held in July at Guys' hospital addressed advanced assessment and history taking skills. This was a fun and informal day, made so, by the interaction of our speakers and the group. Pat Sirrett is planning a similar day in the Midlands on the 7th April, so check the website for further information.

The ANSA executive committee are currently working to bring you another fabulous Annual Conference, at a new venue this year on a new date. We are taking you to the Hayley Conference Centre in Swindon and look forward to seeing you on 8th & 9th June. This year's speakers will include: David Van Wyck, a world expert in the use of IV iron who will be flying in from the States, and Es Wills, renowned Nephrologist whose expertise in research and anaemia management will astound us all. We will also be updating you on the progress of the NICE guidelines for Anaemia management in CKD.

We look forward to seeing you all in 2006

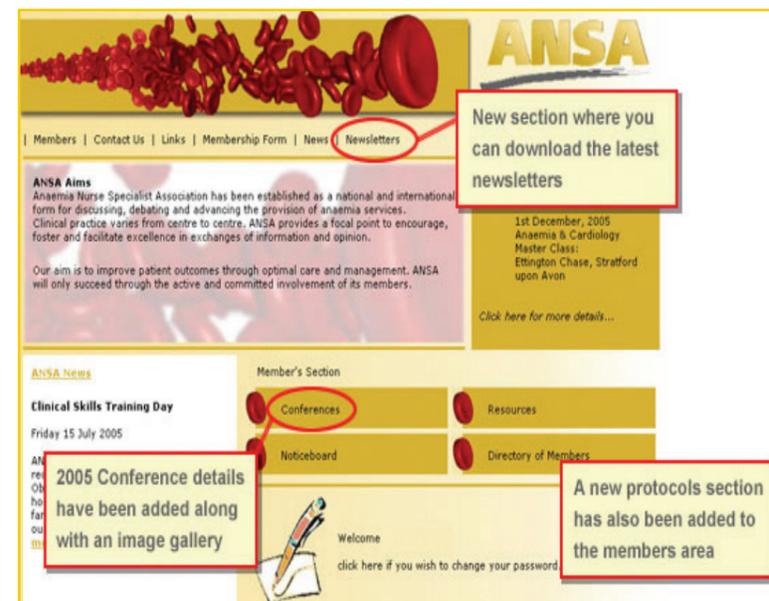
With Best Wishes



Alison Roche
ANSA President



Karen Jenkins
Immediate Past President



The screenshot shows the ANSA website homepage with several callouts highlighting new features:

- New section where you can download the latest newsletters:** A red box highlights the 'Newsletters' link in the top navigation bar.
- 2005 Conference details have been added along with an image gallery:** A red box highlights the '2005 Conference details' section on the left side of the page.
- A new protocols section has also been added to the members area:** A red box highlights the 'Protocols' link in the 'Member's Section' on the right side of the page.

ANSA Web Site

ANSA aims to provide its members with accessible up to date information and education through the ANSA website: www.anaemianurse.org

We strongly encourage Members to use the website frequently. One of the benefits of ANSA membership is to have access to information on the website which is not available to the general public. This includes power point presentations from our invited speakers at Conferences, Study days and Master Classes; Educational abstracts and other educational documents. You can also keep up to date on any upcoming events or relative news.

Several new additions have also been included on the website: A Newsletter Page has been created, where you can download all previous newsletter publications. In the Member's-Only section, a new Protocols section has been added. Protocol Information from Nottingham City Hospital, King's College Hospital and University Hospital Birmingham can be viewed regarding:

- Job Descriptions
- Administering Iron
- Shared Care
- Starting EPO
- Poor Response
- Miscellaneous.

One of the ANSA objectives is that members share best practice and keep abreast of new developments. You can exchange ideas and share information with other members by contributing to the Notice board, a discussion page where you can receive and provide peer support as well as Professional and educational support to other members. (You are required to register separately for access to the ANSA Notice board.) If you need information on how to do this or you need help to log in to the ANSA website, please contact our Web Support Officer at the ANSA Secretariat: ANSA@mandmconsultants.co.uk or contact Dee on 01483 724472).

ANSA strives to meet it's members needs based upon feedback, so please let us know of any ideas you have to improve the website by going to our Forum now!

SE Regional Meeting - Canterbury Kent Advances in Anaemia Management Learning New Theories to Put into Practice

Friday 14th October 2005

The South East Regional meeting held in Canterbury, hosted by Carol Anderson and Paul Wilson from the ANSA executive committee, was attended by members from across the region. The aim of the meeting was to update us on new developments in iron and Erythropoiesis stimulating agent (ESA) management and to see what impact this may have on practice. Presentations were given by Amgen, Ortho-biotech and Roche. The future of ESAs and the effect of 'new' biosimilars potentially coming onto the market provoked a lively discussion. Presentations on dosing, frequency of administration and efficacy of the various ESA's were also given. The Blood transfusion co-ordinator, Bill Chaffe, from East Kent Hospitals NHS Trust gave a very informative talk about blood transfusion avoidance in non-renal settings and discussed how he was working with the local anaemia nurses to promote the use of intravenous iron and ESA's. Lesley Bennett discussed the use of different types of intravenous iron and how they could be used in practice to enable patient choice. Karen Jenkins led a discussion on anaemia management in the pre-dialysis setting.

The meeting was informal which allowed open discussion and lively debate between the speakers and participants. The meeting was sponsored by an educational grant from Roche Products Ltd.

Cardiology Master Class Review:



A big thank you to Dr. David Wheeler for his input on the day

It was early in December in the heart of Shakespeare country we held our 4th Master class on Cardiology and I am sure every one took something away with them.

David Wheeler, Consultant Nephrologist at the Royal Free, saved the day by not only being our Chairperson but also giving two of the talks (this was due to other commitments from two of our other guest speakers). He opened with basic Anatomy and Physiology of the Heart, outlining the function of the healthy heart.

Our next speaker was someone we all know from Renal Industry, Digby Lund who reminded us about the Renal Triangle and the relationship of "Heart Failure and Anaemia" and it's prevalence to CKD.

Following coffee, Valerie Ross, Senior Pharmacist Cardiac Services from Barts and the London Hospital presented an overview of their Nurse-Led clinic, underlining the fact that heart failure will become a common problem as our population survives longer.

This theme was underlined by Heather Jayasekera, Clinical Nurse Specialist at Hope hospital Manchester. Heather leads a clinic solely on Blood Pressure Management, not just for CKD but also for those on renal replacement therapy. Her experience confirms that all patients respond differently to different medication regimes and other factors should be considered such as diet and fluid control.

Following lunch, Eve Shannon, a heart failure liaison nurse, described her experience of managing patients in her nurse-led clinic based in Glasgow. The aims of the service include maximising survival and quality of life, which are achieved by patient education and optimisation of treatment regimes, which has an added bonus of reduced hospital readmissions.

Concluding the speakers for the day, Dr David Wheeler spoke about the impact of mineral metabolism management on vascular calcification, presenting potential treatment strategies to allow a more selective approach to the management of renal bone disease, which may help to reduce this cardiovascular risk.

Karen closed the meeting by thanking all speakers, attendees, and Amgen who had sponsored the event.

A warm thank you to all the Guest Speakers who gave permission to include their Presentations on the ANSA website. These are available to download from the Resources section.

Clinical Skills Training Day Friday 15 July 2005



Delegates hard at work

ANSA achieved two 'first's' with the recent clinical skills training day. It was the first time we had hosted such a subject, which was enthusiastically well evaluated and enjoyed by all our attendees. Our learning experience was enhanced by the informal environment in the clinical classroom at the Sherman Education Centre at Guy's Hospital.

The day started with an overview of comprehensive history taking, and focused questions with regard to patient presentation by Dr. Tony Booth, SpR at Kings College Hospital. Next, Dr Katie Vinen, Consultant Nephrologist at Kings College Hospital, presented case studies which encouraged us to think about the important aspects of running a time-limited clinical consultation, and when we should consider referring patients to other agencies or to our consultant colleagues. The final session was led by Dr Behzad Ansari who is an Associate Specialist at Kings. He ran a practical session which had us listening to each other's heart sounds, lung auscultation, and completing fluid assessments on each other.

The second 'first' for ANSA, was that the day provided practice assessment documents to take back to our clinical areas and build on the skills that were introduced to us during the day. The success of this day has led to two further clinical skills training days being planned for 2006.

Thanks to Roche Products Ltd for the educational grant which made this day possible.

ANSA 2006

- Nominations for President Elect are underway and will be announced at the AGM
- ANSA is now affiliated with the British Renal Society and looks forward to working collaboratively with the BRS team. Look out for the ANSA stand at the BRS/RA conference in May.
- ANSA continues to be involved in the NICE guidelines for Anaemia Management in Kidney Disease both as member of the Guideline Development Group and as a Stakeholder

Diary of Events

**Key Advances in the clinical management of renal failure
Royal Society of Medicine**
8th February 2006 – London

Nurse Prescribing Course
22st-22nd February 2006 - Kensington, London

Continuing Education Programme in Paediatric Nephrology and Urology
27th February – 3rd March 2006 – London

5th Annual Renal Transplant Education Forum
15th –17th March 2006 – University of Warwick

Diabetes UK
29th-31st March 2006 – Birmingham ICC & NIA

British Transplantation Society
29th-31st March 2006 – EICC, Edinburgh

Midlands Clinical Skills Study Day
7th April 2006 - Birmingham University

British Cardiac Society
24th-27th April 2006 – SECC Glasgow

The British Renal Society/Renal Association Integrated Conference
3rd-5th May 2006 – Harrogate International Centre

ANSA 5th Annual Conference "Broadening the Horizon of Anaemia Management"
8th-9th June 2006 – Alexandra House, Swindon

EDTNA/ERCA Conference
8th-11th September 2006 – Palacio Municipal Juan Carlos I Madrid, Spain

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