

May/June 2011

RNS Newsletter

Our Mission

RNS is a membership organization for medical care coordination that provides continuing education and networking.

The professional goal of its members is to advocate for quality patient care while utilizing community resources in a cost effective manner

Upcoming meetings

•June – no meeting

- July 28th
- August 25th
- September 22nd
- October 27th

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An overview of last months program held on May 26, 2011

The latest advances in prosthetic services available to patients including myoelectrics: a general overview.

Presented by a representative from Hanger Prosthetics

Hanger Prosthetics and Orthotics is one of the United States' leading provider of prosthetics and orthotics.

They help amputees and individuals with musculoskeletal disabilities and injuries improve their quality of life and regain their self-confidence.

From artificial limbs to braces and other types of DME, they offer a comprehensive range of products and services to help patients get back on their feet again.

The program on May 26th - the Hanger representation showed us some of the prosthetic limbs that they offer and how they fit and modify each limb for their patients.

This program proved to be an interesting 'show and tell' that benefitted those who are RN case managers and may have an amputee as a patient.

Date: July 28th, 2011

Registration : 11:30 am – 12:00 pm

Lunch: 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Presentation: 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Location:

Quiet Cannon
900 Via San Clemente
Montebello, CA
323 724-9284

Registration form
See page 3

Cost

Members - \$25.00

Non-members \$35.00

CEU's: approved for 2 hours

BRN provider # 01219

CCM - 2 CEU's

Presidents Message

By Barbara Greenfield, RN BSN, CCM, CNLCP

Dear RNS Members and Friends;

On Friday, April 29, 2011, the Brain Injury Association of California held their Statewide Conference on ATBI: Resources & Pathways to Brain Injury Recovery. The 2nd annual conference was well attended by caregivers, professionals, survivors, and several of our members. The conference was at the California Endowment, a wonderful venue in Los Angeles. The courses included post traumatic stress after TBI, surviving grief, issues of children transitioning to school after TBI, and returning to college for adults, among others.

The conference keynote, "Navigating Through the Fog" was a presentation from Brian Healy, a survivor. Mr. Healy provided an emotional account of his experiences from initial denial, to acute care, to rehab, and return to work. He also told of his frustration and confusion due to his verbal communication dysfunction. He described how his hard work, the support of his rehab team, and his wife allowed him to live happily and work again. His labile emotions were echoed in the audience as I observed many tear filled eyes. His speech was inspiring and educational.

I encourage all of you to keep this conference on your calendar for next year. Let your clients know about it as well.

News from the conference was that the California Brain Injury Association officially became the Brain Injury Association of California. Also of interest to us is that BIACA is sponsoring new legislation, Senate Bill (SB) 253 in California.

"Health insurers have driven the length of stay down from 1990 to now at an average rate of 8% each year, but the disease itself has not changed. Non treatment results in unnecessary levels of tremendous disability, job loss, medical insurance loss, medical indigence, homelessness, and family system destruction. Each dollar spent in proper rehabilitation saves multiple dollars in lifetime savings... The Brain Injury Association of California wants to ensure that people who sustain brain injury in California are properly treated to their maximum recovery for their good and the good of the financial well-being of our state." (Retrieved on 5/1/11)

Harkening back to our Newsletter of February, 2011, is other news from BIACA. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords is becoming a spokesperson for Brain Injury, even as she recovers. Take a look at the BIACA website, <http://www.calbia.org/legislative.htm>. Her staffers are calling for an end to the "treatment gap" for those with traumatic brain injuries by defining rehabilitation care as part of the essential benefits package included in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act."

All the Best

Barbara

**Board of
Directors 2011**

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Employment Opportunity

Eisenhower M/C, a world class teaching hospital that has recently expanded to over 500 beds, and is looking for a seasoned professional who can restructure the Case Management Department, mold it in their vision and prepare it for the challenges that lay ahead. The Director will report to a very supportive COO and has a staff of 42; including 2 supervisors, and support staff in Case Management and Social Services.

Contact Sandra Bross

818 521-1112

SandraRN@lycos.com

Please RSVP by e-mail, phone or mail by **May 20, 2011**.

E-mail: administrator@cchomenurses.com

Call Kellie Kerr or Maryanne Sawoski.

Office: (818) 753-5106 cell (818) 730-8490

July 28th meeting registration.

Detach and mail to....
(Please include your check)

Maryanne Sawoski, c/o RNS
Continuity Care Home Nurses
12722 Riverside Drive, Suite #108
North Hollywood, CA 91607
Attention: Kellie Kerr

Number of members _____ at \$25.00

Number of non-members: _____ at \$35.00

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Remember, if you register, you are still responsible for paying for the meal, even if you don't attend.

Mark your calendar to attend
The July 28th meeting

and don't forget to
RSVP by July 22nd

To e-mail your reservation,
send an e-mail to:

administrator@cchomenurses.com

To RSVP by phone,
call Kellie Kerr or Maryanne Sawoski
(818) 753-5106

You can mail your registration to:

Maryanne Sawoski, c/o RNS
Continuity Care Home Nurses
12722 Riverside Drive, Suite #108

We're on the Web!
see us at
www.rns-ca.org

May is National Pool Safety Awareness month!

American Red Cross has partnered up with hospitals and firefighters to remind parents about pool safety in the community.

Drowning is one of the leading causes of accidental death for young children

Pool Safety Awareness month is meant to promote adult supervision, practice water safety and enroll children in water safety classes.

Statistics show that accidental drownings and near drownings often occur in the family pool when the child is in the care of one or both parents.

RNS c/o Michael Demoratz
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