

RNS Newsletter

February 2011

Mission Statement: The Rehabilitation Nurses Society is a membership organization that provides continuing education and networking for medical care coordination. The professional goal of its members is to advocate for quality patient care while utilizing community resources in a cost effective manner.

Come join friends and colleagues for a time of lunch and learning!

February's Educational Topic

Physician's Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (POLST)

Presented by Michael Demoratz, PhD, LCSW, CCM

This month's presentation will help the audience identify the key components of the Physician's Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (POLST) paradigm. POLST is a comprehensive form that is now widely used to assist patients, their family members, and health care professions across the continuum of care to ensure that patient's wishes are addressed and followed with actionable physician orders.

After this course, we will be able to differentiate the POLST paradigm from traditional Advance Directives such as DPAHC (Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care) and Pre-hospital DNR (Do Not Resuscitate).

The POLST paradigm can be useful in hospice, home care, and hospital settings; we will be able to provide at least one example of how the paradigm will be useful in each setting.

Michael has his Ph.D. in organizational development and has been a licensed clinical social worker in private practice for more than 25 years. He is the Director of Business Development for AMADA Home Care in Laguna Beach.

LOCATION: Quiet Cannon 900 Via San Clemente Montebello, CA 323-724-9284	Date: February 24, 2011	Registration: 11:30 – 12:00 pm	Cost: members - \$25.00 non-member - \$35.00
	Lunch: 12:00 – 1:00 pm	CEU's: approved for 2 hours	
	Presentation: 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	BRN provider # 01219	
		CCM - 2 CEU's	

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

Please RSVP by e-mail, phone or mail by **February 18, 2011**.

E-mail: administrator@cchomenurses.com Call Kellie Kerr or Maryanne Sawoski. Office: (818) 753-5106 cell (818) 730-8490

February 24, 2011 RNS Meeting

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: _____

President's Message

By Barbara Greenfield, RN, BSN, CCM, CNLCP



Dear RNS Members and Friends;

We have been in the throes of winter. Luckily, for those of us here in Southern California we don't have to live through the snows and chilling cold that Americans on the east coast have had to endure. Like the folks on the east coast in addition to the weather our country has been focused on the news from Arizona. The tragedy that befell the beautiful desert town of Tucson has been on my mind. I am certain that we all have opinions about the cause of this tragedy, however it is certain that Congresswoman Giffords will be experiencing the Health Care System from a new perspective.

I have been following her care due to my interest in Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). It is my understanding that the Congresswoman suffered a TBI as a result of a close range bullet to the head. The bullet entered the left frontal and exited the left occipital areas of the brain. She was following commands immediately after the injury and was cared for by a Congressional Intern, Daniel Hernandez, who kept her head elevated and provided wound compression immediately after the event. According to reports during the days following the event, the Congresswoman was able to respond consistently, although intermittently, due to a medically induced coma. The potential for intracranial pressure was treated with medications and a Craniectomy almost immediately upon admission to acute care.

The media has been providing updates and using medical terms such as Hydrocephalus, Tracheostomy, Tracheostomy plug, Gastrostomy Tube, and Rehabilitation. The Congresswoman is now receiving rehabilitation in Houston, Texas, at TIRR Memorial Hermann. I hope the media will continue to provide the public with news of the Congresswoman's progress. By so doing the media can help the public become better educated as to the multidisciplinary needs and approaches to care as well as informing them about the length of time required to rehab a patient with TBI.

I believe that when terrible things happen there can sometimes be a silver lining. I would like to see the world of rehab illuminated in the media in a positive light. Can it not be said that our Healthcare System is in dire need of positive images? We are all Rehab Specialists, whether as representatives of home health care agencies, providers of equipment, nurses or therapists and talking about what we know to others not so familiar with this facet of health care can only be helpful. Congresswoman Giffords, a victim of a horrendous crime, is now a portrait of a penetrating TBI and what it takes to rehab and care long term for someone with these injuries. I sincerely hope that as she recovers and if able, Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, becomes a spokesperson for TBI and Rehabilitation to educate, illuminate, and these words out of the cold and dark and into the warmth and the light.

P.S. In my research for this letter I found this article. It provides heartwarming stories of others we may remember from the news that have also been victims TBI from gunshot wounds.

Jane E. Allen, NBC NEWS/HEALTH,

Living Miracles: Survivors of Gunshots to the Head

Four Extraordinary People Who Defied the Odds

retrieved on 1/28/22 from <http://abcnews.go.com/Health/tucson-shooting-gabrielle-giffords-survive-shot-head/story?id=12593878&page=3>

Thank you to our business partners for their wonderful contributions and continued support for our raffle in January:

Maryanne Sawoski, et.al of Continuity Care

Barbara Tucker of Dr. Heskiaoff: Southern California Medical Group

Susan Gomez of CareMeridian

Sandra Bross of Integrated Healthcare

Brett McKee of Amramp

Francine Aron of Casa Colina



Best wishes and see you on February 24!

Barbara

2011 Board of Directors



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Diana Campos

Member at Large (membership)

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dcampos@assistedca.com

March 4, 2011

7:30 am to 4:30 pm

7 hours of CE provided by CHOC
(Children's Hospital of Orange County)

Pediatric Case Management Conference:
Surviving the Changes of Case Management

Topics will include ICD-10 readiness, pitfalls of case management (case studies), the family's perspective, and the fit nurse.

For more information, contact
Renee Moore at (714) 532-8582
rmoore@choc.org

April 11 – April 13, 2011

IRSG (Insurance Rehabilitation Study Group)
will hold their 4th annual conference.

"Achieving Exceptional Outcomes
in a Changing Environment."

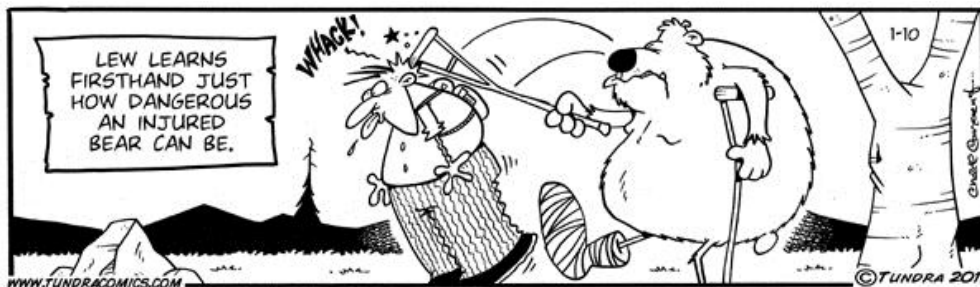
For more information, contact RNS member
Felicia Rosales at (323) 266-5116

Job Opportunity

A legal firm is looking for a nurse expert
in/currently working for an elder care institution who
is a working expert in current policies and protocols.

The attorney would like someone who is
a director of nurses for a sub-acute facility or
someone working in a supervisory capacity in a
sub-acute or long-term acute care facility.

Contact Barbara Greenfield for additional information
Office (626) 799-8605 or cell (818) 807-3073



**Mark your calendar to attend
the February 24th meeting**

**and don't forget to
RSVP by February 18!**

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
North Hollywood, CA 91607

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

**Do you have an address change?
Do you want your newsletter by e-mail?
If so, send an e-mail to Karen York.**

Let us know if you know anybody who would be interested in becoming part of a dynamic professional organization committed to the education and networking needs of its members.

Karen will e-mail a copy of the newsletter to them.

**Love is much nicer to be in than an automobile
accident, a tight girdle, a higher tax bracket
or a holding pattern over Philadelphia.**

~ Judith Viorst, *Redbook* 1975 ~

RNS
c/o Karen York
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