








2009/2010 Annual Report to the Federal RSA board from the NEN

Friday 28th May, 2010

Madame Chairperson and board

We have come a long way from the 25th March 2009 in Rotorua, New Zealand and this week provide you our first annual report as the education SiG of the Renal Society of Australasia! The following is a report of the highlights of the previous twelve months

-  The inaugural NEN symposium was held in Sydney in July 2009, with 57 delegates attending. Delegates overwhelmingly agreed that the symposium contributed positively to the nephrology education landscape in Australasia. The major outcome of the symposium was that a co-ordinated approach to nephrology education was necessary in order to meet the needs of nephrology educators and nurses throughout Australasia. The NEN symposium will be held biennially.
-  The NEN has now finalised arrangements for the 2nd Biennial NEN symposium to be held on the 17-18th February, 2011 in Melbourne. Keynote speakers include Lynda Ball from the United States, Dr Allison Williams from the University of Melbourne and Dr Paul Bennett from Flinders University of South Australia. We will require a minimum of 50 delegates in addition to corporate sponsorship in order to have a cost neutral event. Details and program for the symposium will be available on the NEN website in the coming weeks.
-  The NEN education scholarship was supported by Sanofi Aventis this year to the value of \$6000.00. The scholarship committee, Brenton Shanahan (convenor), David Ind and Associate Professor Ann Bonner, awarded the scholarship according to guidelines set out in the application package. The decision making process is clearly outlined in the minutes associated with the awarding of the scholarship. These are available on request. The scholarship will be announced on the 4th June at the RSA conference ball. Sponsorship is being actively pursued to continue to offer this opportunity to support the professional development of renal educators
-  NEN executive representation: To date New Zealand and all Australian states and territories except Northern Territory are represented on the NEN executive. The newest state representatives are Kirsten Black from Tasmania and Maggie Goitia from Western Australia. With the work that the NEN is undertaking we hope to find representation from the Northern Territory in the coming year.
-  The development of the LEARN project continues. Two separate projects will be run concurrently under the auspice of the LEARN banner. One project will look at a professional development/ teaching and learning framework while the other will look at education resource development as previously tabled to the RSA board. The research arm is being led by A/Prof Ann Bonner and Dr Paul Bennett.



- The resource development that will be associated with the LEARN project has commenced with the first e-Learning module (buttonhole cannulation) due to be launched within the next month. The project received ethics approval from the University of Newcastle human research ethics committee on the 26th May to undertake a research project associated with this module. Several other learning modules are currently under development including Acute Kidney Injury, Water quality and Introductory programs on haemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis. All learning programs will be available via e-Learning and paper based format. They will undergo peer review on three levels, which include an international expert on the topic, a national expert and from an educational perspective by an educator from a non-renal field. The link to the e-Learning modules will be available from www.nen.org.au
- The e-Learning modules will be supported by a learning management system that was developed for the NEN to regionalise area health services according to their parent ANZDATA hospital. This will afford confidentiality for all staff that undertake these modules and will be linked with their educator or equivalent for assessment.
- This RSA conference, the NEN held its first pre-conference workshop. The workshop was targeted at newer educators and aimed to develop their skills and knowledge surrounding the practical aspects of their roles including the areas of feedback and alternate educational strategies. The places were filled earlier than expected and feedback regarding the workshop will be included in our next report. The workshop's objectives and program are attached as appendix one. The NEN has agreed to hold a pre-conference workshop for all future RSA conferences with the express aim to support the professional development of those involved in nephrology education. Content for future workshops will be developed according to participant feedback in addition to information gathered from the NEN forum.
- Financial sustainability is a key priority for the NEN this year. The biennial symposium at this stage is the only source of income to support NEN activities that are not individually sponsored by trade. The NEN executive is investigating feasibility of applying for Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status with the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). This would be from the perspective of 'education provider' within the category of Health Promotion Charity. The executive is planning to apply for this status with the ATO in 2010.

We look forward to working with the federal RSA board in the coming year

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Peter Sinclair', written in a cursive style.

Peter Sinclair (on behalf the NEN executive)



Appendix 1






“Teach the Teachers” – Improving your Nephrology Education Skills

Stepping into the role of educator can be daunting with many educators expressing feelings of fraudulence in their early days. The reality is that as nurses, we are all educators in one way or another, the bar is raised when we enter the role in a permanent capacity. If you are considering a career pathway in nephrology nurse education or would like to improve your skills in education delivery this workshop is designed to equip you with strategies for engaging staff and improving the learning experience of your colleagues.

Target Audience: Neophyte nephrology educators and nurses considering a career pathway in education.

Objectives

On completion of the workshop participants will be able to:

-  Identify alternate educational strategies beyond current norms within the clinical area
-  Discriminate between learning styles and how to modify delivery in order to maximise learning
-  Distinguish between various educational strategies and their application and relevance to different clinical settings
-  Explore effective feedback techniques and how to apply them in real-world practice
-  Develop effective presentation styles and techniques.



NEN Workshop
“Teach the Teachers” – Improving your Nephrology Education Skills
Cairns Convention Centre
2nd June 2010

Workshop Program

0900	Welcome and review of education philosophies	The NEN Team
0945	Practical teaching strategies in the clinical setting	David Ind
1030	Morning Tea	
1045	Learning styles and effective feedback	Brenton Shanahan
1200	Lunch	
1245	Effective presentations: How to speak like Martin Luther King Jnr	Peter Sinclair & Jill Telfer
1415	How to pull a presentation out of a hat using the SOSOR template	The NEN Team
1445	Afternoon Tea	
1500	Five minutes' notice!	...
1600	Evaluation and close	

“Education is not the filling of a pail. It is the lighting of a fire.” (William Butler Yeats)

This meeting is supported by:



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