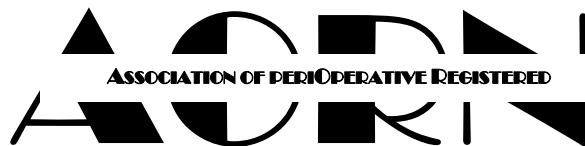


Chapter Chatter

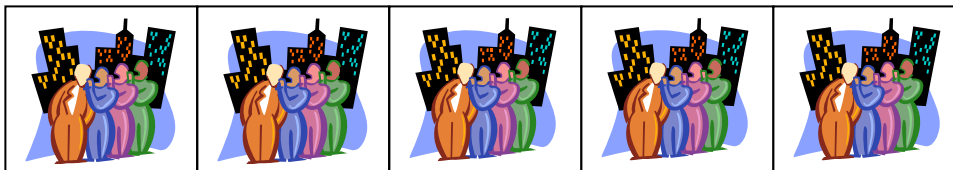
Chapter Website:



NORTHWEST SUBURBAN CHICAGO CHAPTER

| 1

#1411



President: Sherry Goldstein
President-elect: Sophia Schild
Vice-President: Jodi Gaski
Secretary: Rose Ladao
Treasurer: Sue Clausen

DECEMBER- 2008

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The holiday season is in high gear and this time lends itself to rushing around to get things done at the last minute. True enough this is not only in our personal lives but even more in our professional ones. We see this in our Surgery Departments where surgeons are scheduling those patients who have met their insurance deductible for elective surgery now. This "end of the year rush" makes it a little crazy for the staff who are asked or expected to stay past their shift to cover these additional cases.

I don't really have to tell you that from a business point of view we can't afford to pass on any case business. But from a nursing management aspect we realize the sacrifice each and every nurse makes for their Operating Room. It's at this time we in management push the envelope to the "quality of work life" for the staff that have their own needs to address. We in management ask so much of you, have little to reward you with and often have little time to recognize your special efforts.

So to all the staff nurses out there who have worked with me now or in the future and or those who are working for some other Director. We just don't tell you enough how much we value, respect and love you for helping us care for the patients, the surgeons and anesthesia, finally doing all that physical work each and every day!

THANK YOU!

- For being that Perioperative Nurse that always goes above and beyond.
- For taking that holiday call no one else would pick up.
- For working when you are too sick, have bad backs, sore feet and pregnant.
- For missing those special holiday dinners with your family, then forced to eat in the hospital cafeteria or cold leftovers from the refrigerator alone.
- For not being there when your children got up on Christmas morning to see them open their presents.
- For giving up vacation time to go home for the holidays.
- For covering a work shift or call for a sick colleagues.
- For baking those great cookies for the department holiday lunch.
- For working on Mothers/Fathers Day.
- For missing birthdays, weddings, school and sporting events.
- For being too tired to be good company to your loved ones.
- For coming to the AORN meetings, even in a snow storm.

I wish you and your family Happiness for a Happy Post-Thanksgiving, a very Merry Christmas, a Happy Chanukah, a safe Happy New Year and all the other important days.

As always,
Sherry G.
President

surgsherry@aol.com

2008-2009 Officers

President: Sherry Goldstein
 President-elect: Sophia Schild
 Vice-President: Jodi Gaski
 Secretary: Rose Ladao
 Treasurer: Sue Clausen

Board of Directors

Tita Lacson
 Felicia Schallmo
 Jessica Bass
 Kathy Folena

Committee Chairs:

Education: Tey O'Meara, Rose Ladao

Scholarship: Esther Cherek
**Hospitality
 and ICORN:** Tey O'Meara

Foundation: Tita Lacson, Fina Beltran

Membership: Tita Lacson

Legislative: Kathy Folena

Newsletter: Felicia Schallmo

Ways & Means: Sue Clausen

**Nominating
 and Website:** Randolph Schild

Outreach: Jodi Gaski



We Need
 Your E-mail
 address for
 speedy
 Newsletter
 Delivery.

Future Meetings:

2008-2009

TUESDAY, January 13, 2009

Lutheran General Hospital, 10TH FLOOR GREEN ROOM

Board Meeting - 5-6PM

Chapter Meeting and Dinner – 6-7PM

Educational Presentation – 7-8PM

“Perspectives of Latex Allergy and Glove Powder”

Speaker: Tonya Potocki, Molnlycke Health Care

SATURDAY, February 7, 2009

Chapter Seminar

Swedish Covenant Hospital

TUESDAY, March 10, 2009

Lutheran General Hospital, 10th FLOOR GREEN ROOM

Board Meeting – 5-6PM

Chapter Meeting and Dinner - 6-7PM

Educational Presentation - 7-8PM

AORN Congress – Chicago, IL March 14 -19, 2009

TUESDAY, April 14, 2009

Lutheran General Hospital, 10th Floor Green Room

Board Meeting 5-6PM

Chapter Meeting and Dinner 6-7PM

Educational Presentation 7-8PM

TUESDAY, May 12, 2009 Lutheran General Hospital, 10th Floor Green Room

Board Meeting 5-6PM

Chapter Meeting and Dinner 6-7PM

Educational Presentation 7-8PM

The Chapter officers encourage you to support your chapter by attending monthly meetings. Come and network with other OR nurses, enjoy a dinner out, and accrue free CEU's at each meeting. Bring a colleague who might be interested in joining!!

ALL GUESTS WELCOME!

Contact hours for all continuing nursing education activity are applied for through the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses, Inc., an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES

PRESIDENT : SHERRY encourages all our chapter members to attend the AORN 56th Congress. It will be held in the brand new west expansion building at Chicago's McCormick Place Convention Center. Visit aorn.org/Congress for all the info.

VICE PRESIDENT: Jodi reminds members that our chapter sends people to Congress yearly based on a point system. Points are accrued through work done for the chapter.

OUTREACH: Jodi has submitted a letter and pictures of our deployed troops for members to view in this December newsletter.

NEWSLETTER: A beginning discussion was taken at the November Board meeting regarding this newsletter only being delivered through email to its' membership next year. In this way our Chapter could help the environment. At the present time we have 40 members that we do not have an email address for.



PLACE AN AD IN THIS NEWSLETTER!!

Interested in reaching out to more than 200 operating room nurses across the Chicagoland area?

- *O.R. managers can find experienced personnel to fill your long-vacant positions.
- *Vendors can showcase new products or advertise your tried-and-true equipment directly to the nurses who use them.

Advertise here and see the responses and reactions. A full page ad is just \$100, 1/2 page is \$50, and 1/4 page is \$25. This is a very cost-effective way to get your needs into the hands of your direct market every month. For information call or email Sue Clausen, 847-696-0625, susan11548@comcast.net.



PHOTOS AND LETTERS FROM OUR CHAPTER'S TROOPS

Dear Jodi and friends,

Our time of deployment will soon come to a resolution. Unfortunately we will continue here through out the upcoming holidays. This does not discourage our spirits for we are looking forward to dressing up for Halloween, giving Thanks on Turkey day, and giving gifts on Christmas.

We have often talked about your contributions of packages and gifts with kind words and excitement. We are forever grateful and we would like to give you and everyone who has donated a very sincere THANK YOU.

We have ridden our ups and our downs as a team and close community. We would like to share a little something of ourselves with the enclosed picture. These are the hands that have saved hundreds of American and Iraqi lives.



Again thank you. You gave us more than coffee and snacks, you gave us a piece of HOME.

God Bless, CPT Prowant



Hello and I hope that this email finds you in good spirits. We received your package full of goodies and once again we are very grateful. Please thank everyone in your hospital for their continued support. Attached is a snapshot of the nurses waiting patiently for the box to be opened. On behalf of the Balad OR Nurses, thank you. Take care and god bless.

Major Juliet Deguzman, RN, USAF



Chapter Members, I want to thank you for all you have already donated for our troops, but please help us keep the packages going. You can mail a troop donation to

Attn Jodi Gaski, RN,BSN,CNOR

Lutheran General Hospital, Ambulatory Surgical Center, 1775 Dempster, Park Ridge, IL. 60068

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE WAS SEEN IN NUMEROUS LOCAL NEWSPAPERS
RECENTLY. SOPHIA IS OUR CHAPTER'S PRESIDENT ELECT.

Perioperative Nurses:

Influencing the Future of Safe Patient Care

Sophia M. Schild, EdD, MSN, RN, CNOR

The operating room has often been seen a place of secrets and wonder for most of us. The area does not have exposure to visitors and most people do not know what goes on behind its closed doors. Much goes on: a variety of surgical procedures take place every day, nurses and doctors save and change lives. They save lives while using modern

technology such as robotics, new open-heart techniques. They change lives by bringing babies into the world, giving a new look to someone or removing the tumor that was recently found. There is also opportunity in the operating room; opportunity to learn and work with talented people and be proud of your accomplishments.

That opportunity comes in varied career paths available for the person seeking to help others and looking to better themselves with a promising career that is in demand all across the United States. That demand is due to today's shortage of nurses that is projected to continue to increase into the future. The United States Department of Labor's Occupational Outlook Handbook predicts nursing as a whole will be one of the top 10 fastest growing professions into the next decade.

Operating room nurses have 42,000 members in the Association of Perioperative Registered Nurses Association (AORN) and Susan K Banschbach, AORN national President celebrates their annual Nurses week on November 9 through November 15. The theme for this year is influencing the future of safe patient care. Most recently, the American Nurses Association (ANA) and AORN have joined forces to work together on issues that are important to all healthcare professionals and patients.

AORN organization represents nurses who work in more than 10 specialties such as Open Heart Surgery, Plastic Surgery, Orthopedic Surgery, Neurology and Gynecology.

Nurses have a wide range of responsibilities and positions including staff nurse, charge nurse, educator, Clinical Specialist, Informatics Specialist, Registered Nurse First Assistant (RFNA), Nurse Manager, Director, Vice President and President of Perioperative Services. The road to success in the operating room is not an easy one to

complete. Besides completing nurses training and passing the registered nurse (RN) exam, training in the operating room is required. The training can be in a formal school program in operating room nursing or in a course developed by educators at the hospital worksite in the operating room. AORN has a Perioperative 101 course that can be completed online.

The work in the operating room is interesting, challenging, educational and most of all never dull. It takes a full year of experience in the operating room to feel comfortable enough to be on your own in doing most procedures. Within three months you can do most general procedures on your own. No need to worry, there is much peer support from mentors and educators during the training period and afterward.

When working in the operating room, you will learn to work with new high tech machines such as microscopes that need balancing, video machines that need adjusting and robots that are the hands for the surgeon. The work environment is varied; you can begin by working in the pre-op holding area where you will be admitting and preparing patients for surgery by taking their histories, educating them, starting their intravenous lines, relieving their anxiety and making an assessment of their health status.

In the operating room you may pass instruments to the surgeon, or be the patient advocate and work with the team as the circulating nurse. Operating room nurses as circulators take care for one patient at a time and are the patients advocate making sure that the operation is not delayed; the patient is safe, prepared and knowledgeable as to what will happen when they are asleep. Nurses usually work Monday through Friday, may take call for other shifts and holidays when working in the inpatient area. Those working in outpatient or surgery centers do not take call for off shift hours or holidays. When they are scrub nurses, they pass sterile instruments, sponges and medication and may even assist the surgeon during the procedure. As an RNFA, the nurses must receive extra classroom and on-the-job training in assisting the surgeon to do such things

The charge nurse is responsible for the day-to-day facilitation of the operating room whether it be as small as four rooms or as large as 25 operating rooms. It is a fast-paced world of multitasking and requires years of experience and ability to handle stress. The position may require a bachelor or master degree and several years of work experience. Communication and ability to be flexible is vital to this position.

The educator is responsible for the education of all persons in the operating room, which involves program and competency development, teaching, preparation for continual readiness of department for accreditation and performance improvement activities. This position usually requires a master degree and several years of experience.

The clinical specialist (CNS) may educate staff, assess and educate patients and speak with families before and after surgery. He/ she may also be involved in research and education of staff. This position requires a master degree and years of experience.

The Informatics Specialist works with the varied members of the team to keep up surgeon preference lists, teach computer skills, and be involved in varied projects. This job requires knowledge of computers and programs as well as several years of knowledge of the operating room.

The nurse manager, director, VP and president, require years of operating room experience, knowledge of finances and operation as well as a master degree in nursing and sometimes other education such as an Master in Business Administration or hospital administration.

Nurses may also work in the post anesthesia care (PACU) unit to help patients recover after their procedures. This area also has charge nurses, managers and directors depending on the level of the unit. It is part of surgery but requires specialized training.

Opportunities are limited only by your willingness to learn and grow in this profession. You can obtain an advanced degree and certification as an operating room nurse (CNOR) or first assistant (CRNFA). These positions can lead to employment in other areas such as sterile processing, Endoscopy lab, Cath lab and Infection Control. Next year, the Operating room nurses will celebrate their annual meeting in Chicago.



Perspectives on Latex Allergy and Glove Powder



Date: 1/13/09

Time(s): 7-8 PM

Location: LGH, Green Room, 10th Floor

Presented by:
Tonya Potocki

Mölnlycke Health Care US, LLC

OVERVIEW

The use of medical gloves as a means of protection has increased significantly beginning with the introduction of Universal Precautions in 1987. Trend analysis demonstrates that with this increase in glove use, there has been a corresponding rise in latex sensitivities. This educational activity has been designed to address the issue of latex allergy and provide an understanding of the common types of latex reactions and the most common treatments. A discussion will include the common allergens and causes of reactions as well as the classification by type. Diagnosis and management of the reaction by type will also be presented, including information on substances known to trigger reactions. Glove protein and powder issues continue to raise concerns. This educational activity will discuss government regulations, including information on the NIOSH ALERT, which addresses glove protein and powder issues. The goal is to implement a cost-effective program that reduces the risk of latex allergy. Participants will be given the opportunity to ask questions and explore situations that occur in their clinical setting.

LEARNER OBJECTIVES

After completing this continuing education activity, the participant should be able to:

1. Discuss the prevalence of latex allergy.
2. Identify risk groups most likely to develop an allergy to Natural Rubber Latex (NRL).
3. Differentiate the 3 common types of reactions to latex.
4. Discuss management strategies for common types of reactions to latex.
5. Describe issues associated with latex gloves and glove powder.

California State Board of Nursing Credits

Pfiedler Enterprises is a provider approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider Number CEP14944, for 1.0 contact hour. Obtaining full credit for this offering depends upon attendance, regardless of circumstances, from beginning to end. Licensees must provide their license numbers for record keeping purposes. The certificate of completion issued at the conclusion of this activity must be retained in the participant's records for at least four (4) years as proof of attendance.

AST

This continuing education activity is approved by the Association of Surgical Technologists, Inc. for 1.0 CE credits for continuing education in surgical technology.

IACET

Pfiedler Enterprises has been reviewed and approved as an Authorized Provider by the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET), 1620 I Street, NW, Suite 615, Washington DC 20006. Pfiedler Enterprises has awarded 0.1 CEUs to participants who successfully complete this activity.