

Suite Talk

The Newsletter of the NSW Operating Theatre Association Inc



February 2011

www.nsw-ota.asn.au

Dear Colleagues

I hope that you all had some well deserved downtime over the Christmas/New Year period. I also hope that those of you in flood affected areas did not suffer too much damage and that you and your loved ones came through the crisis safely. Our thoughts are with our colleagues in Queensland and Victoria as they clean up and recover after the devastating floods and cyclone Yasi.

Work has continued during January in an attempt to complete the redevelopment of PD2005_571. *(A report has been included in this newsletter.)* This has been a mammoth task and many thanks must go to Lillian Blair for coordinating the effort and to all who have utilised their expertise and generously given their time to assist with this document.

The conference sub- committee is in the home straight (yes there will be many more of these racing analogies and poor puns I'm sure) of final preparations for the annual conference.

This will be a great opportunity for all preoperative nurses to hear of the innovative work undertaken as part of the PNWP as the participating teams present their projects and outcomes.

As well, there are sessions sure to stimulate your thought processes and elicit your opinions. Make sure you take advantage of the early bird registration rates prior to 7th February and don't forget your fascinators and dancing shoes for the gala dinner.

This will be my last Suite talk as I hand over to Allannah Hazelgrove at annual conference. I thank you for allowing me the honour of representing the NSWOTA and I look forward to working with Allannah during her Presidency.

Kerry

Conference Program



The final program has been released and is available on the NSW OTA website. As well as the program a sample of the conference abstracts are available for you to review before the conference.

A REMINDER THAT EARLY BIRD REGISTRATIONS HAVE CLOSED ON THE 7th FEBRUARY @ 5PM FOR MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS.

FULL PRICE REGISTRATIONS ARE AVAILABLE UNTIL THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS 21ST FEBRUARY, 2011.

AND

REGISTRATIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE DAYS OF THE CONFERENCE.

TICKETS TO THE FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER

"FASCINATING FRIDAY"

ARE STILL AVAILABLE AND CAN BE PURCHASED UNTIL FRIDAY THE 4TH MARCH. *Unfortunately due to catering demands, tickets cannot be sold at the door.*

Payment can be made by Money Order, Cheque (Personal, Company or Bank) - made payable to

NSW OTA Inc.,

Or by Visa / MasterCard (Sorry American Express and Diners Club facilities are not available.)

Registration Forms are available on the NSW OTAs web site

www.nsw-ota.asn.au

Please remember that the conference venue is at **Rosehill Racecourse** near Parramatta and ***not*** at Royal Randwick, Randwick.

The team has also established three categories which will be the framework for the tools:

NSW OTA Perioperative Clinical Development and Assessment Tools (CDAT) Project

The NSW OTA Perioperative Clinical Development and Assessment Tools (CDAT) Project arose from a need for a NSW- specific competency tools for Perioperative Nurses, and a desire to produce NSW OTA endorsed Perioperative competency/assessment tools which are referenced to relevant state/national legislation, health policies and appropriate professional standards and documents.

The Aims of the project are to:

- promote consistency in practice amongst NSW perioperative nurses;
- pool resources and expertise;
- produce tools that are based on best practice standards, embracing all the perioperative specialities (i.e. instrument, circulating, anaesthetic and recovery roles),
- encourage the tools to be used as evidence in professional portfolios; and;
- Have the tools endorsed by the NSW OTA and available for free on the NSW OTA web site.

The team is lead by the NSW OTA Executive Committee members Lilian Blair and Brian Julien. The Project Members are current NSW OTA members with a minimum of 3 years experience in a perioperative nursing speciality area, having participated in the production or use of competency tools in the workplace. The Team consists of 14 members – 6 from Zones and 8 from Sydney.

The team has met twice in 2010 since its formation, at the Perioperative Educator's and Instrument/Circulating Professional Days.

The principles identified by the team to focus on creating are:

- Principle based (foundational) practice tools, and;
- Tools that will guide both Perioperative practice and be used to assess performance.

Patient Centred Care - This will be one document only. Whatever is being assessed is written in by the assessor, and will contain prompt criteria to assess patient care.

Equipment/Technical - This will be one document only. Whatever is being assessed is written in by the assessor, and will contain prompt criteria to assess patient care.

Clinical Skills - These will be a number of documents that do not fall into "patient centred care" or "equipment/technical", but are skills that are basic to our perioperative practice. Each document will be specifically developed to cover a topic.

Our plan is that on completion, these tools will be trialled by clinicians in each project member's work place to provide feedback to the project team. There will be ongoing evaluation at the completion of each stage of the project with regular feedback to the NSW OTA Executive committee.

We would like to thank Ms Jenny Cubit, NSW OTA Project Officer and Dr Lois Hamlin, CDAT Project Team External Consultant, for their valuable assistance and input into this ongoing project.

Further updates on this project will be provided on Saturday afternoon at the 2011 NSW OTA Conference.

Lilian Blair and Brian Julien

Open Forum Session

The open forum session will be held on Friday 4th March. This is the perfect opportunity for you to ask questions, get ideas and assistance from fellow perioperative nurses.

Where's Perry?

NSW Health

“WHO Surgical Safety Checklist” Reference Group

The NSW Health Surgical Services Taskforce called for nominees for membership of the new multidisciplinary “WHO Surgical Safety Checklist” Working Group in October 2010. Lilian Blair is the nominated NSW OTA representative on this working group.

The first meeting was in November 2010 and monthly meetings will continue through 2011.

The group is responsible for:

1. Reviewing current state, national and international literature regarding checklists to identify best practice.
2. Developing an agreed NSW Health Safety Checklist for NSW Health facilities following considerations of the WHO Surgical Safety Checklist and patient/family involvement in the facilitation of “Time Out” process.
3. Recommend an implementation plan, including key performance indicators to support full implementation in NSW Health facilities by July 2011.
4. recommend changes to related NSW health policies and procedures (e.g.: Correct Site policy)

An opportunity to discuss or gather information on this topic will be made available in the Open Forum at the 2011 NSW OTA Conference.

Report supplied on behalf of NSW OTA Executive by Lilian Blair,
NSW OTA Executive Committee member and NSW OTA
Website Officer. Dated 26th January 2011



Perry (pictured above) the mascot of the NSW OTA will be hiding amongst the trade exhibition on Friday and Saturday.

There will be 3 Perry's participating in the trade display in their own special way.

Your goal is to locate all 3 Perry's write it on the Where's Perry slip in your bag (make sure you get the correct day's form).

When you think you have found them all place your slip in the box at the registration desk.

Include your name and contact details.

Each day one person will be drawn out and the lucky winner will receive free full registration to the 2012 NSW OTA Conference. Remember Perry will be in different places on both days. So you need to search for them each day.

Zone Coordinator

January 2011

Where did Christmas/New Year go???

Gone in a blink, with January nearly over & the conference only 27 sleeps to go!!! The Zone calendar is evolving - education dates in the zones are as follows.

Tues 8th February Zone 6 *Wollongong*
Education evening

Sat 12th February Zone 2 *Dubbo*
PED/AGM

Sat 12th February Zone 7 *Canberra*
PED – Anaesthetics & Perioperative Anaesthetics

Sat 19th February Zone 6 *Port Macquarie*
PED

Tues 12th April Zone 6 *Wollongong*
Education evening

Sat 21st May Zone 7 *Canberra*
PED – Obstetric emergency

The state conference is nearly upon us and like me I am sure we are all busy putting the final preparations in place. Don't forget at the conference there will be a zone meeting – on Saturday 5th March from 1150 – 1215. It is not only for the executive but everyone from the zones are also welcome. This is an opportunity to network, exchange ideas and have a natter with other zone colleagues. For all of you travelling from the zones– lets pray that the floods, the fires, the crazy el Niño weather abates so you will all be safe. Look forward to seeing you in March.

Debbie Dobbs-Higgins

NSW Health Policy Directive PD2005_571. “Standard procedures for the handling of accountable items in the perioperative environment”

NSW OTA supplied a review of this document to NSW Health Department in mid 2008, but unfortunately this document was not progressed further.

The NSW OTA Executive noted in 2010 that some major changes had been made to the 2010 ACORN Standard S3 “Counting of accountable items used during surgery” and thus embarked on a major review of the NSW health document, to reflect where possible, the ACORN Standard, to provide consistency of evidence based practice in Australian perioperative nursing.

Progress to date:

June 2010

- a copy of the NSW Health document was drafted with ACORN corresponding comments in it
- distributed to NSW OTA Executive members for consideration of how to progress

September/October 2010

- circulated draft copy to individual NSW OTA members and available to NSW perioperative nurses on the NSW OTA web site
- Received a huge amount of feedback and comments (thank you!!!)
- collated all responses

November 2010

a large portion of the November NSW OTA Executive meeting was designated to review the draft

December 2010

- NSW OTA Executive held an extra meeting to progress draft six

January 2010

- NSW OTA Executive held two further meetings to progress draft seven

It is expected that the final document will be forwarded to NSW Health early in 2011.

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*Report supplied on behalf of NSW OTA Executive by Lilian Blair,
NSW OTA Executive Committee member and NSW OTA
Website Officer. Dated 26th January 201*

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Professional Education Days* 2011

Due to several requests from members we have rearranged the professional days for 2011.

We are trialing having a separate day for recovery and anaesthetic nurses.

The dates and locations are finalised

7th May

Anaesthetics

3m Innovation Centre

4th Jun

Recovery

3M innovation Centre

19th August

Educators

Royal Women's Hospital

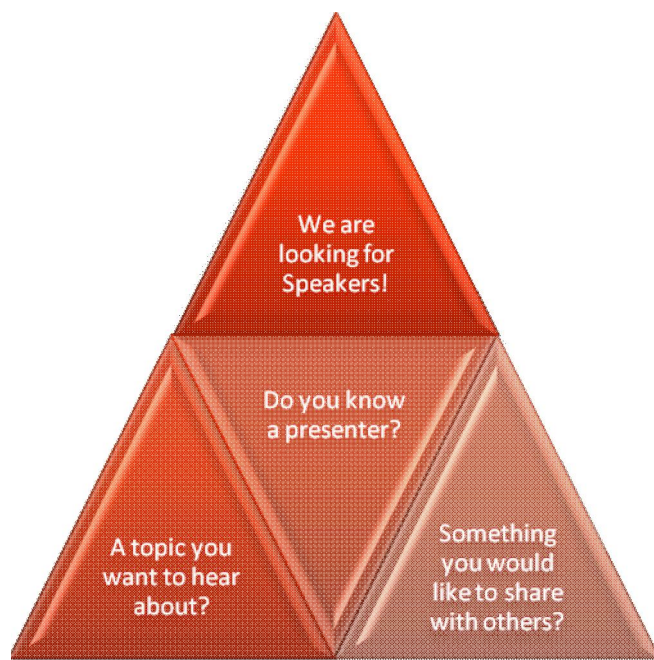
5th November

Instrument

/Circulating

Rydges Hotel, Parramatta

*PED days may attract CPD hours/points



***We are looking for speakers
and topics for the 2011
Professional Development
Days.***

If you have any suggestions, then let us know. Complete the expression of interest forms at the Annual Conference or email (info@nsw-ota.asn.au) the NSW OTA secretariat with your ideas and suggestions.

NSW Health Surginet

“Downtime Forms”

group

The majority of public hospitals in NSW are now using (or in the process of implementing) Surginet, the NSW Health electronic medical record (eMR) for operating theatres.

It was recognised in 2010 that it would be advantageous for these services (and also those without Surginet eMR) to use a standardized, paper based form for recording patient care and data collection. This would encourage evidence based perioperative nursing care documentation, consistency across sites/Area Health Services and provide benchmarking of patient care.

The forms have been developed to reflect the information as gathered on each Surginet screen. These paper based forms will be recommended and printed by NSW Health, and will be available for

- Any time that the Surginet eMR is “down/unavailable”
- For use at any site that does not have eMR

NOTE: *The “count sheet” is paper based for all cases, regardless of eMR being in use/available or not, as it is mandatory in NSW that the count be recorded on a paper based system.*


A group was formed with representation from across all the Area Health Services that are using, or implementing, Surginet and I was fortunate enough to represent my own local health service and the NSW OTA Executive & members on this group.

We have had multiple meetings in 2010 and accomplishments to date are the formulation of draft copies of the below documents, most to be approved in January 2010 and then made available for trial by clinicians in nominated operating theatres.

- “Count sheet”. (nursing documentation of count)
- “Operation/Procedure Nursing record” Forms A & B (documentation of intraop nursing)
- “Implant Prosthesis Record” (nursing documentation of prosthesis)
- “Operation / Procedure Report” (surgeon/proceduralist documentation of operation / procedure)
- “Request for non elective operating time” (documentation for booking non elective patients)
- “Post Anaesthetic Care Unit record” (documentation of recovery nursing)

An opportunity to discuss or gather information on this topic will be made available in the Open Forum at the 2011 NSW OTA Conference.

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Journal Writing Workshop.

The workshop will held on Friday, 4th March at 1pm. The session will be lead by two experienced journal editors.

Bring along your ideas, your projects, and your research and get direction and advice from the experts!

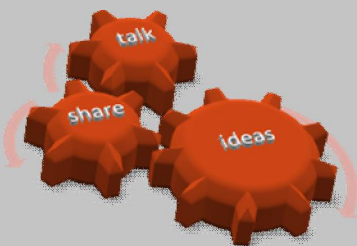
Future Directions of the NSW OTA

What do you see as the future of the NSW OTA?

Bring along your ideas!

We want to hear from you!

Come along and join in the focus group about the progression of your organisation.



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The NSW OTA Inc recommends the use of commercial or proprietary software designed to protect computers against malicious and damaging programs.

It remains at the discretion of the user at all times, to access these sites and addresses.