President’s message

Dear APGNN members,

I hope you all had a happy holiday season. I’m not sure about you, but I think I have finally gotten myself out of the hole I created with my time off and am ready and energized to see what 2019 has in store for me! The New Year allows us the wonderful opportunity to examine the previous year and set goals for the new. Looking back, my first year as President flew by. There were so many things I did for the “first time” that I would never have had the opportunity to experience if I wasn’t in this role. I learned a lot and have met so many great people. For that, I am grateful. One thing that stands out as a high point of the year was being able to meet those of you that were able to attend the Annual Meeting in October and catching up with those of you I only get to see once a year. APGNN offers several scholarships to help people attend the meeting who otherwise would not be able to afford to go. These scholarship opportunities are on the website and very easy to complete. Check the website for deadlines so you don’t miss out! Our 2019 meeting will be in Chicago, October 18th and 19th. I hope to see you there.

We will be offering portions of our annual meetings as Continuing Education through the NAPNAP PedsCE portal. If you were unable to attend the 2017 meeting in Las Vegas, you missed Dr. Glenn Furuta, University of Colorado School of Medicine, and Amanda Le Few, MT-BC, and Joy Meyer, DTR Co-Directors of The FPIES Foundation, give an excellent talk on Food Protein Induced Enterocolitis. Fortunately, this CE module is now available for purchase - $10 member, $20 non-member. Participants will receive 1.0 contact hours at the completion of the program. This can be found on the NAPNAP website under the PedsCE tab, type FPIES into the search bar. We will have select modules from the 2018 conference available within the next few months.

We will also be offering a members only FREE webinar on February 28, 2019 4-5 PM EST: Clinical Case Scenarios in Inflammatory Bowel Disease: Research Updates and What’s New with Best Practice Management. This is sponsored by Abbott Nutrition. A link to sign in to view the webinar will be located on the members’ only homepage prior to the webinar. We will be sending out reminders in the upcoming weeks.

Another major highlight from last year was getting the opportunity to work with your current board of directors. As you read through this newsletter, you will see all the dynamic things they are working on. I think the nurses serving on this board are some of the smartest, most professional women I have met. When I have questions, these are the first people I contact! I would encourage all of you to join a committee and help continue to promote the growth and excellence in pediatric GI as these nurses have. If you are not sure which committee would be a good fit for you, reach out to the chairperson of those you are interested in and learn more. Many hands make light work, so the more help we have, the more we can do!

Warm regards,

Amy Donegan APRN
APGNN President
MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT ELECT

Happy 2019 everyone! Last year I got to see the talent and strength of our current board members each leading busy committees, and I want to thank all the members on those committees as your dedication is what makes things happen! Over this next year I will continue learning from our current president, Amy Donegan, and setting goals for my upcoming two year term. One of those important goals is to continue the many efforts to grow and expand our nursing education opportunities with modules on our website and taped conferences. It is an honor to have a “seat at the table” at all levels including membership, being part of a committee, committee chair and executive board.

Teresa Carroll, APRN
President Elect

“The only thing that will make you happy is being happy with who you are”- Goldie Hawn

SECRETARY-TREASURER REPORT

It is budget and tax time. I am busy reconciling all of last year’s expenses and working on the forecast for 2019. We continue to be supported by generous donors such as Mead Johnson, Abbott, Nutricia, Nestlé and new this year was Alexion. We are grateful to those who help obtain the grants and to the companies for recognizing the role nurses have in the team effort of caring for pediatric GI patients. I am appealing to all members to reach out to any company representatives you have contact with to solicit funds for our upcoming annual meeting. If you can make the contact and gauge any interest, I or other Board members would be happy to follow up with them. Overall we are continuing to increase our overall revenues. The third edition of the handbook is currently under review and on target to be ready by the fall 2019 annual meeting. Hurrah—a year ahead of schedule! Thanks to all our generous member authors who are giving of their time and expertise freely for this project. We are also recruiting for a new secretary/treasurer for 2019. If you any questions about the above topics please email rosemary.pauley@boystown.org.

As of December 31st, 2018
TOTAL ASSETS = $103,566.12
Checking Account Balance $ 48,566.74
Savings Account Balance $ 55,099.38

PROGRAM

I hope you all enjoyed the 2018 APGNN conference as much as I did! Maureen and her committee did an excellent job. I am honored to be the Program Chair for the upcoming 2019 conference on October 18-19. The conference will be held in one of my favorite places, Chicago… or as I like to call it, the “Windy City”. I love everything about this town… the restaurants, museums, architecture, sports, and shopping. There is so much to see and do! We are in the process of reviewing the conference evaluations and appreciate your input. At the end of the month, I will be contacting those of you who graciously volunteered to help plan the program. If you didn’t sign up and are interested in being on the Program Committee, I would love to have your help. I have been a committee member for over 10 years and have thoroughly enjoyed it. Just email me at nbmartin8690@gmail.com.

Here’s wishing you the happiest New Year or as Oprah says….Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right”

Nannette Martin
Program Chair
APGNN Wants You!

Consider being a candidate, or nominating another member, for the following 2019 board positions:

President Elect– 6 year term total

Secretary/Treasurer– 3 year term

Patient and Family Education -2 year term

Research– 2 year term

See page 8 for additional details…
MEDIA COMMITTEE

It is cold in Cleveland!!!
I hope everyone is staying warm! It’s cold and snowy in northeast Ohio and I’m bundled up in my parka and scarf waiting for spring!!!

We’ve been busy updating the website and adding information about upcoming CEU opportunities so please make sure you head over and check it out!

The Program Committee is busy reviewing the conference evaluations so we can make the 2019 conference what you want! If you have ideas, please reach out to one of the board members or directly to the Program chair.

If you have something at your center you want to highlight or you’ve done something amazing you want to share, please let me know and I will get it out there!! Just email me at sharon.perry@uhhospitals.org

PATIENT AND FAMILY EDUCATION

Happy New Year to all of our APGNN Members! Thank you to all the Patient & Family Education Committee members that put forth incredible work this year. 2018 primarily focused on cleaning up the GIKids.org website content in conjunction with NASPGHAN’s Public Education Committee. I anticipate that this will continue to require the most effort in the upcoming year as the website is rebuilt. In the upcoming months, the PFE Committee will focus on developing education for common procedures and tests in GI, as well as highlighting information/resources for the psychosocial aspects of care. As always, we are looking for energetic members to join the committee, so please email me directly if you want to get involved!

Wishing everyone health and happiness in the New Year.

~ Elizabeth Burch, CPNP
Patient & Family Education Committee Chair

“you’re always with yourself, so you might as well enjoy the company”- Diane Von Furstenburg
MEMBERSHIP

We are currently having a First Quarter raffle for a $50 Amazon gift card! If you renew your membership or join APGNN from January 1, 2019 to February 28, 2019 your name will be entered for the raffle drawing. The winner will be announced in our Spring Newsletter.

This year will be a busy one for the membership committee. Our APGNN Mentoring Program is now open to all APGNN members new and old.

Benefits of having a mentor include
♦ Advice on developing strengths
♦ Exposure to new ideas
♦ Guidance on professional development and career advancement
♦ Opportunities to develop new skills and knowledge
♦ Increased visibility and recognition
♦ Opportunities to learn more about projects and professional opportunities.

Benefits of being a mentor include
♦ Recognition as an expert and leader
♦ Personal development of leadership and coaching styles
♦ Exposure to new ideas
♦ Personal satisfaction of helping others
♦ Recognition by an employer as going above and beyond the job description

Please email me if you are interested in participating at bdiez@psvcare.org

Charlotte Montero, one of our membership committee members, has started a campaign to reach out to Pediatric GI facilities to invite them to join APGNN. Please ask your coworkers to join APGNN to enjoy the benefits of membership.

Please consider being a part of our Membership Committee and help us with our exciting projects to recruit, retain, and unite our APGNN membership. We would also love to hear from you if you have ideas or projects in mind. Please email me at bgdiez@psvcare.org

We look forward to a fantastic year at APGNN!

Bernadette Diez
Membership Chair
The Helene Fuld Health Trust National Institute for Evidence-based Practice (EBP) in Nursing and Healthcare is excited to announce our first webinar of 2019 for the Fuld Institute for EBP Free Webinar Series.

Those who attend will have the opportunity to:
- Learn the most current information in the field of EBP
- Know the “hot off the press” findings from national EBP studies
- Stay connected with the Fuld Institute for EBP
- Hear about the latest developments, initiatives and progress in our core areas: clinical, academic, translational science and consumer
- Stay abreast of national and local policy activities related to EBP

Plan to join us for our next free webinar on **Tuesday, February 5**!

**Establishing Interprofessional Research and EBP Priorities in a Community Hospital Setting**

In 2015, Chester County Hospital in suburban Philadelphia was focused on improving their program of Research after successful Magnet Recognition. Brockway & Monturo examined the opportunities for growth and in doing so, determined that a focus on evidence-based practice would strengthen both the translation of research to the bedside and development of new research opportunities. This webinar recounts the research and EBP journey of a community hospital in the successful development of an interprofessional research and evidence-based council as it comes to the end of their first year.

**Tuesday, February 5, 2019**
1 – 2 p.m. EST

**REGISTER NOW**

Presented by

Cheryl Ann Monturo, PhD, MBE, ACNP-BC  
Professor of Nursing, University of Pennsylvania  
Senior Nurse Scientist, Penn Medicine at Chester County Hospital

Cindy Brockway, MSN, RN, CCRP  
Director of Research and Oncology  
Penn Medicine at Chester County Hospital
RESEARCH & QUALITY IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

Wishing all our friends in APGNN a Happy and Healthy New Year!! We are very excited to be co-chairs for the Research and Quality Improvement Committee for 2019. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Goldie Markowitz for her years of service and for her help and support during this transition.

This past fall, 11 abstracts were submitted and presented at the APGNN Annual Conference. All the posters were excellent and provided valuable information on best practice, practice changes, improvements in patient outcomes and initiatives in gastroenterology, nutrition and hepatology. Congratulations to all the presenters. Three of the posters were awarded “Poster of Distinction”.

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF METHYPREDNISOLONE AS PREMEDICATION IN PREVENTING INFUSION REACTIONS TO INFlixIMAB
Maggie Zeng FNP, Kristen Cares MD, Ron Thomas MD, Christine Sandison RN, Mohammad El-Baba MD

“The Effectiveness of Methylprednisolone as Premedication in Preventing Infusion Reactions to Infliximab” aims to investigate whether adding methylprednisolone to acetaminophen and diphenhydramine as a pre-medication prior to infliximab infusions decreases acute reactions in children with inflammatory bowel disease. This project was a retrospective chart review. A total of 184 charts were reviewed. Patients were divided into two groups: patients pre-medicated with methylprednisolone and patients not pre-medicated with methylprednisolone. There was no statistically significant difference in terms of infusion related reactions to infliximab between these two groups. It was concluded that adding methylprednisolone to acetaminophen and diphenhydramine prior to infliximab infusions did not significantly reduce infusion-related reactions (allergic or nonallergic).

UNSEDATED TRANSNASAL ENDOSCOPY IN CHILDREN: IMPROVING EFFICIENCY
Clinton Smith, Jeremy D. Prager, Robin Deterding, Emily Deboer, Nathalie Nguyen, Calies Menard-Katcher, Glenn T. Furuta, Robert E. Kramer, Zhaoxing Pan, Joel Friedlander

“Unsedated Transnasal Endoscopy in Children: Improving Efficiency” was a study utilizing time stamp data from patient visits for unsedated Transnasal Esophagoscopy/Endoscopy(TNE) procedures in outpatient clinical setting. The goal of study was to determine if there had been statistically significant improvements in time/efficiency with changes and adjustments by RN and proceduralist. Although data did not show statistical significance, there has been a decrease (improvement) in time spent at hospital from average time of 84 minutes down to 72 minutes, as compared to 180+ minutes for a sedated endoscopy.

INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE ACTION PLAN: EDUCATING PATIENTS AND FAMILIES TO RECOGNIZE AND TAKE ACTION FOR FLARE SYMPTOM
Jamie Stevenson, BSN, RN; Janine McDermott, BSN, RN; Jacqueline Crawford, MS, CRNP, ACCNS-P; Elizabeth Maxwell, MD; Andrew Grossman, MD

An educational tool was created by the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) nurses to teach newly diagnosed IBD patients and families how to identify symptoms of an IBD flare, recognize a change in symptom patterns, and select actions to implement accordingly to optimize well-being and minimize the risk of adverse outcomes. The IBD Action Plan describes IBD flare symptoms and corresponding actions based on severity of symptoms categorized into green, yellow, and red zones. A supplemental “In the Zone” graphic was developed as a colorful visual aid to help identify symptom severity. These tools were incorporated into the IBD Center’s multidisciplinary education program for patients with a new IBD diagnosis and were subsequently implemented for all IBD inpatients. The IBD Action Plan not only teaches patients and families how to recognize but also manage IBD flare symptoms at home and can be individualized for each patient’s specific flare symptoms by his/her IBD healthcare provider.

Dissemination of your work is an important step in the research process. We hope you will consider submitting an abstract for the Annual Conference in October 2019.

Sara Fidanza, MS, RN, CNS-BC, CPNP-PC Kerri Fournier, BSN, RN, CPN Co-Chairs, APGNN Research Committee
MESSAGE FROM PAST PRESIDENT

Happy New year! What better way to ring in 2019 then to advance yourself professionally! I have just the option for you! APGNN is Seeking board member nominations! We are searching for candidates for several open board positions: President Elect, Secretary/Treasurer, Patient and Family Education, and Research. Outside of Secretary/Treasurer, which is a 3 year term, all positions are a two year commitment. Each candidate must have been a full member of APGNN for one year preceding each election, and have a minimum of one year experience in pediatric gastroenterology and/or nutrition and must be in good standing (dues paid for the calendar year) prior to placing their name on the ballot. If you would like to nominate yourself, OR you have a colleague in mind that you would like me to personally reach out to, please let me know. I can assure you it is a fun and rewarding volunteer position that will enhance your professional experience!

Check our website if you would like to learn more or email me directly at ryan.shonce@atriumhealth.org

Clinical Practice

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had time to relax and hopefully spend time with family and friends over the Holidays.

My name is Donna Garner, and I’m the Clinical Practice Committee Chair of APGNN. I hope everyone is doing well. We have been continuing to work on our main clinical practice committee projects for the year.

We have completed rough drafts of 2 Basic Liver Disease modules and are in the process of finalizing them. When completed they will be available on the APGNN website for CE credit. If you have any liver expertise or are good at editing please let me know.

We have been working together to create a "Boot Camp" for new GI nurses and advanced practice providers. This curriculum will be split into sections such as constipation and malnutrition to start. With each topic we will collect all of the available resources we currently have from APGNN and NASPGHAN. Then, we will edit the information to apply to our APGNN audience. Once we compile all information, we will decide what else is needed to be able to complete Certificate of Training for that particular topic. This would possibly include guidelines, powerpoint education slides, webinars, videos, etc. The completed curriculum will be available on the APGNN website for all members to access and complete. CEUs will be provided upon completion. The first topic we are working on is constipation.

We are also in the process of updating the APGNN telephone triage protocols on the APGNN website.

We as a board are excited about these projects, and the impact they will have on the current and future APGNN members.

I am actively looking for members to join the clinical practice committee to help with these projects. If you would like to join the clinical practice committee and help in creating this curriculum or any other current projects please contact me at dkgarner@texaschildrens.org

We are in need of more Clinical Practice Committee Members in order to complete our Projects in progress.

If you have any ideas for future projects please contact me as well.

Best regards,
Donna Garner
Clinical Practice Chair