



# Nursing Newsletter

A Nursing Publication for the  
Hartford Hospital Community



Volume 2 Issue 1 October, 2007 -- Special Edition

## The Eleventh Annual Nursing Research Conference “Evidence Based Practice: The Essence of Nursing”



John Nelson RN, MS presented an impressive keynote address titled: “*The Essentials and Impact of Relationship Based Care*”.



Cindy Connolly PhD, RN, PNP reflected upon “*The DNA of Nursing: Knowing Nursing’s History*.”

On Friday, October 12, 2007, the Institute for Healthcare Education and the Connecticut Nursing Research Alliance held its 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference. Over 300 nurses and nursing students attended this year’s conference from across Connecticut and neighboring states. The theme: *Evidence-Based Practice: The Essence of Nursing* united present knowledge and technological advances impacting professional nursing practice today with the rich historical roots upon which our nursing profession was founded. A display case and photo board depicting historical nursing artifacts enhanced the historical theme. Among the exhibits displayed by Steve Lytle, Hartford Hospital Archivist, was a student nurse’s “Materia Medica Test” from the early 20th century, one of four historical artifacts donated to Hartford Hospital Archives by an RN benefactor, Sharon Gustafson, and her husband, Donald, of Westfield, MA. Members of the planning committee also dressed in vintage Hartford Hospital School of Nursing Uniforms ranging from 1898 -- 1962.

John Nelson RN, MS presented an impressive keynote address titled: “*The Essentials and Impact of Relationship Based Care*”. The afternoon plenary session by Cindy Connolly PhD, RN, PNP reflected

upon “*The DNA of Nursing: Knowing Nursing’s History*.” In addition to the keynote and plenary speakers, conference participants were given the opportunity to choose from a variety of oral abstract presentations and four skill-building sessions. The skill-building sessions included *Advancing Interdisciplinary Professional Practice through Evidence Based Tools and Automation* presented by Bonnie Wesorick RN, MSN, CEO of Clinical Practice Model Resource Center; *How to Read a Meta-Analysis* by David O’Sullivan, Senior Scientist, Research Administration, Hartford Hospital; *Searching the Research Literature* by Arlene Freed, MLS, AHIP, Manager, Web-Based Resources and Lisa Carter, MSLIS, Clinical Librarian for Nursing at Health Science Libraries of Hartford Hospital and *Translating Evidence into Practice* by Joanne Roy, RN, PhD and graduates of the premiere RN Evidence-Based Practice Fellowship Program of Hartford Hospital.

Poster awards were bestowed upon three recipients whose posters were judged by the conference participants to be of highest quality. The first place selection titled *Development of an Evidence-Based Practice Guideline: The Use of Music Therapy to*

*Reduce Anxiety in CCU Patients* was awarded to Candi Lincoln RN, PCCN and Heather Marica, RNPd, from Middlesex Hospital. Second place poster award was presented to *Rapid Response Team-Excellence in Evidence-Based Practice* created by Terri Savino BSN, RN, CPHQ and Elizabeth Molle MS, RN from Middlesex Hospital. Third place poster recognition *Does Smelly, Cloudy Urine Call for Antibiotics?* was studied by Michele Murdza RN, BSN, Megan O. Schimpf, MD and Christine LaSala, MD from Hartford Hospital.

The Excellence in Evidence Based Practice Award for 2007 was awarded to Susan Mullin, RN and Wioletta Chrostowski RN for their active involvement in the recognition of interventions to significantly reduce patient falls in a Cardiac Intensive Care Unit. Susan and Wioletta accepted the award for the nursing staff of Bliss 101 which recognized an increase in staff compliance with existing Fall Prevention Protocols from 14% to 100% thereby enhancing patient safety in our health care environment.

Numerous attendees were also recipients of a variety of door prizes. The door prizes included books and CDs generously donated by Eclipsys, Lippincott Publishing and Lynn Alchin RN, PhD faculty at University of Connecticut School of Nursing as well as decorative vases gracing each table. These beautiful vases, floral arrangements and decorations were created by Ellen Mendes and her staff at Creations at Work. Food service, provided by Wayne Oden and his staff from Hartford Hospital's Food & Nutrition Department was superb.

Special thanks to our sponsors: Hartford Hospital Research program (Educational Grant) and Eclipsys.

Thanks also to the Alliance Organizational Members and Board Representatives Conference Planning Committee:

**Hartford Hospital**

Nancy Bafundo RN, MSN, BC; Dawn Beland RN, MSN; Cindy Belonick APRN, MSN; Laura Caramanica RN, PhD; Janice Cousino RN, MSN, CNS; Karen Cudworth RN, MSN, Brenda Foxen RN, BSN; Debbie Gingras RN, CNS; Eileen Hermann RN, MHS, Lynn Jansky RN, MSN, Amy Schroder RN, MSN, Ruth Zafian MSN, MA, APRN, BC

**Connecticut Children's Medical Center**

Sally Strange, RN, MSN

**John Dempsey Hospital**

Cheryl Tafas RN, MSN and Gina Reiners, APRN

**Middlesex Hospital**

Kathleen Stolzenberger RN, BC, MS, MSN

**Midstate Medical Center**

Kathleen Barta RN, BC, MS, MSN, PCCN-CMC

**The Hospital of Central Connecticut**

Arlene Morin RN, MSN

**Capitol Community College**

Joanne Anfinson RN, PhD

**Central Connecticut State University**

Carol Williams RN, PhD

**Goodwin College**

Jan Costello RN, MSN

**Manchester Memorial and Rockville General Hospital**

Linda Quirici, MSN, APRN, BC

**Quinnipiac University**

Anne Durkin RN, PhD

**Sacred Heart University**

Dori Taylor-Sullivan RN, PhD

**Southern Connecticut State University**

Barbara Aronson RN, MSN, PhD

**St. Joseph College**

Terry Bosworth RN, PhD

**University of Connecticut**

Lynn Allchin RN, PhD.

**University of Hartford**

Karen Breda RN, PhD

**VNA HealthCare**

Tracy Wodatch, RN, BSN

**William Backus Hospital**

Deb Furtado BSN, MA

**Yale University**

Margaret Grey RN, PhD





First place went to Candi Lincoln RN, PCCN and Heather Marica, RNP from Middlesex Hospital for their poster titled *Development of an Evidence-Based Practice Guideline: The Use of Music Therapy to Reduce Anxiety in CCU Patients*. Plaque presented by Laura Caramanica RN, PhD (far right).

The second place poster award was presented to *Rapid Response Team-Excellence in Evidence-Based Practice* created by Terri Savino BSN, RN, CPHQ and Elizabeth Molle MS, RN from Middlesex Hospital.



Third place poster recognition *Does Smelly, Cloudy Urine Call for Antibiotics?* was studied by Michele Murdza RN, BSN, Megan O. Schimpf, MD and Christine LaSala, MD from Hartford Hospital.

The Excellence in Evidence Based Practice Award for 2007, presented by Nancy Bafundo RN, MSN, BC was awarded to Susan Mullin, RN and Wioletta Chrostowski RN for their active involvement in the recognition of interventions to significantly reduce patient falls in a Cardiac Intensive Care Unit. Susan and Wioletta accepted the award for the nursing staff of Bliss 10I which recognized an increase in staff compliance with existing Fall Prevention Protocols from 14% to 100% thereby enhancing patient safety in our health care environment.



Laura Caramanica RN, PhD dressed in a vintage HH School of Nursing uniform poses over artifacts display case (left). Exhibit (right) displayed by Steve Lytle, Hartford Hospital Archivist included a student nurse's "Materia Medica Test" from the early 20th century, a nurse's case and several nursing books donated to HH by Sharon Gustafson RN and her husband, Donald, of Westfield, MA.



Submitted by:  
Joanne Roy RN, PhD

Photos by: Joy Miller

Editor: Martha Kemp-Albert