

Supporting nurses and nursing students
in evidence-based practice

Connecticut Nursing Research Alliance



The Institute for Healthcare Education and the Connecticut Nursing Research Alliance Twelfth Annual Conference, Evidence Based Practice: Transforming Patient Care



**Linda Burnes Bolton DrPH,
RN, FAAN
Keynote Speaker**



**Adam Borgida MD
Plenary Speaker**



**Debbie Gingras MS, RN, CNS
Plenary Speaker**

On Friday, October 3, 2008, the Institute for Healthcare Education and the Connecticut Nursing Research Alliance held its 12th Annual Conference, Evidence Based Practice: Transforming Patient Care. Over 300 nurses and nursing students attended this year's conference from across Connecticut and neighboring states. The keynote speaker was Linda Burnes Bolton, DrPH, RN, FAAN, Vice President for Nursing, Chief Nursing Officer and Director of Nursing Research at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, California. Dr. Burnes Bolton is chair of the National Advisory Committee for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation initiative to Transform Care at the Bedside

(TCAB). The well-received keynote address, "*Transforming Care at the Bedside*" described the TCAB experience as a strategic safety, quality, service and value initiative.

The Plenary address, "*Transforming Care in Labor & Delivery: Crew Management*" was given by Deborah Gingras, MS, RN, CNS, Perinatal Clinical Nurse Specialist at Hartford Hospital and Adam Borgida, MD, Attending Perinatologist at Hartford Hospital and Associate Professor of Clinical Ob/Gyn, UCONN School of Medicine. Ms. Gingras and Dr. Borgida discussed the utilization of CREW Management teamwork concepts and

skills to reduce errors and improve patient safety.

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 *The Process of Evidence Based Practice: From Formulating the Question to Writing the Abstract* presented by Barbara Aronson, APRN, PhD, CS, CNE, Associate Professor, Southern Connecticut State University; *How to Read a Meta-Analysis* by David O'Sullivan, Senior Scientist, Research Administration, Hartford Hospital; *Searching the Research Literature* by Lisa Carter MSLIS, Clinical Librarian for Nursing at Health Science Libraries of Hartford Hospital; and *Demystifying the IRB Process* by Cherie Bilbie, MS, CCRP, Director, Human Research Protections Program, 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 entitled *Can Safety Volunteers Help to Prevent Falls in Hospitalized Patients?* was awarded to Lynn Jansky, RN, MSN and Christine Waszynski, RN, MSN, GNP-BC, Hartford Hospital. The second place award went to Shannon Dillard, RN, BS, *Cooley Dickinson Hospital: Staff Really Can Transform Care*. Third place poster award was presented to Kathie Larke, MSN, MA, RN-BC, Middlesex Hospital for her poster entitled, *Computer*

Assisted Learning or Teacher Led Instruction: Which is More Effective in Accurate Completion of the Braden Scale?



Left to right: Cynthia Belonick APRN, MSN, Nurse Educator, IOL, Ellen Blair APRN, CNAAC, NC, Unit Director Donnelly 1N, Excellence in Nursing Research Award winner, and Linda Spivack RN, MSN, VP of Patient Care Services

The Excellence in Nursing Research Award was presented to Ellen Blair APRN, CNAAC, BC, Unit Director Donnelly 1N, Institute of Living. The purpose of this award is to recognize nursing researchers for their contribution to the advancement of nursing science and professional practice through the conduct of research. Ellen's research has examined the phenomena of fall events in a geriatric psychiatric inpatient population, to reduce falls and to ensure best practice approaches. Ellen published an article entitled "Falls in an Inpatient Geriatric Psychiatric Population" in the Journal of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association, 2006. Since then Ellen has studied the effects of Psychotropic Medications on Fall Events in the geriatric psychiatric population, and has an article accepted for publication in The International Journal of Nursing Research.



From left, Nancy Bafundo RN, MSN, BC, Award Committee, Third Place Poster Award winner Kathie Larke MSN, MA, RN-BC Middlesex Hospital, First Place Poster Award winner Chris Waszynski RN, MSN, GNP-BC Hartford Hospital, Research Award winner Ellen Blair APRN, CNA, BC, First Place Poster Award winner Lynn Jansky RN, MSN Hartford Hospital and Linda Spivack RN, MSN, VP of Patient Care Services, Hartford Hospital.

Several attendees were also recipients of raffle prizes. Three research books were generously donated by Jeane Kalanta of Elsevier Medical Publishing. Decorative floral vases gracing each table were also given to a few lucky attendees. The beautiful floral arrangements and conference 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 sponsor: Hartford Hospital Research Program (Educational Grant).

Thanks also to Conference Planning Committee:

Hartford Hospital

Nancy Bafundo RN, MSN, BC; Dawn Beland RN, MSN; Cindy Belonick APRN, MSN; Linda Berger Spivack, RN, MSN, Janice Cousino RN, MSN, CNS; Karen Cudworth RN, MSN, Debbie Gingras RN, CNS; Eileen Hermann RN, MHS, Amy Schroder RN, MSN, Ruth Zafian MSN, MA, APRN, BC

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Barbara Aronson, APRN, PhD, CS, CNE