AANP CONFERENCE CALL

Keeping Health Care ON TRACK

2019 NATIONAL CONFERENCE • JUNE 18 - 23 INDIANAPOLIS • INDIANA CONVENTION CENTER

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Elizabeth Smart: 'I had something worth living for'

Elizabeth Smart is best known for the horror that happened when she was just 14. Kidnapped from her bed in the middle of the night, she was held captive for nine months and raped repeatedly.

@AANP_NEWS

#AANP19

She recounted much of those harrowing nine months in a detailed opening keynote session Wednesday.

"People always ask, 'Doesn't it traumatize you telling your story?' Normally it would. When I speak, I am looking at a room full of people who are caring, who are kind, who are trying to make the world a better, safer place than they found. Yes, this has affected my life, but I'm not going to let it stop me or stand in my way."

Smart held the audience's rapt attention, detailing a "shy and quiet" wallflower who was looking forward to her junior high graduation the next day. That night, she went to bed in a room she shared with her younger sister "just feeling safe. Feeling happy. Feeling like I didn't have a care in the world."

The next thing, "I remember hearing a voice, saying, 'I have a knife at your neck. Don't make a sound. Get up and come with me.' I remember being terrified."

She complied, worried that if she didn't, her younger sister might be taken instead. She wondered if her parents and

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four brothers had been killed. After walking for "forever," into the mountains near



The military presentation included American flag, as well as those representing the U.S. Navy, U.S. Army, U.S. Air Force and U.S. Public Health Service, with all flags presented by nurse practitioners and a performance of the National Anthem by former AANP President Cindy Cooke.

her home, the two ended at a landing carved out in a stand of trees. "I remem-



ber a woman appearing. It was that feeling like when you meet someone for the first time, and you know that you click and could really get along? It was the exact opposite. I knew she wasn't there to help me."

Her captor pronounced that they were now married and "of everything I expected to hear, that was

not one of them. Every reason I gave him why that couldn't be, he had the same response: 'We're now married. It's time to

consummate our marriage."

Smart detailed how she'd led a "sheltered life" and didn't know much about sex

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Two national award winners noted for moving the NP practice forward

Two of AANP's highest honors were presented at the annual membership meeting, showcasing the evolving work of nurse practitioners (NPs), and advocacy for the important role that NPs play in health care.

Joyce Pulcini, PhD, PNP-BC, FAAN, FAANP, was presented the 2019 Towers Pinnacle Award for her work in policy, development, and international support of the NP role. She was noted for her expertise on "the evolving roles of NPs throughout the world, focusing on NP education, reimbursement, political advocacy and removal of barriers to practice." Her nomination letter noted she was "instrumental in establishing one of the first international journals for nurse practitioners."

"Becoming a nurse practitioner and educator was the best decision I've ever made," Dr. Pulcini said. "It's brought

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TODAY'S SCHEDULE

6:30-7:45 a.m. Breakfast Non-CE Product Theaters

7 a.m. – 5 p.m. NP Photo Shoot (open to all) AANP Central (Hall F)

10:30-11:30 a.m. **Interest Forums**

11:45 a.m. – 1 p.m. Lunch Non-CE Product Theaters

2:30-6 p.m. Grand Opening of Exhibit Hall (Unopposed Time, 2:30-4:45 p.m.)

2:45-3:15 p.m. "Ask the Experts" Opioids and pain management AANP Education Booth (Exhibit Hall)

3:30-4 p.m. "Ask the Experts" Cardiovascular AANP Education Booth (Exhibit Hall)

3-4:45 p.m. Attended NP Posters: Group 1

6-7:15 p.m. **Dinner Non-CE Product Theaters**

6:30-10 p.m. Fellows Induction Ceremony & Reception/Dinner (Reception by Invitation Only)

STAY CONNECTED WITH AANP

Download the conference mobile app at mobile. aanp.org to navigate the convention center and personalize your session schedule.



The app is also available in Apple and Google Play app stores.

- Use **#AANP19** to stay informed during the AANP 2018 National Conference and share your experience with others.
- Follow @AANP_News on Twitter and Instagram.
- Use **#NPsLead** yearround to join the online NP conversation.



2 AANP CONFERENCE CALL Welcome to the AANP **National Conference**

» By Joyce M. Knestrick, PhD, APRN, CRNP, FAANP

Welcome to Indianapolis! While the city may be best known for its oval racetrack and the drivers who come here to stake their fortune at breakneck speeds,

the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) will deliver our own winning race as well.

I know that the next few days will be busy and productive. The conference committee has spent countless hours ensuring a well-rounded conference, whether you are at the start of your career or well in to advanced practice.

Thanks to your input, we've ensured a more robust tract for those in acute care. We've added more topics that are aimed across the experience level of nurse practitioners (NPs).

Taken holistically, I think you will find a national conference that will include insights that you can put in to practice immediately.

Take advantage of the educational opportunities to learn more about the latest research. Your patients certainly are. It can be a challenge to keep up as a partner in comanaging the disease. Because NPs are patient centered, we must be able to listen to our patients' concerns and see the evidence that their research has provided. We must not forget that while we may manage hundreds of patients, all with their own unique challenges, each patient is focused only on one disorder: theirs.

Consequently, they have time and interest to research the latest information. We find it difficult to devote the same amount of time. I saw a study recently that said an average provider could spend 29 hours daily exploring the latest evidence and data out there. In other words, we never will be able to keep up.

Yet here, all in one place, you will be able to explore the latest evidence on treating specific disease processes. And we will help you find ways to ensure you always are kept abreast of the latest research.

I for one am looking forward to our opening keynote speaker, Elizabeth Smart. She will bring a different perspective to our meeting, focusing on healing and hope in the most unimaginable circumstances. She will set off a few days of inspiring speakers, wrapped up by Margaret Fitzgerald, DNP, FNP-BC, NP-C, FAANP, CSP, FAAN, DCC, FNAP. Dr. Fitzgerald, our closing keynote speaker, needs no introduction to many of you. Her discussion of finding our voice as NPs will transform your practice, your patients and your personal life.

Those sessions bookend what is sure to

be a full few days of insight and interaction. And please make sure to focus on both. The sessions and speakers will deepen your knowledge, yet the connec-

tions you make with other NPs can stretch for a lifetime.



With more than 4,000 NPs all in one place, we have a lot of brilliance all in one room. Don't be shy about asking questions. If you see somebody with staff, Fellows or board tags, ask about what they do. Seek their insight into how you can become more involved in AANP. Take ad-

vantage of your peers, too. Ask about that perplexing problem you face at the clinic, or that challenging patient-care dilemma.

AANP offers such tremendous assets and the national meeting provides access to many of that. Take advantage of this opportunity to connect with AANP leadership, Fellows, and peers to grow in your careers. You never know when that connection may provide a solution.

As I end my two-year term as president, I am looking forward to meeting you in the hallways and elevators and telling you about AANP, how far we've come and where we're going.

I will be delighted to see you, whether it is our first time connecting or we've known each other for decades. I know it's going to be a great conference, on that will carry you throughout the remainder of the year.

Here is to an amazing week ahead, filled with fun and information that we can take back into our practices throughout the coming year.

Career Fair pays off, and not just for job seekers

Looking for a new position—or to see how the market for NPs is faring throughout the country? The annual Career Fair is the ideal place to find out.

"We see some great success, even for passive job seekers," said Jim Cook, director of career services for YM Careers, which conducts the career fair for AANP. "See what's out there and see how it matches what you're being paid or how you're being utilized."

Though held on the exhibit hall floor, it is a completely separate area. Cook said 25 organizations are represented, including universities, hospitals and health care groups. Some of the best-known names in health care will be there.

The recruiters are looking for candidates to fill a wide range of positions in a variety of locations, Cook said. "I just got off the phone with one recruiter who has openings in nine states. It's beneficial to participate even if you're not currently looking for a new position."

The career fair allows NPs to learn more information about each recruiter and provides an opportunity to "see the recruiting professionals and hiring managers face to face," Cook said. "Some of the organizations will have their NP directors there. The recruiters will conduct some initial screenings, but some plan to conduct second interviews at the career fair."

For NPs currently seeking work, the career fair can provide instant feedback, compared to the frustration of mailing a resume or completing an online application and never hearing back. "When they don't get a response to a job posting or advertisement, it's frustrating. They're not sure, is it that their resume isn't attractive, or do they not come off as strongly? Being there face to face provides instant feedback. You can find out if your background matches the career opportunities right away."

It also provides a connection to a recruiter—even if the fit isn't right at the moment.

To make the most of the career fair, Cook recommends taking a wide approach, visiting each of the 25 companies. "Even if they work in a location you're not interested in, recruiters move around. It's important that they get to know you."

He recommends uploading a resume to the AANP Career Center as a starting point. The career fair will have experts on hand to help candidates upload resumes or search jobs. Entering the information into the database raises visibility beyond the career fair, Cook said.

A few other tips for making the most of the Career Fair:

A printed copy of a resume is an option, especially if the candidate wants to highlight some skills or roles.

There is no need to wear an "interview suit," acceptable conference attire works, Cook said.

Be sure to pick up business cards or information from the recruiters you meet to follow up with them. "Going forward, you can let them know when you add a certification or switch to a specialty," Cook said. "Career fairs are immediate, but also can be useful down the road."

Exhibit Hall: The hub of the AANP National Conference

If the national conference is the

heartbeat of AANP, the exhibit hall floor might be its epicenter. There, NPs can connect with exhibitors showcasing the latest products and innovations to transform patients care. They can meet with AANP staff and Partners to learn how to make the most of AANP membership. They can connect with recruiters to find out the job opportunities at the Career Fair. And most importantly, they can connect with other NPs, either through formal programs like the NP Posters or just walking the aisles.

The exhibit hall's grand opening is at 2:30 p.m. Thursday. The exhibit hall will be open until 6 p.m. Thursday, with unopposed time from 2:30-4:45 p.m. The exhibit hall is open from 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Friday (unopposed time: 1:30-3:15 p.m.) and 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Saturday (unopposed time: 10:30-11:45 a.m.)

The Dress for Success area will be set up as a boutique featuring items donated by AANP members. After the display, the items will be sent to Dress for Success Indianapolis, where women find all manner of help while job hunting, from interview preparation to an interview wardrobe—where the donated items are destined. Once the job is landed, the women can return for work clothing, such as scrubs, black pants/white shirts (for those going into food service) and other items they need.

Some highlights:

• The AANP Plaza is a one-stop shop for anything you need from AANP. Connect with AANP staff in Research, Federal and State Government Affairs, Education, Membership, Communication, Professional Practice, Fellows, Certification, and the PAC (political action committee). Learn how you can

get more out of your AANP membership—or give back to the profession.

- The AANP Career Fair allows you to meet directly with more than two dozen employers from around the country searching for NPs in various specialties.
- Booths from a number of health care organizations and health tech companies help you to explore new products and trends in health care.
- The latest research is available in the NP and Scientific Poster area and find new approaches for patients in the Product Showcase theater. Each day, a group of NP presenters will be available at their posters to discuss their projects.
- The AANP Partner Pavilion provides an opportunity to learn about the many goods and services available to AANP members.

Earn CE and advance career through AANP Education & Accreditation Department courses

The AANP Education & Accreditation department works to keep nurse practitioners up to date on the latest information to improve patient care and clinical practice. With more than 4,200 NPs in one place, the National Conference is an ideal location to provide CE programming.

"Nurse practitioners are on the frontline of the most pressing health issues," said Anne Norman, DNP, FNP-C, FAANP, vice president, Education & Accreditation. "AANP provides ongoing education to meet those needs."

In addition to the many sessions provided at the AANP National Conference, the AANP education team developed several CE activities. Here are the sessions that our education team is providing Thursday.

Pain Management and Opioids: Balancing Risks & Benefits Thursday, June 20 8:00 – 11:00 AM

This presentation will be a 2019 update. The most recent nationally vetted standards for safe opioid prescribing are presented based on the FDA Prescriber Education blueprint and developed by Collaboration for REMS Education (CO*RE). Content discusses the four

phases of safe prescribing standards: (1) pain assessment and screening tool use guidelines; (2) opioid trial definition and expected components including UDT, PPA & Informed Consent; (3) long term therapy, UDT and screening tool use frequencies, and (4) aspects associated with termination of care. Concepts of Red Flag behaviors and problem cases are reviewed. Pharmacology information includes CO*RE content on immediate release and long acting opioids, dose and drug family changes, equal analgesic drug conversions and abuse deterrent medications. Completion of this program and its evaluation meets many state-based requirements, including Boards of Nursing, for opioid prescriber education.

Speaker: Randall Hudspeth, PhD, MBA, MS, APRN-CNP, FAANP

Peeling Back the Layers: A Best-Practice Approach to Managing Atopic Dermatitis

Thursday, June 20 1:15 – 2:15 PM

In this presentation, NPs with expertise in dermatology utilize an innovative approach to discuss best-practices in the evaluation, treatment and management of this common but complex skin condition.

Speaker: Susan Tofte, BSN, MS, FNP-C

Ask the Expert

The Ask the Expert talk is an opportunity for NP conference attendees to ask subject matter experts questions in specific therapeutic areas utilizing a more informal setting. This inaugural event will take place during unopposed exhibit hall times on Thursday and Friday at the Education & Accreditation booth. Dates and times are based on the therapeutic area. Here is the Thursday schedule:

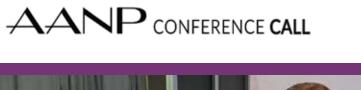
Opioids and Pain Management 2:45 – 3:15 PM

Speakers: Theresa Mallick-Searle, MS, RN-BC, ANP-BC; Brett Snodgrass, FNP-C, CPE, FACPP, FAANP

Cardiovascular

3:30 - 4:00 PM

Speakers: Leslie Davis, PhD, RN, ANP-BC, FAANP, FPCNA, FAHA; Margaret (Midge) Bowers, DNP, FNP-BC, CHSE, AACC, FAANP





Emily Oberst, (left) Kimberly Wohlberg, Paige Randolph, and Jeanette Hay connect at the Student Meet & Greet. Students were able to connect with AANP staff and leadership – and each other – for the first time event Wednesday.

AANP National Conference overview from one who knows it best

Nobody knows the plans of the 2019 AANP National Conference as well as Major Brandon Lee, MSN, APRN, FNP-C, Chair of the National Conference Committee. He and Vice Chair Angela Thompson, DNP, FNP-C, BC-ADM, CDE, FAANP and the rest of the committee have planned several exciting days ahead, Major Lee said.

With a theme of "Keeping Health Care on Track," Major Lee provided some highlights selected from hundreds of events offered:

The opening Welcome Reception last night at the Indianapolis Zoo provided an opportunity to network with colleagues in a casual setting. It also allowed families to participate in AANP's annual event. "Indianapolis also has the world's best children's museum. That, along with the Zoo event provided a chance to bring the families to the event while you get the education you need for CEs," Major Lee said.

Wednesday's highlights included the opening keynote, Elizabeth Smart, who was abducted at age 14 and held captive for nine months before finding freedom and hope.

Closing out the event is Dr. Margaret Fitzgerald, DNP, FNP-BC, NP-C, FAANP, CSP, FAAN, DCC, FNAP. "She's a dynamo in the field," Major Lee said.

In terms of education, Major Lee noted the choices will be fairly easy based on specialty.

For posters, the competition was tough. "There were so many good abstracts that did not make it last year that we asked to bring back some specific ones," Major Lee said.

Stay on message when dealing with critics

As nurse practitioners play an increasing role in patient care and fill gaps in access, the critics have come out in full force, questioning training and expertise in traditional and online media as well as in public hearings. "What is the real reason your role is being challenged? It's because you're winning," said Pam Fielding, CEO of SevenTwenty Strategies at the NP Organization luncheon and panel discussion. "I'm going to make your blood boil. Then we'll take a deep, cleansing breath together and talk about how to combat this information." The panel discussion included examples of some of the opposition that has been occurring online and in the media. Panelists also included SevenTwenty's president Vlad Cartwright; AANP's vice president of State Government Affairs, Tay Kopanos; and Michelle Karns, associate vice president of Marketing. "We need message discipline to stay on message," Cartwright said. "It's easy to go out there and respond directly to something somebody has said. We look far better if we stay on message." AANP has developed a tool where NPs can report negative messages they see on social and traditional media. It is available at www.aanp.org/reportnow.



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Dress for Success provides a way up for women

Day in and day out, nurse practitioners give to their patients and their communities. The national conference is no different. AANP has selected the Indianapolis location of Dress for Success.

All attendees need to do to participate is visit the donation bins through the conference. Donated items will be displayed in a boutique setting before being given to Dress for Success Indianapolis.

Dress for Success has some specific needs, all with a goal of allowing the item to be ready for a woman's job interview. That means it should be clean, neat and on a hanger, said Julie Petr, the program's executive director. "We don't collect clothing that comes in trash bags. We have no access to dry clean or iron them or steam them. We want a woman to be ready to walk into a job interview."

The items need to be modern or classic styles and conservative enough for a job interview. Dress for Success recommends the items be no older than five years. And forget the formal wear. "We have no way to use formal wear. We don't accept denim, leather, capris or miniskirts. Our website (**www.indydfs.org**) is very specific for anybody who has questions about what is accepted."

The Suits for Success program—which provides interview suits and accessories for women on their job search—"is probably what we're best known for," Petr said. Women come in, meet one-on-one with a volunteer who helps with select-

Three Risks that Increase the Liability of Nurse Practitioners

As a nurse practitioner, you show up each day to give your very best to each person you care for. At times you may also stay awake at night wondering if you completed all of the appropriate care, tasks, communication, and other professional accountabilities for each of your patients. If so, you are not unlike many other health care providers.

Risks are rising in the complex practice of NPs, any of which could potentially lead to a liability or malpractice claim. First, medication-related claims are common, and NPs prescribing opioids face particular risk. Accuracy in dosage might prevent overdose, but in the ambulatory setting, patients don't always take the medication as intended. Phone contact with patients taking opioids to determine the effect and ongoing need is one strategy to minimize use. Monitor patients carefully prior to refills and consider alternative medications and therapies that may also reduce pain.

Second, NPs face risk when performing new procedures and treatments. One of the most frequent allegations in professional liability claims against NPs is practicing outside the scope of their license relative to the new procedure/treatment. Education and training to do new procedures, along with competency validation by another appropriately competent provider must be documented. When competence is achieved and validated, many new things can readily be added to the scope of NP practice as long as the procedure or treatment is within the state Nurse Practice Act for NPs and organizational policies and privileges allow for the new practices.

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Third, **Telemedicine** is becoming more widely used in many settings. When practicing telemedicine, NPs need to be licensed in their state as well as the state where the patient is receiving care. This includes being certain of the scope of practice limits in the state where they are located as well as the scope of practice boundaries for NPs in the state where the **patient** is located, which may be different. And, NPs need to validate that their professional liability policy covers the practice of telemedicine in both states and can help with any issues that might be reported to licensing agencies.

Employing strategies to reduce your professional liability can facilitate safe care and positive patient outcomes. General risk mitigation strategies such as practicing within the scope of the APRN license, fostering positive relationships with patients and families, following accepted standards and procedures, complete and timely documentation, and ongoing training reduce NP liability risk.

Despite the true privilege of practicing as an NP, the responsibility is immense. As the provider, you must ensure the coordination of care and that staff and systems are effective in delivering the outcomes intended. You depend on technologies, processes, systems, other health team members staff, and volunteers to help manage the health of your caseload. NPs take risks every day. You are human, and humans can make mistakes. It's important to promote a culture of transparency and accountability where all healthcare professionals are encouraged to report, discuss, and learn from mistakes in order to improve patient safety and avoid lawsuits.

ing a business suit, matching blouse, shoes, jewelry and a purse. The women then meet with a staff member or human resources professional to help them prepare for the interview or polish a resume. "When they walk out, they are totally ready for a job interview," Petr said.

With the job in hand, the women can return for workwear attire—perhaps medical scrubs or black pants/white

shirts if they go in to food service.

While the interview attire may be the most well-known aspect of the program, Dress for Success also includes a Professional Women's Group program, where those who have gotten good jobs can return for networking, support and continuing education—ensuring that the success extends beyond landing the job. A career development center also provides training and help with applications to land that interview.

Petr said she hopes attendees enjoy Indianapolis and learn more about Dress for Success—and can take what they've



learned back to their communities. "Every affiliate is looking for passionate volunteers who can donate their time as well as the clothing," she said.

"In addition to seeking women's clothing, Dress for Success appreciates financial donations. These items can help an Indianapolis woman with a hand up."

"Giving someone clothing that guides them towards a job and helps propel them into a higher wage truly is a priceless gift," Petr said. "When you can bring up a woman in our community, you're more likely bringing up children and families. It has a ripple effect on our city."

STOCK UP ON AANP APPAREL AND MORE



Nurse practitioners are proud of their careers and AANP membership. Showcase it by purchasing AANP-branded apparel, keychains, mugs, pens and other items at the AANP Store.

During the conference, visit the AANP Store in the Crossroads Foyer, across from Exhibit Hall D. Hours:

Thursday 7:30 a.m.-5:15 p.m. Friday 7:30 a.m.-6:15 p.m. Saturday 7:30 a.m.-5:15 p.m. Sunday 7:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

If your suitcase is already stuffed to the weight limit, purchase AANP-branded items throughout the year at aanpstore.com.

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AANP Job Center 4106
Abbott Diabetes Care 3065
Abbott Nutrition 2046
Abbvie7011
Acetaminophen Awareness Coalition 2059
ACOEM 7031
Adako USA 3050
Admera Health 5024
Advancing Holistic Health 5104
Advocate Aurora Health 2099
Agency for Healthcare Research
and Quality 6006
Air Force Recruiting Service
AKESO HEALTH SCIENCES, LLC 6034
Alcoholics Anonymous World
Services, Inc 5019
Alkermes
Alkermes 5028
All Medical Personnel 4049
Allergan 1031
Allergan Neurosciences
Alpha-1 Foundation 7021
AMAG Pharmaceuticals 3000
American Academy of Emergency
Nurse Practitioners 5107
American Association for the Study of
Liver Diseases
American Chronic Pain Association 1016
American College of Lifestyle Medicine 6107
American College of Obstetricians and
Gynecologists (ACOG) 6041
American College of Sports Medicine
American Medical ID 4103

VISIT THE Partner Pavilion

AANP Job Center American Medical ID EBSCO Health JAANP Journal for Nurse Practitioners Mercer Consumer Prescriber's Letter UpToDate Wolters Kluwer Health VisualDx American Nurses Credentialing Center...... 1036 American Society of Addiction Medicine

American Society of Addiction Medicine
(ASAM) 5057
Amgen
Amgen / Novartis
Amneal Pharmaceuticals LLC
Amyloidosis Foundation 6007
AnazaoHealth Corporation 5020
APEA - Advanced Practice Education
Associates 4037
Apogee Physicians 5003
Arbor Pharmaceuticals, LLC
Army Medical Recruiting/Medical
Recruiting Brigade 4030
Ascension Medical Group 6040
Aspen Medical Products 1001
Aspire Health
AstraZeneca1044
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Atrium Health (formerly Carolinas
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Avion Pharmaceuticals
AYA Med Group
Barkley & Associates 1072
Barton Associates
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Baylor Scott & White Health 1099
Beacon Continuing Education, LLC
Bethel University
Biogen
Bio-K Plus International Inc
Bionix
Bio-Oil / Kao USA Inc
BioTE Medical
BJC Healthcare 2103
Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc3017
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Boiron 1053
BrainCheck 6051
Brandman University 7006
Brymill Cryogenic Systems 3051
Buygility – Customer Powered Purchasing6044
Calmoseptine, Inc 4028
CAPTEL OUTREACH 7029
Case Western Reserve University 1017
Catholic University of America 2080
CDC Immunizations 7010
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
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Clinical Advisor

)36 Coalition For Headache And Migraine

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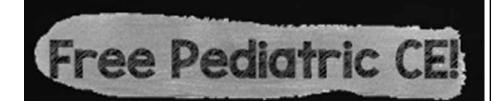
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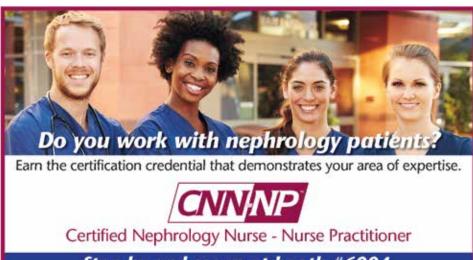
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—List as of June 19, 2019



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THURSDAY, JUNE 20

AANP conference Call

National Conference focused on creating an ideal event for everyone

Talk to Major Brandon Lee, MSN, APRN, FNP-C, for very long and it's clear that he's as excited about the 2020 conference as he is 2019. Lee is co-chair of the 2019 AANP National Conference and will be chair in 2020, when the national conference will be held in New Orleans.

A shift is occurring over the next couple of years as he sees it, broadening the annual event from one focused almost exclusively on obtaining continuing education credits. CEs will remain an important focus, but he hopes that will broaden.

"We're moving more strategically into ensuring that NPs are at the table as the medical community makes strategic decisions. That includes growing in our leadership roles and business opportunities," he said. "We have taken some baby steps, but we're trying to bring subject matter experts to the forefront."

That means more of an emphasis on AANP Specialty Practice Groups and bringing their influence into the conference planning.

"It's really about making improvements that will move the organization forward over the next five to 10 years," he said. "The biggest draw is licensure, of course—and it will continue to be. In this one location, you can get more than one-fourth of the CEs needed to renew your license."

Still, plans are to continue to change and grow the education offered. "Historically, the conference has been solely for CEs, but if you've been in practice for 10-15 years, how to do a simple procedure is not it. It's moving more strategically in our thinking, to make sure that we offer plenty for NPs at all levels of experience."

But the process doesn't stop there. In order to obtain a CE credit for attending a course, the participant must submit a survey. He plans to take the data from this year's national conference and use it to inform the 2020 event.

"It identifies good speakers," he said. "And the feedback is immediate."

That also means taking into consideration how attendees respond when asked about future locations. "We do take location into consideration," he said. "We've been focused on finding the right combination of location and education to draw more NPs to the conference. We want to make this the one conference you go to for your education needs."

Awards

me such joy and fulfillment."

The award was presented by its namesake, Jan Towers, PhD, NP-C, CRNP, FAAN, FAANP.

Mary Wakefield, PhD, RN, FAAN, was presented the 2019 Sharp Cutting Edge Award by the award's namesake, Nancy Sharp, MSN, RN, FAAN. Dr. Wakefield was hailed as a "champion of advanced practice nursing and as

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at the time. "When he was finished, he stood up, smiled like it wasn't a big deal, turned around and walked out of the tent. For me, it was devastating. I felt like I was no longer worth saving. I really thought that my parents would think that too if they knew what had happened."

She thought about her mother, how she made school lunches and sat through so many music lessons. "When I thought of my mom, I remembered what it felt like to be loved. I didn't want to forget that once upon a time, I had truly been loved. She still loved me, even though I had been kidnapped, chained up and raped. When I realized that, I realized I had something worth living for."

Smart survived for nine months before police found her with her captors. Once separated from her captors, she was quickly reunited with her family and back at home. After evening prayers, she headed for the stairs to go to bed. "My parents both looked at me with this panicked look on their faces. They said, 'Elizabeth, don't you think you want to stay here tonight? We'll have a family campout.' I remember looking them and saying, 'No. I've done my time on the floor. I'll sleep in my bed."

The next day, she was talking with her mother, giving some details about what had happened. "She turned to me and said, 'Elizabeth. What these people have done is terrible and there aren't words strong enough. The best punishment you could ever give him is to be happy, to move forward. By holding on to what's happened to you, by reliving it over and over it is allowing them to steal more of your life from you. They don't deserve a single second more."

While she admits there are times when she still feels angry, Smart is also grateful. "I'm not sorry that it happened because of what it's allowed me to do. I'm so grateful for the good, kind, wonderful people that I've met in my life and the many people that I call on rather frequently in the medical field."



Nancy Sharp, AANP President Joyce Knestrick, and Mary Wakefield.

a staunch advocate for the NP role." She was administrator of the federal Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and later Acting Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), both under President Barack Obama. At HRSA, she played a key role in aspects of the Affordable Care Act, focused on strengthening the health care workforce and improving inequalities, particularly for vulnerable populations. She also



Joyce Pulcini, AANP President Joyce Knestrick, and Jan Towers.

served as a consultant for the Global Programme on AIDS at the World Health Organization.

"I consider this award a high honor and I am so appreciative of it," Dr. Wakefield said. "I have recognized that AANP has been and continues to be a strong and much-needed voice for the health of the public. Truth be told, I've always been a little in awe of you knowing how difficult the work can be, but of the difference you make."

Keeping it real: Marketing looks to NPs as photo models

In the past, when AANP needed a photo of a nurse practitioner (NP) at work, it turned to stock photos featuring a generic clinical setting. No more.

"We want to feature real NPs," said Trevor Delling, marketing director for AANP. "In order to do that, we need pictures of real members in clinical settings, office environments, legislative meetings, and more. What better place to get those than when we have more than 4,000 NPs in one place?"

A giant photo shoot will be occurring during the conference, using realistic sets in the AANP Central area (Hall F). The shoot will occur from 7 a.m. until 5 p.m. through Saturday. AANP has assembled exam rooms, office settings, academic settings, and advocacy backdrops, along with an area to capture professional head shots.

All that is needed are the NPs. Dozens signed up in advance to take part, but Delling notes he is happy to take walkins: "We want everybody to stop by at their convenience and we will fit them in. We're always happy to do pictures with multiple NPs. We can feature two NPs talking to each other in an exam room or in an office setting. If we get an influx of people, we can simply walk to the other side and do some advocacy shots."

AANP has thought of everything. A number of white coats and props, like stethoscopes, will be available. "Wear your normal work clothes," Delling said. "You don't really need to wear or bring anything special, other than professional clothes. If you wouldn't go to work in flip flops, you wouldn't want to be photographed in them."

Those who want can explore multiple settings. "But if all you have time for is one photo, stop in for that one photo," Delling said. "If you have a half hour, we can get you in every setting. We want everybody who is willing to participate."

All participants will be given access via email to view and download their photos several weeks after the conclusion of conference.

In that same area, AANP will be conducting video interviews, where attendees can address a range of topics. Participants will be able to share their thoughts on life as an NP, their favorite part about AANP and conference, words of wisdom for the next generation of NPs and anything else that's on their minds.

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