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Winter 2010 / Volume 28, Number 1

Feature

The Historical Role of the Otorhinolaryngology Nurse Practitioner

Patricia M. Zarnitz RN, MSN, RNFA, CORLN, CRNP, BC-FNP

The role of the Nurse Practitioner (NP) in the specialty practice of Otorhinolaryngology (ORL) continues to evolve. NPs work in a collaborative practice environment integrating nursing and the medical model. They engage in critical thinking skills, expert clinical practice, and professional leadership, and evaluate and conduct research. This article presents a literature review on the historical evolution of this specialty practice role. Examination of past and present roles in varied practice settings and diverse healthcare systems provide a historical perspective and the momentum necessary to chart future growth and development.

Departments

Editorial: State of the Society

Kari McConnell, RN, CORLN

Highlights of the 2009 SOHN 33rd Annual Congress and Nursing Symposium

Poetry Corner: Employee Termination

Editor: Maggie Kramper, RN, FNP, CORLN

Author: Maggie Kramper, RN, FNP, CORLN

Highlights from the Hill:

A Review of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009:

What is in it for Nursing?

Editor: Janice Adams, BSN, MPA, NE-BC, CORLN

Reviewer: Janice Adams, BSN, MPA, NE-BC, CORLN

Products of Interest: Product Modifications

Editor: Carolyn Waddington, RN, MS, FNP-C, CORLN

Media Review: Review of the Core Curriculum for Otorhinolaryngology and Head-Neck Nursing

Editor: Linda K. Clarke, MS, RN, CORLN

Reviewer: Ann Luther, APN, ACNS-BC, CORLN

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Feature

Recommended Cleaning and Processing of Flexible Otolaryngology Endoscopes

Jan Adams, BSN, RN, MPA, NE-BC, CORLN

Karen Baker, MSN, RN

Uncertainty about endoscope reprocessing in the Otorhinolaryngology (ORL) office setting continues today, especially regarding the care and cleaning of flexible endoscopes. In an effort to answer questions concerning how, when and how long to process endoscopes in the outpatient office, the Society of Otorhinolaryngology Nurses (SOHN) has partnered with the Association of periOperative Nurses (AORN) to establish standards for all Otolaryngology nurses to adopt and utilize, ensuring a safe and effective methodology for cleaning flexible endoscopes in the outpatient ORL office. This protocol has been approved by the SOHN Board of Directors as the recommended guideline for ORL nurses to follow when performing endoscope reprocessing in the outpatient ORL office.

Departments

Editorial: Look Who's Getting Older

Linda Schuring, MSN, RN

Gerontology-ORL: Cancer in the Lives of Older Americans

Editor: Sarah H. Kagan, PhD, RN, CS, AOCN®

Author: Ann Sievers, RN, MA, CORLN

Products of Interest: High Level Disinfection Products

Editor: Carolyn Waddington, MS, RN, FNP-C, CORLN

Media Review:

Putting evidence into practice: Improving oncology patient outcomes

Site-specific cancer series: Skin cancer. Pittsburgh: Oncology Nursing Society

Editor: Linda K. Clarke, MS, RN, CORLN

Reviewer: Linda K. Clarke, MS, RN, CORLN

Poetry Corner: Reflection

Editor: Maggie Kramper, RN, FNP, CORLN

Author: Stan Thawley, MD

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Feature

Assessment of Oral Mucositis in Adult and Pediatric Oncology Patients: An Evidence-Based Approach

Michele Farrington, BSN, RN
Laura Cullen, MA, RN, FAAN
Cindy Dawson, MSN, RN, CORLN

Oral mucositis is a frequent side effect of cancer treatment and can lead to delayed treatment, reduced treatment dosage, altered nutrition, dehydration, infections, xerostomia, pain, and higher healthcare costs. Mucositis is defined as “inflammatory lesions of the oral and/or gastrointestinal tract caused by high-dose cancer therapies. Alimentary tract mucositis refers to the expression of mucosal injury across the continuum of oral and gastrointestinal mucosa, from the mouth to the anus” (Peterson, Bensadoun, & Roila, 2008, p. ii122). Evidence demonstrates that oral mucositis is quite distressing for patients. In addition, the majority of oncology nurses are unaware of available guidelines related to the care of oral mucositis.

Departments

Editorial: Nightingale Initiative for Global Health

Linda Schuring, MSN, RN

Highlights From The Hill: Nurse in Washington 2010

Editor: Jan Adams, BSN, RN, MRA, NE-BC, CORLN
Author: Jan Adams, BSN, RN, MRA, NE-BC, CORLN

Article Critique: Evidence-Based Guidelines for the Definition and Management of Children with Acute Otitis Media

Authors: Victoria T. Ellis, CRNP
Kellye O. Jones-Ho, CRNP

Gerontology-ORL: Try This

Editor: Sarah H. Kagan, PhD, RN, CS, AOCN®

Media Review: Reaching Past the Wire: A Nurse at Abu Ghraib I’ll Scream Later

Editor: Linda K. Clarke, MS, RN, CORLN
Reviewer: Linda K. Clarke, MS, RN, CORLN

Products of Interest: Updates and Recalls

Editor: Carolyn Waddington, MS, RN, FNP-C, CORLN

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Feature

Endoskeletal Ossicular Reconstruction Using the Kraus K-Helix Crown and Piston Middle Ear Prostheses

Eric M. Kraus, M.D., M.S., F.A.C.S.

Julia Y. Christopher, R.N., B.S.N.

The Kraus K-Helix titanium middle ear prostheses are novel, newly designed ossicular replacement prostheses available in two versions, the K-Helix Crown and the K-Helix Piston. The prostheses have been developed for reconstruction of an eroded long process of the incus (incus-to-stapes) or completely absent incus (incus-to-footplate/oval window neo-membrane) during ossiculoplasty in chronic ears, non-chronic ears, or failed stapedectomy. Reconstruction is indicated to restore sound conduction of the ossicular chain during tympanoplasty.

Departments

Editorial: See No Evil, Hear No Evil, Speak No Evil

Linda Schuring, MSN, RN

Highlights From The Hill: What does the Healthcare Reform Act have to do with me? Plenty! Read On.

Editor: Jan Adams, BSN, RN, MRA, NE-BC, CORLN

Author: Jan Adams, BSN, RN, MRA, NE-BC, CORLN

Gerontology-ORL: How to Manage Pain in the Elderly

Editor: Sarah Kagan, PhD, RN

Reviewer: Erin M. McMenamin, MSN, CRNP, AOCN, ACHPN

Products of Interest: Ossicular Implants

Editor: Carolyn Waddington, MS, RN, FNP-C, CORLN

Reviewer: Carolyn Waddington, MS, RN, FNP-C, CORLN

Media Review: Advancing oncology nursing science

Learning Site for Healthcare Professionals

Editor: Linda K. Clarke, MS, RN, CORLN

Reviewer: Linda K. Clarke, MS, RN, CORLN

Poetry Corner: Silver Winters

Author: Kerstin Parmley

Editor: Maggie Kramper, RN, FNP, CORLN