



## **Chair's Report May 2010**

Dear Readers,

Hello and welcome to the first newsletter of 2010 and my last one as Chair of Southern Region. This year the Regional Committee has been busy organising the May 2010 study event 'What works with waterworks' - Fluid and Renal update in Critical Care" at Crawley, and planning is already underway for the November event on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2010 at Governors' Hall, St Thomas's Hospital in London. See the flier on a later page. We also had a Link Members' evening in March where a few members attended.



Catherine Jones and Arlene Domingo at the link members' evening, where they presented their study on the use of ear plugs & eyes masks to aid patients' sleep. Funding was provided by BACCN Southern Region as a study award.

The AGM is scheduled for the 14th May during the study event and all members are actively encouraged to attend even if not able to attend the study event. I would like to take this opportunity to formally thank all of the Regional Committee of 2006 - 2008, and 2008 - 2010 for all their hard work, enthusiasm, dedication and sense of humour, and for keeping me sane. They have been a pleasure to work with.

It will be particularly good to see some new faces and a few role changes for the Committee of 2010 - 2012 and I am sure we are looking forward to another successful year of activities.



Southern Region Committee at Link members' evening March 2010.

The nominations for the Committee for 2010- 2012 are as follows:

Available Role	Name of Nomination	Proposer	Seconder
Chair	Kathy Dalley	Catherine Plowright	Jane Roe
Secretary	Suzanne Bench	Chris Hill	Collette Laws- Chapman
Membership Secretary	Denis Ong	Noreen Ging	Margaret Stewart
Treasurer	Tim Collins	Sophia Thomas	Philip Woodrow
National Board Coordinator	Ann Price	Tim Collins	Nerys Brick
Study Day Coordinator (1)	Jackie Mitchell	Jane Crittenden	Sonja Monnery
Industrial Liaison	Denise Hinge	Trish Leahy	Suzanne Bench
Link Member Coordinators	Jen Coomber	Catherine Plowright	Claire Martin
Regional Web Link	Shibu Chacko	Catherine Plowright	Kate Gray
Associate Member (Assistant Industrial Liaison)	Trish Leahy	Ruth Cork	Denise Hinge
Associate Member (Assistant Study Day Coordinator)	Sarah Leyland	Tracey Marshall	Brigitte Morris
Associate Member (Past Treasurer)	Jane Roe	Shelley Winslade	Usha Chandran
Associate Member (Past Chair)	Catherine Plowright	Linda Bower	Kathy Dalley

Committee meeting dates for 2010 are: 16<sup>th</sup> June, 12<sup>th</sup> July, and 4<sup>th</sup> October. If any members are interested in attending please contact Suzanne at [suzanne.bench@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:suzanne.bench@kcl.ac.uk)

As I am sure you are all aware the BACCN is celebrating 25 years as a proactive and influential organisation during 2010. Events are occurring each month throughout the year and the birthday events have been planned to capture the heart and soul of the BACCN membership. Through a variety of different competitions and activities there is a range of opportunities for members to receive gifts and prizes that embrace this year's second catch phrase from that famous chocolate bar... to work rest and play.

There are text books, spa days, adrenaline days, I Pods to conference fees as well as BACCN fob watch gifts for our 2010 new joiners and our longer standing committee members: lots have been planned to say thank you for all your commitment.

For those people attending the conference on September 13th & 14th in Southport there will be something extra special for conference delegates this year along with an all star gala dinner and huge birthday cake. All of the events are summarized on BACCN web site at [www.baccn.org.uk](http://www.baccn.org.uk) and I encourage you to look at it regularly, as well as looking at the e-newsletters when they arrive from [membership@baccn.org](mailto:membership@baccn.org)

Good luck in all the competitions and remember you "need to be in it to win it".

Also, a reminder to please check BACCN website for a poll concerning the NMC Standards for Medicine Management. This is particularly important as it affect us all as practising critical care nurses.

It has been a pleasure to meet many of you at Southern Region and National events over the years and I look forward to seeing many of you in the future.

### **Catherine Plowright**

Chair Southern Region 2006 - 2010



### **Regional Funds Awarded**

In 2009 we supported the following people to attend a variety of events: Ian Setchfield, Catherine Jones, Philip Woodrow, Ruth Cork, Eddie Crunden (deferred to 2010), Ann Price, Denis Ong and Suzanne Bench.

Regional funds are healthy and we are in a position to offer funding for conference attendance or study tour awards. See our Regional pages on the web site or contact Suzanne Bench for further information. In recent years BACCN Regional members have attended a range of National and International events across the world and it could be you in 2010 or 2011.

### **Study Awards**

- ✓ Are available to ALL Southern Region members
- ✓ You do not have to have been a member for a specified period of time before you can apply
- ✓ Are easy to apply for: just go to our website & read the application guidance carefully
- ✓ The committee considers each application anonymously by the next meeting and give you a fast reply by email
- ✓ In return: You commit to presenting at a study event/conference/meeting OR writing a piece for the newsletter, negotiated with the committee.

**"Laws are only felt when the individual comes into conflict with them"**

**[Quote by Suzanne la Follette]**

When pacing the wards in your role of outreach nurse, how often do you reflect on the legal implications of what you are doing? You're busy, the bleep is continuous and your positive intensive care is refusing to answer their phone. When was the last time, or have you ever read the NMC code of conduct from cover to cover?

In the past, you may have attended a study day on healthcare law, the following shift at work you tentatively go about your duties with the utmost care and consideration. You ensure that every detail is documented with clarity, signing and printing your name. Before you touch your patient you will ensure consent has been sought. Unfortunately your good intentions wane when pressure of work and 'need for speed' wins the battle.

The Nursing & Midwifery Council Code of Conduct (NMC 2008) accepts that nurses are increasingly working in extended roles that allow autonomy and minimal supervision. The 'Code' states you "Must have the knowledge and skills for safe and effective practice when working without direct supervision (NMC 2008 p.4). It's common sense, you wouldn't have the job if you couldn't do it, but remember; vicarious liability offered by your employing trust for negligent acts supports you only when you are working within your contract of employment (Tingle & McHale 2009). Extra skills gained must be supported with evidence based protocols (McGowan 2003, Reveley 2002).

As a nurse you have a duty of care to remain up to date and competent within your role, you are accountable for your actions and omissions (McGowan 2003). Vicarious liability is a common law principle (Hendrick 2000), the principle being an employer is liable for wrong committed by his employee whilst acting in the course of his employment (Warner 2009). Working outside your contract of employment makes you vulnerable.

So when your needle is hovering above the patient's radial artery as you prepare to take a blood gas, ask yourself. Has my contract of employment been amended to include this skill? Maybe I should think about taking out extra insurance!!

**Angela Wheatland**, Clinical Lead Nurse Operational Outreach, Queen Victoria NHS Foundation Trust. Currently studying Legal Perspectives Health ethics as part of MSc Advanced Nursing Practice, funded as a study award by BACCN Southern Region.

**References:**

Hendrick, J. 2000. *Law and Ethics in Nursing and Health Care*. Cheltenham: Stanley Thornes

McGowan, B. 2003. 'Are we covered to do this?' The legal implications of expanding practice. *Paediatric Nursing* 15(8): 24-27

Nursing & Midwifery Council. 2008. *The Code, Standards of conduct, performance and ethics for nurses and midwives*. [Online] London: <http://www.nmc-uk.org>

Reveley, S et.al. 2002. Setting up a nurse practitioner service. *Nursing Standard* 20(17): 33-37

Tingle, J., J.McHale 2009. Specialist healthcare law for nurses: an introduction. *British Journal of Nursing*. 18 (1): 38-39

Warner, K. 2009. *Negligence/Employment: Who's responsible*. *New Law Journal* [Online] La Trobe University. Available from <http://www.lexisnexis.comezproxy.brighton.ac.uk>



**Book Review: Ward-Based Critical Care: a guide for health professionals**

ISBN: 9781905539031

Editors: Sally S Smith, Ann M Price, Alistair Challinor.

This illustrated critical care book is aimed at staff on the ward, junior doctors, students and other health care professionals. The majority of the contributors are based in the BACCN southern region and include members of the regional committee (e.g. Catherine Plowright, Tim Collins). The book has a range of topic areas that would also be of interest to new staff members within critical care settings who want a basis for initial actions. Topics include pneumonia, chest pain, shock, sepsis, neurological as well as a range of practical skills, such as basic blood gas interpretation, CVP monitoring and use of Glasgow Coma Score.

It is expected that M&K publishers will offer complimentary copies as prizes at the May study day.

The book is available to buy via M&K publishing at

[http://www.mkupdate.co.uk/acatalog/New\\_Books.html](http://www.mkupdate.co.uk/acatalog/New_Books.html) or other stores.

You may wish to suggest a copy is ordered for your trust library!

**Ann M Price**

**Comprehensive Local Research Networks**

The Comprehensive Clinical Research Network consists of 25 Comprehensive Local Research Networks (CLRNs) covering the whole of England. The Government is committed to ensuring that research is actively supported, and money has been allocated to enhance research in the NHS. Contact your local CLRN - they may well be prepared to fund a research nurse for you, or at least support your research projects in some way. I suggest you contact your CLRN, as it is likely they will be in a position to support you. Copy the following link into your browser to find out more.<http://www.ukcrn.org.uk/index/networks/comprehensive/clrns.html>

**Kate Gray** - Intensive Care - Medway Maritime Hospital, [kate.gray@medway.nhs.uk](mailto:kate.gray@medway.nhs.uk)

## **Facial Tissue Transplantation**

Facial Tissue transplantation has been an evolving process over the last 10 years. In November 2005 the first facial transplant was successfully carried out in France. Facial Tissue donation is a potential new treatment for people who have severe facial disfigurement. These people have lost their identity and their lives have changed beyond imagination due to tragic accidents or rare illnesses. It is estimated that there are 400,000 people in the UK with facial disfigurement, 250,000 of them severe. Despite huge advances in reconstructive surgery there are limitations to what can be achieved in the reconstruction of facial tissue. Traditional ways of reconstructing facial injuries involve skin grafts however skin from other parts of the body are often a poor match with facial skin and the scarring produces a poor cosmetic result. Also reconstruction of eyelids and lips are very difficult. As skin grafts contract during the normal healing process the skin becomes tight consequently leading to functional problems for example difficulty closing the eyes and mouth.

Many people with facial disfigurement do adapt functionally and psychologically but there are a number of people that don't and facial tissue donation may now be an option for them in the future.

Facial tissue donation involves facial tissue from a donor. Sex, age and skin tone are matched. There are many myths surrounding facial tissue donation, one of the more prominent ones is that the recipient will take on the appearance of the donor post transplant. This is not the case as the recipient would have a different bone structure; there is a possibility that the recipient may have some characteristics of both the recipient and the donor.

The Royal Free Hampstead NHS Trust is the only centre in the United Kingdom to have ethical approval to carry out a full facial transplant. Face transplants will not be offered to those for cosmetic plastic surgery, it is for a very few patients who have extreme injuries who can hopefully start to rebuild their lives and return to 'normal' everyday activities post transplant. For further information please contact your in-house specialist nurse in donor care or contact **Catherine Hutchinson** Specialist Nurse in Donor Care at

[Catherine.Hutchinson@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:Catherine.Hutchinson@nhsbt.nhs.uk)

### **New Publications:**

Guidance for Coroners and Donor Coordinators working with Coroners

[www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH\\_114804](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_114804)

Requested allocation of a deceased donor

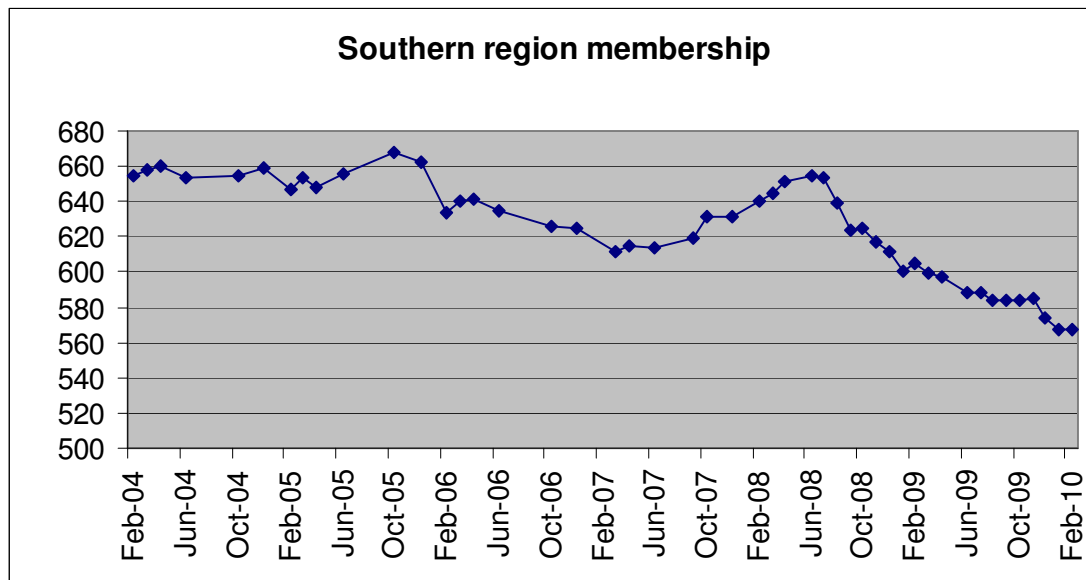
[www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH\\_114800](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_114800)

## Membership report April 2010



Please ensure that the BACCN has your correct email address otherwise you could miss out on important information. Send it to [membership@baccn.org](mailto:membership@baccn.org)

Our region remains the largest in terms of membership numbers however you can see that the numbers have slowly decreased over the last few years. This appears mainly due to staff leaving the specialty of critical care. So we really do need your help to invite newcomers in your units join us in being part of the BACCN organization!!



If you would like any more information or would like to give me feedback as a member please contact me [denise.hinge@bsuh.nhs.uk](mailto:denise.hinge@bsuh.nhs.uk) or the BACCN Administration  
C/O Benchmark Communications, 4, Blandford Square, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 4HZ. T 0844 800 8843 E [baccn@baccn.org](mailto:baccn@baccn.org)  
To join on line: <https://baccn.sslsecure.co.uk/joining/join01.asp>  
**Denise Hinge**



British Association  
of Critical Care Nurses  
Southern Region

Presents:

# Decidedly Dotty?

Delirium in critical care patients



A study evening

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2010

17.30 for 18.00

Venue – Governors' Hall, St Thomas's Hospital, London

**Provisional Programme:**

Delirium assessment inc. CAM-ICU

Case study

Management strategies

NICE delirium guidelines

**For further info / application:**

[www.baccn.org.uk/regions](http://www.baccn.org.uk/regions) (Southern)

Or Sarah.leyland@stgeorges.nhs.uk

**Cost:**

(inc. food & exhibition)

Link members: £15

Members: £20

Non-members: £35