

NURSING MATTERS

Taking nursing to the next level. Together

September 1, 2014

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Upcoming Events

Sept 2 – Nov 12: CON Certification exam registration open. Exam date is April 18, 2015

Sept 17 Webinar: International Guidelines on Vaginal Dilation after Pelvic Radiotherapy: Implementation into practice <http://www.cano-acio.ca/webinars>

Sept 22 Conference: Using Research to Improve Health Care – Change, Challenge and Opportunity in Knowledge Translation Conference www.inspirenet.ca

Sept 25 5:30-7:30pm Presentation: CANO-BC is sponsoring a dinner and video linked presentation about use of complementary medicine by cancer patients at all BCCA centres. RSVP at BConcnurses@gmail.com

WELCOME

Welcome to the first edition of the Professional Practice Nursing newsletter – ‘Nursing Matters’. We chose this name because nursing does ‘matter’ – especially when it comes to providing safe, compassionate, patient-centered care to the people who come through the doors of BCCA. There are also a number of ‘matters’ that pertain specifically to nursing – staying informed of changes in our professional standards, changes to treatments that effect how nurses practice, or new discoveries in nursing research. We hope to use this newsletter as a way to communicate information to you as well as you sharing your ideas and questions with the Professional Practice Nursing Team.

We would appreciate your comments and suggestions for future editions of this newsletter. You can contact us via email at nursinged@bccancer.bc.ca

Professional Practice Nursing Team – Who we are and what we do

The Professional Practice Nursing team is a group of Registered Nurses with different nursing backgrounds and years of experience. Maxine Alford is the Director of our team; Kira Cooksley, Anne Hughes, Karen Janes and Lorelei Newton are Professional Practice Leaders; and the rest of the team consists of Education Resource Nurses (ERNs) – Esther Chow, Jeevan Dosanjh, Tina Haayer, Ava Hatcher, Andrea Knox, Jagbir Kohli, Siby Thomas, Heather Watson and Theresa Zapach. Although we all have work spaces at various centres – our scope is provincial – therefore, we could be working on projects that are happening at any given centre.

Our team aims to support and contribute to a high quality practice environment for BCCA nurses - Registered Nurses, Nurse Practitioners, Licensed Practical Nurses and Patient Care Aides- to optimize patient outcomes and maximize patient safety. Our responsibilities include professional standards, education, research and professional development needs of individuals.

Much of what we do happens ‘behind the scenes’ but we are always available to answer your questions or address your practice concerns. You can reach any of us directly via our individual BCCA email addresses or general non-urgent questions can be directed to the ERN phone line at 672638 or via email at nursinged@bccancer.bc.ca

Oct 3 at 3:30pm

Presentation: Provincially video-conference lecture by Dr. Siddhartha Mukherjee Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Emperor of all Maladies: A Biography of Cancer*. RSVP by Sep 19 to COKeefe2@bccancer.bc.ca

Oct 26-29 Conference:
CANO/ACIO conference
www.cano-acio.ca

Nursing Practice Committee Updates

Nursing Practice Committee (NPC) meetings take place each month. Each centre has a NPC representative who will be able to provide you with updates and minutes are available to read on the [H:\EVERYONE\nursing\COMMUNICATION\Nursing Practice Committee \(NPC\)](H:\EVERYONE\nursing\COMMUNICATION\Nursing Practice Committee (NPC).). This section will highlight some of the practice changes.

Recently updated Nursing Practice Reference(s)

- R-190 Pulse Oximetry has been deleted
- P-30 Paracentesis, Abdominal was deleted and content incorporated in P-35
- P-180 Preparing Patients for the O.R
- R-90 Respiratory Therapy: CPAP/BiPAP – Patient Owned
- R-140 Respiratory Therapy: Humidity Therapy Via Large-Volume Nebulizer

Nursing Practice Reps

Allison Budgell – CSI
Chris Lepore – FVC
Keith Gingerich – VC 5th fl
Trevor Howard – VC ACU
Jennifer Larsen - AC

Getting to know your provincial nursing colleagues

The BCCA nursing family includes more than 400 nurses throughout the province. Within each issue of this Nursing Matters newsletter, we would like to profile nurses throughout the province. Feel free to email us a story at nursinged@bccancer.bc.ca about a nursing colleague to feature in the newsletter.



Heather Cooke is an RN in the RT Program at SAHCSI. She most recently worked as the Coordinator in the Medical Device Reprocessing area at Kelowna General Hospital (KGH), and prior to that in Pre Surgical Screening and the Operating Room at KGH. Heather decided it was time for a new challenge and the mixed brachytherapy/RT nurse position spoke to her OR background and allowed for new learning in the field of oncology.

Outside of work, “I love soccer (goaltender in-particular), hot yoga, the outdoors – hiking, camping, learning new things about health, wellness and the mind, body, spirit connection, and of course - spending time with my family☺

I grew up here in Kelowna but have spent time living on both the west and east coasts of Canada”

WHAT'S NEW

Nurse Practitioners are coming to a centre near you!

Nurse Practitioners (NPs) will be joining the interprofessional health care team at BCCA. These Registered Nurses with advanced education skills and knowledge in oncology will be situated throughout the province. In collaboration with the oncologists, NPs will provide holistic, advanced nursing care for patients including diagnosis, treatment and management, ordering of diagnostic interventions and medications, referring and monitoring patients within their scope of practice. Please join us in welcoming NPs to our nursing team at the BC Cancer Agency.

At the Centre for the North



You will find office doors opening at Centre for the North as staff members are listening to the beautiful music being played for patients on our new painted piano. The piano was donated by a BCCA Centre for the North volunteer to Prince George, piano teacher- Lori Elder. Once donated to Lori, the piano was hand-painted by local artists. This generous gift was made possible through fundraising efforts undertaken by Lori and her students; all other funds that were raised for this project were donated to Centre for the North. Local musicians are now playing the piano on a regular basis for the enjoyment of patients at our Centre.

CANO/ACIO Conference

The Canadian Association of Nurses in Oncology conference's theme is patient engagement and will be taking place October 26-29 in Quebec City. With generous support from the TD Nursing Skills in Medical Excellence Grant and Stephen Berg Oncology Nursing and

Research Fund, 11 presentation abstracts have been selected from BC Cancer Agency nurses. The presentation topics range from clinical practice issues, models of nursing care delivery and professional practice issues.

EDUCATION & SUPPORT

Learning Hub

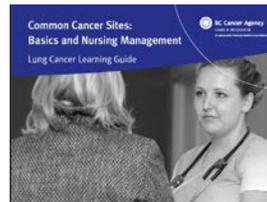
On-line learning for BCCA Nurses has now blossomed to an astounding 28 different courses available on the hub to support your continued professional development. Log in to the hub today at <https://learninghub.phsa.ca/> and check out what's available.

What are the more common oncologic emergencies that patients may experience? How do you assess or manage a patient experiencing an emergent situation? What are the warning signs? Who is at risk? Oncologic emergencies are serious conditions that may present in any of the patients you might see in clinic today. As part of your orientation to BCCA you would have completed the "Introduction to Oncologic Emergencies" but did you know there are 8 more condition specific modules? Check them out on the learning hub today: Hypercalcemia of Malignancy, Cardiac Tamponade, Spinal Cord Compression, Septic Shock, Tumor Lysis Syndrome, Superior Vena Cava Syndrome, Disseminated Intravascular Coagulation, Syndrome of Inappropriate Antidiuretic Hormone.

Interested in other educational opportunities? Check out the index of education resources on our website

<http://www.bccancer.bc.ca/HPI/Nursing/Education/Index+Nursing+Practice+Education+Resources.htm>

Common Cancer Sites: Basics and Nursing Management Series



Looking for tumour site specific information and resources that are evidence informed and useful in your oncology nursing practice? The Common Cancer Sites: Basics and Nursing Management Learning Guides may be what you are seeking for professional development in this area. These learning guides have been developed by Professional Practice Nursing in a way that will promote autonomy to search for and review reliable and evidence-based information. As you work through each Learning Guide, you are encouraged to reflect on your practice and learning needs and to seek additional information as required. Eight learning guides are planned which feature a case study of a patient experience with the most common cancer within that tumour site. Released to date are the learning guides on breast, colorectal, and lung cancers. The next to be released, and coming soon, is prostate cancer. Learning Guides can be requested through the Professional Practice Nursing Administrative Coordinator Isabel Lundie by emailing ilundie@bccancer.bc.ca

Oncology Nursing Certification

Have you been thinking of formally recognizing your oncology nursing knowledge through specialty certification? The Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) certification is the only nationally recognized specialty certification in Canada. Certification exams occur annually in 20 specialty areas of nursing practice- Oncology being one of these areas. If you are interested in writing your certification exam in 2015, the application period is from September 2 to

November 12, 2014. A virtual study group to support candidates through the exam preparation will be available via the PHSA Learning Hub starting in January 2015. Some of the advantages of specialty certification include formal recognition in the workplace and university credit towards your nursing degree. More information on eligibility criteria and how to apply can be found at: [CNA certification](#)

FEATURE ARTICLE

Prevention of Venous Thromboembolism in Adult Patients with Cancer

Cancer patients are 4-7 times more likely to develop Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) than the general public. The increased risks for cancer patients is related to various disease, treatment and side effect factors. As VTE is one of the leading causes of death for cancer patients, this article aims to familiarize nurses with assessment, pathophysiology, prevention and treatment.

Grier, M. (2014). Prevention of venous thromboembolism in adult patients with cancer in the acute care setting. *Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing*. 18(3), 290-295

<http://ons.metapress.com/content/7663527634393u47/fulltext.pdf>

We welcome your comments, suggestions and feedback about this resource and how we can make it even more helpful to you
nursinged@bccancer.bc.ca

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