



The Renal Pharmacist

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ADDRESS/INFO CHANGES

Please forward any address / phone number changes to the Website co-ordinator jjani@cvh.on.ca. We are constantly updating our membership mailing list. Thank you

View from the Chair

"Every day is a new beginning. Treat it that way. Stay away from what might have been, and look at what can be." By: M.P. Sue (The CEO of You)

What an exciting year we have ahead for the RPN! As you are all probably aware, there are many changes that the RPN is embarking on this year! It gives me great pleasure and honour to be a part of these exciting opportunities.

From the education front, we are extremely excited to be partnering with the Canadian Society of Nephrologists (CSN) at their annual general meeting in Halifax on May 23 – 27. Mark your calendars as we are looking forward to a great educational program ahead of us! The executive group has been working diligently over the past few months to find topics and speakers to complement the CSN's agenda. Topics on pain management and depression in CKD are just some of the highlights of the conference's program. The CSN group is looking forward to have participation from the RPN group and we are hoping to see all of you there. This venture marks a great start towards a new partnership with our colleagues in nephrology and the CSN.

The RPN will continue to hold local continuing education events throughout the year. As part of a new initiative to branch out to other members and colleagues, we hope to take advantage of modern technology to deliver our CE events to you. Live interactive web seminars or archived CE events are some potential sessions we will plan for in 2007. Stay tuned for more details to come from our education coordinators.

Our website and newsletter coordinators are also incorporating changes to enhance our communication with you. The RPN newsletter will be delivered to you in PDF format through your email from now on to promote environmental friendliness and also ensure fast delivery. Articles, topics of interest, interesting queries about CKD are always welcome in our newsletter. Please forward them at anytime to our two newsletter coordinators. Your ongoing feedback and support to both the website and our newsletter are greatly appreciated and they ensure the RPN's continued success. In the early spring, you will be mailed a members' needs assessment survey from the executive through surveymonkey. Taking the time to fill this out will help us serve you better.

Certainly, a busy year is ahead of us. All of us from the executive committee are enthusiastic with all the new changes to come with the group.

Looking forward to a great year!

Sincerely,
Stephanie Ong

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CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT www.renalpharmacists.net

Outgoing Chair Commentary

Hello RPN members,

The coming of the winter season brings on not only a new executive for the RPN but many changes to our organization.

First of all, we are excited to have a new chair, Stephanie Ong and a newsletter editor, Ryan Leppert for this coming year. With the many changes to occur over the next year, we have also added an extra position to the executive, Education Coordinator, Jenny Ng. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing executive members for their great contributions over the past year.

In May, Dr Charmaine Lok spoke to us on Capping lines with Citrate. She was able to share her knowledge, experience and research in this area, which was a very enlightening and educational evening.

In September, we hosted a round table discussion event for RPN members in Toronto, where we shared ideas and questions with respect to the new KDOQI Anemia Guidelines, RLS, leg cramping and neuropathic pain. It was a great evening of education and it provided us with an opportunity to meet other fellow renal pharmacists.

This past November marked the 5th year that the RPN has participated in the CANNT conference. This year we were

pleased to have 6 RPN presentations, an RPN networking luncheon as well as several poster presentations. Although we have always received positive feedback from nurses and nephrology technologists, this was the last year that RPN was represented at the conference.

The executive is already in the planning stages for 2007 CE events. In fact, this year will be our first year partnering with the Canadian Society of Nephrology. Check out our website for more details.

With all the upcoming changes to the RPN, we have decided to branch out for further support. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Ortho-Biotech for their ongoing support over the past 7 years. This year we have a few other friends from Industry supporting our network. Please see the table (in this newsletter edition) for a list of our new supporters!

Finally, I want to thank all those who have worked so hard to make everything the RPN does such a success. It definitely looks like an exciting year for the RPN, so please continue to communicate to us any of your thoughts and ideas to help us along the way!

Sincerely,
Marisa Battistella
Outgoing Chair, Renal Pharmacists Network

Improving Adherence to Cardiovascular Protection Therapy Guidelines in Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease: One Team's Initiative

Submitted by Gigi Wo, Lakeridge Health Corp, Whitby & Hilary Jennings, Mt Sinai, Toronto.

Chronic kidney disease (CKD) is associated with high risk for cardiovascular morbidity and mortality. Several classes of medications have been shown to confer cardiovascular protection (CVP) in patients at high risk of cardiovascular disease (CVD): inhibitors of renin angiotensin system (RAS), anti-platelet agents (APA), beta-blockers (post MI/CHF) and statin lipid lowering medications. Observational studies have shown that these CVP agents are under-prescribed in patients with CKD despite the recommendations of published evidence based guidelines.

Objectives: The goal of this initiative was to assess and improve the team's adherence to current guidelines for CVD protection in patients with CKD.

Methods: This was a cross sectional study of 399 CKD patients. A standardized evaluation form was developed to identify patients who were missing one or more CVP medications. Pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and registered nurses participated in the completion of the evaluation form for each patient. Reasons for the absence of

particular therapies if known were recorded. Each patient's evaluation form was then reviewed by a Nephrologist allowing for changes to therapy if indicated. The number and type of CVP agents prescribed for each patient were collected before and after intervention.

Results: Amongst the 399 CKD patients, 337 (84.4%) were on a statin lipid lowering agent; 334 (83.7%) were on RAS agent; 283 (70.9%) were on an APA. After intervention, 362 (90.7%) patients were on a statin; 358 (89.7%) were on RAS agent; and 317 (79.4%) were on an APA. B-Blocker therapy was assessed in 98 peritoneal dialysis (PD) patients. Of the 30 PD patients with history of MI or CHF, 22 (73.3%) were on a B-Blocker and no change after intervention.

Conclusions: There exists a high level of use of CVP agents amongst the CKD patients in our dialysis program. With multidisciplinary involvement, the evaluation form was effective in further increasing the use of CVP agents.

Calendar of Events for 2007

Month	RPN Sponsored Educational Events	Other Renal CE / Activities
February		* Annual Dialysis Conference (Denver, Colorado) February 18 - 20, 2007
March	CE Event #1	
April		* NFK Spring Meeting (Orlando, Florida) April 10 - 14, 2007 * Cardiology / Nephrology Conference April 28 - 29, 2007
May	CSN AGM (Halifax, Nova Scotia) May 23 - 27, 2007	
September	CE Event #2 (Live Webcast)	* Prevention in Renal Disease (Toronto, Ontario) September 28 - 29, 2007
October	CE Event #3	
November		* ASN Renal Week (San Francisco, California) October 31 - November 5, 2007

Upcoming Conferences

Diabetes Update 2007
March 23, 2007
Toronto, Ontario
www.cme.utoronto.ca

**National Kidney Foundation
2007 Spring Clinical Meetings**
April 10 - 14, 2007
Walt Disney World Swan & Dolphin
Orlando, Florida
www.csnsn.ca/english/events

CSN Annual Meeting 2007
May 23 - 27, 2007
Halifax, Nova Scotia
www.csnsn.ca/english/events

Articles of Interest

Please refer to the website www.renalpharmacists.net for a more complete list and links to the abstracts

Block GA, Raggi P, Bellasi A, Kooienga L and Spiegel DM.
Mortality effect of coronary calcification and phosphate binder choice in incident hemodialysis patients.
Kidney Int Advance Online Publication

Levin A.
Understanding recent haemoglobin trials in CKD: methods and lesson learned from CREATE and CHOIR.
Nephrol Dial Transplant 2007; 22: 309-312.

Drueke T, Locatelli F, Clyne N, et al.
Normalization of hemoglobin level in patients with chronic kidney disease and anemia.
New Engl J Med 2006; 355: 2071-2084.

Singh A, Saczech L, Tang KL, et al.
Correction of anemia with epoietin alfa in chronic kidney disease.
New Eng J Med 2006; 355: 2085-2098.

J Karalliedde, R Buckingham, M Starkie, D Lorand, M Stewart, G Viberti.
Effect of Various Diuretic Treatments on Rosiglitazone-Induced Fluid Retention.
J Am Soc Nephrol 2006;17: 3482-3490.

M Levi.
Do statins have a beneficial effect on the kidney?
Nature Clinical Practice Nephrology 2006; 2: 666-667.

Strippoli GFM, Tong A, Palmer SC, Elder G, Craig JC.
Calcimimetics for secondary hyperparathyroidism in chronic kidney disease patients.
Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2006 Oct 18;(4)

The DREAM Trial Investigators.
Effect of Ramipril on the Incidence of Diabetes
N Engl J Med 2006; 355: 1551-1562

Faull R, Lee L.
Prescribing in renal disease
Aust Prescr 2007;30:17-20

Kahn S. E., Haffner S. M., Heise M. A., Herman W. H., Holman R. R., Jones N. P., Kravitz B. G., Lachin J. M., O'Neill M. C., Zinman B., Viberti G., the ADOPT Study Group
<http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/short/355/23/2427>
Glycemic Durability of Rosiglitazone, Metformin, or Glyburide Monotherapy
N Engl J Med 2006; 355:2427-2443

Phrommintikul A, Haas SJ, Elsik M, Krum H.
Mortality and target haemoglobin concentrations in anaemic patients with chronic kidney disease treated with erythropoietin: a meta-analysis.
Lancet 2007; 369:381-388

Websites of Interest

www.nephrologynow.com

Member Profile - Jiten Jani



Jiten Jani graduated from University of Toronto in 2002 and went on to complete his hospital residency at Mount Sinai Hospital. Coincidentally, Jiten has always worked in a hospital not only as a pharmacist and student, but also as a Ward Clerk when he was a teenager.

He currently provides care to patients with varying levels of Renal disease and Renal Transplant patients at Credit Valley hospital. Aside from Nephrology, Jiten also enjoys other clinical specialties such as Intensive Care, Emergency

Medicine, and Infectious Diseases. One of Jiten's passions is teaching and to fulfill this need he has been involved with the 4th year pharmaceutical care labs at the Faculty of Pharmacy for the past 2 years as well as SPEP.

Jiten has been with the RPN for the last 2 years as the Website Coordinator. "I find Nephrology to be a very interesting specialty since it allows one to cater specifically to each individual's needs and balance those clinical needs with various other needs the patient may have." Thank you Jiten for your continuing support and dedication for the RPN!

In his spare time, Jiten enjoys playing sports, working out, and nowadays he is busy planning a wedding in India which goes well in hand with his love to travel.

Sponsors

The Renal Pharmacists Network would like to thank the following sponsors for their continued support and generous contributions.

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