

Clinical Education Special Interest Group

January 2004 Newsletter

Happy New Year to all members of the Clinical Education SIG and to your loved ones. We hope all of your holiday celebrations were safe, and provided a source of relaxation, reflection and renewed spirit for the coming year.

Updates on Current Issues

The National Clinical Education Conference (NCEC) has been a topic of recurring interest. Issues involving who is granted the opportunity to host the conference, financial risks, as well as personnel and time costs involved for those who are sponsoring the event, have all been areas of concern. Few regional consortia and chapters have the infrastructure and resources to support a meeting that has grown in size and scope the way the NCEC has (considering we all have a “day job” to attend to).

In April 2003, the Pennsylvania consortia (the Philadelphia Clinical Education Consortium and the Pocono Susquehanna Clinical Education Consortium) joined forces with the Education Section of the APTA to sponsor the NCEC in Philadelphia. It was an overwhelming success for all parties. The Education Section provided organizational and administrative support regarding contracts, mailings and advertising, registration and on-site trouble-shooting and assumed much of the financial risk. In so doing, the Section also benefited from profits generated by the conference.

After much discussion among members of the Board of Directors of the Education Section, members of the Clinical Education SIG and with the input of members of the Pennsylvania consortia, a decision has been made that is two-fold.

- 1) Beginning in 2005, the National Clinical Education Conferences will be sponsored and managed by the Education Section. They will provide all services related to the conference, assume all financial risk and retain all profits. Members of the educational and clinical community where the meeting is held will have opportunities to be a presence at the conference, to spread the word, encourage attendance and to help to showcase their professional community.
- 2) The NCEC will be held in conjunction with the annual Academic Administrator SIG (AASIG) meeting. It is anticipated that there will be one-half to one full day of programming that is of interest to members of both the AASIG and attendees of the NCEC. Opportunities will be available for both groups to network, share concerns and discuss challenges that face those active in the administrative areas of our profession as well as those on the front lines of clinical education. In addition, both groups holding their meetings in the same venue should provide financial benefits in terms of contracting and services. Other than the one-half to one day of joint programming, separate programming will occur for each group, in order to address specific areas of interest. Members of both the AASIG and Clinical Education executive boards will give input to the Board of Directors of the Education Section, to determine the site of future conferences. The location of the 2005 NCEC has not yet been determined.

Upcoming Events

Combined Sections Meeting in Nashville, TN., February 4-8, 2004

We encourage everyone to try to attend CSM this year. There are always wonderful, insightful presentations and information sessions that will pique your interest, get your adrenaline flowing, maybe even get your blood boiling! Of particular interest to members of the Clin Ed SIG are:

- Students and Employees with Diverse Needs: Attending to the Letter and Spirit of the ADA (Wednesday, Feb. 4, Pre-Conference Programming)
- Defining and Assessing Professional Competence (Thursday, Feb 5)
- Preparing for Volunteer Work in Developing Countries: You Have the Skills to Teach Overseas (Thursday, Feb 5)
- Transition DPT: A Popular Career Option (Thursday, Feb. 5)
- Polly Cerasoli Lecture: The Influence of Leaders (Speaker: Samuel B. Feitelberg, PT, MA, FAPTA, Friday, Feb. 6)
- Developing Faculty Scholarship to meet CAPTE Criteria (Friday, Feb 6)
- Exploring Teaching and Learning in Clinical Education: The Role and Process of Qualitative Research (Saturday, Feb 7)
- Expertise in Clinical Instruction (Saturday, Feb 7)

These are but a few of the many and varied presentations that will be available during this CSM. In addition, the Poster Presentations always have some very interesting reports on issues pertinent to clinical education. Meetings that you will want to put on your schedule are: the Clinical Education SIG Meeting, on Thursday, Feb. 5, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. and the Education Section Business Meeting and Reception in the evening of Friday, Feb. 6.

A few issues have been suggested by members as agenda items for the Clin Ed SIG meeting. These are: 1) steps to take to remediate troublesome clinical sites, and when to quit, and 2) how/what/why to teach manipulation in the entry level curriculum. There will be a short presentation during the SIG meeting, by Missy Wolff-Burke, PT, EdD, from Shenandoah University. Missy is a member of the Task Force of the Orthopedic Section that is developing a framework for covering this topic in the classroom. Anyone who would like to suggest other agenda items, please let me know. This should be a forum for all members to discuss concerns, share solutions and to fully participate in decision making and establishing the direction of the SIG and clinical education.

A Normative Model of Physical Therapist Professional Education: Version 2004 has been distributed in draft form to all academic administrators. There have been many modifications, deletions and additions that may impact the clinical education experiences that we seek for our students. If possible, please try to review this draft and provide your input.

Physical Therapy 2004 Annual Conference will be held in Chicago, IL, from June 30 through July 3, 2004. Programming information is not yet available on the APTA website, but keep checking.

National Clinical Education Conference, October 2-4, 2004, St. Louis, MO. This conference is sponsored by the Central ACCE Consortium and recognizes the 20th anniversary of the conference, by returning to the city where the first one was held. Theme: Gateway to Caring. Helping Students Become Caring, Ethical Professionals and Fostering Patient Centered Therapy. This conference promises to provide some very insightful food for thought. Because St. Louis is also the home of my alma mater (St. Louis University, Class of 1975), I will be there and I hope to see many of you as well.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to Debbie Ingram, PT, EdD, who continues to provide us with current information concerning governmental affairs. Be sure to read these emails on the Education Section Listserve. Every one of us needs to make sure that we are up to date on current issues, such as reimbursement, Medicare guidelines and potential infringements on our state practice acts. It is also up to each and every one of us to make sure that our colleagues, both members and non-members of the APTA, are fully aware of the rules and standards of ethical practice. I know that every time I send students into the clinic, a few are going to come into contact with practitioners who are either ignoring or bending the rules regarding the reimbursement of student delivered services to Medicare patients, as well as PT aides who are providing modalities that are defined by Medicare as “therapeutic interventions”. Is my experience unique, or have other DCEs, ACCEs, CCCEs and CIs noted similar situations? Perhaps this would make another good agenda item for the SIG meeting.

We look forward to seeing you at CSM. Please feel free to contact either one of us if you have comments, questions, or anything that we can do to help you in your respective roles in providing our future colleagues with enriching and challenging clinical education experiences.

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