

DAY SURGE

Newsletter of the Day Surgery Nurses Association - NSW Inc.

May 2004

President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

We are very quickly heading into the second half of 2004 (yes I know I can't believe it either?).

Your committee and I on the other hand are in no way winding down.

At the beginning of the year the committee and I developed our vision for the year which is Expansion, education, communication, support and safety. I thought I'd share it with the membership so you know what we're about.

We have had some outstanding education sessions so far this year. Our first visit was to the RNSH Day surgery centre on the 24th February. Cathy one of your committee members and Trisha her NUM hosted the evening that began with a sumptuous supper followed by comfortable seating in the auditorium. Now we got moved into this lovely room because there was so many of us > 50.

We enjoyed one of the ENT surgeons discuss Tonsillectomy in day surgery using a Harmonic scalpel. Basically there is less blood loss, less heat and less trauma than conventional methods.

To round off the topic nursing care and pain management were also covered. One of the main points were that children can eat what ever they want because they are the best gauge of how they feel. Pain is also very difficult to assess in children as distress can be caused by a variety of reasons so base line analgesia for all is appropriate. The speaker advised not to leave an IV up on a child as it gives them the impression that they are ill the least amount of attachments creates the feeling of well being and normality in the child. Very sensible advice I thought.

Our second education date for the year took us to Wagga Wagga. Julianne Thynne and Julie Neal travelled down and enjoyed a very informative Saturday with colleagues from

around the Wagga area. Meagan King and Gisele Parry were the organisers and we would like to send a big thank you to them for all their hard work. I'm still getting calls from colleagues for more information on Discharge scoring following Julianne's presentation on the day.

The preliminary dates for the second half of the year are:

Canterbury Hospital DSU 7th June

Manly Day Surgery Unit August Date TBA

ADSNA Conference Sydney 17th – 18th September

St Vincents Private Hospital Lismore 7th November

These dates are current as of this month but are subject to change so keep an eye out for flyers on our web site.



The Question! From February 2004 newsletter.

What is the average length of stay for your patients? And what type of surgery? E.G Cholecystectomy, ACL reconstruction, Children etc.

Thanks to everyone who responded:

- **Tracy Espie from Royal Darwin Hospital Same Day Procedure Unit writes.**

Tracy is a CNS and says that in her unit she has 13.4 FTE nurses, 1 FTE patient care assistant, and 2.5 FTE reception staff. They average 500 – 600 patients per month with 4 operating lists AM and PM. Also catering for medical procedures.

Average length of stay postoperative is as follows: Cataracts = 1 hour, Endoscopies = 1 hour, Arthroscopies = 3 hours, Lap steri's = 3 hours, STOPs = 1 hour, Hernia repair = 3 hours, septoplasties, panendoscopies = 6 hours,

Myringotomies = 2 hours VV's = 4 hours and all paed minimum of 2 hours.

Tracy went on to say that lap choles are done as a 23-hour stay not a day case.

Tracy said that they had been able to reduce length of stays and admissions through nurse initiated anti – emetic and intravenous therapy drug order and pain relief.

It was great to hear from Tracy especially as she is from Darwin a place not many of us have visited. It is very interesting information and shows a committed effort to streamline processes. Thanks Tracy.

My next response was from Lismore. Vicki Wale NUM from Lismore Private Day Surgery sent in her database of length of stay by DRG's. D40.Z Dental Extraction & restorations: OT time average 44 min, total time 3hrs 48 min, recovery 1 hr 58 min.

NO8.Z Laparoscopy OT time 34 min, total time 3 hrs 45 min, recovery 2 hrs 45min. D&C, hysteroscopy OT time 18min, total 2hrs 45 mins, recovery 1hr 40min. IVF Ovum pick up OT 30min, Total 2hrs, recovery 1 hr 10 min.

IVF Embryo transfer OT 8min, total 50min, recovery 20min. Knee procedures OT 50min, total 3hrs 30min, recovery 2hrs 10 min.

Colon/Gas OT 32min, total 2hrs 50min, recovery 1hr 20min. Other hand/ wrist OT 35min, total 3hrs 20min, recovery 2hrs 10min. Vicki went on to say that most of their patients have a GA except for IVF.

This is a lot of excellent information and was set out a lot better when it was sent to me. For those of you who bench mark this is very useful data. Vicki has calculated the average theatre time, Admission to discharge time and recovery stay. Vicki also mentioned in her email that if anyone is interested in benchmarking data with her let me know and I will contact her.

I'm sure that everyone will appreciate and get a lot out of the information that Tracy and Vicki have sent in.

Don't forget if you do send in information I only publish your name and where you work for privacy reasons if you do not want your name published let me know. If anyone would like to contact Tracy or Vicki let me know so that I can OK it with them

I think adding this networking section has been of great value. I would rather publish current and real information to members in the mail out in order to increase our effectiveness as an Association. I appreciate the positive feedback

from members. So keep your emails coming in? It's great to hear from everyone. If you have a question you would like discussed in this section let me know? I try to include current issues where possible.

So on to the **NEW QUESTION!**

1st stage recovery numerical scoring and discharge scores. Do you use them and what format do you use?

Send replies or questions to Ms Jacqueline Hurley at Wollongong Day Surgery, P.O.Box W22, West Wollongong, NSW 2500. Email: jhurley@wollongongdaysurgery.com.au.

Lastly I would like to thank the committee for their support during my hospital stay and I'd like to thank the members for their constant support of our education sessions.

Don't forget membership renewal is the 30th June so get your forms in. Don't forget those who have already paid & conference prizewinners get your vouchers in.

Jacqueline Hurley President.



The Editor

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Web Site

Don't forget to check out the ADSNA web site for all state updates, contact details and education events. The site is www.adsna.info.