

# DAY SURGE

Newsletter of the Day Surgery Nurses Association - NSW Inc.

**February 2004**

**President's Message**

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome back from the holiday break. I'm sure another busy year in day Surgery.

It's hard to get back up to speed and I'm sure a lot of New Years resolutions will be about weight (mine sure will).

Your committee and I are very pleased to announce a very full and exciting year of education.

**The preliminary dates for this year are:**

RNSH DSC will be on Tuesday evening, 24<sup>th</sup> February 04. See flyer inside.

Wagga Wagga. Education day on Saturday the 3<sup>rd</sup> April 04, from 9-1pm. Venue and speaker TBC.

Canterbury Hospital will be on Monday evening 7<sup>th</sup> June 04. TBC

So that's the first half of the year sorted out hope you can join us at some of these meetings.

I recently travelled with some of my fellow staff members to the education day at Coffs harbour we had a great time there.

For one thing the area is just beautiful you would think you were on holiday all the time.

It was lovely to meet Sue Woolnough and her team who are doing a tremendous job up there. We went on a tour of the facility, which I think would make some of you jealous so I won't go into details. But I like blue.

Ophthalmology is one of the major surgical streams which the staff have extremely smooth and efficient processes.

Patients are processed in one area, walk into theatre, wheel chaired out. No eye pad. They then recline in lovely comfy chairs in their 2<sup>nd</sup> stage recovery (which is huge by the way). This is all set up ready the day before and is separate from 1<sup>st</sup> stage recovery.

Patients then have refreshments and are discharged from this room. All patients have Local Anaesthetic.

The first speaker of the day was a plastic surgeon that was only too happy to speak albeit at the last minute.

Dr Chandra Arianayagam gave a fantastic slide presentation on all aspects of plastic surgery. His basic theme was that you don't pull or tighten you just put muscle and tissue back where they were. Some of his work looked very good and he was a very nice man. I thanked him for supporting our meeting and his response was that he could not do his work without the fantastic team he had working with him. He said that nurses were very valuable and was only too happy to support their education.

At the education day I also met members from Grafton and Macksville, which was great. We had informal members meeting at the conclusion of the day over a cuppa and talked about staffing issues, spinal anaesthesia and panadol given to children.

When I got home promised documents and a certificate of appreciation was sent off.

You know no matter which area of the state we work there are often similar problems and issues that come up that's why I feel that it is important that we communicate and network with each other.

If you have any questions write in and I'm sure people will only be too pleased to offer some solutions.

I'd like to raise the topic of scholarships. Last mail out you were sent a form and guidelines so if you are interested in going to any education apply for some assistance especially our members in the regional areas who have further

to go. This issue was raised at the meeting in Coffs Harbour to support members in country areas so please feel free to apply.

Did you know that all staff members involved in day surgery can join our association not only nursing staff. This means EN's, AIN's, clerical and domestic staff can join. So just give that a thought as our aim as an association is to promote day surgery, so let your colleagues know?



## **The Question! From October 2003 newsletter.**

**What standing orders do members use at their facility? And how were they set up?**

**We've had some responses:**

- **Jayne Robinson from RPAH writes.**

We use standing orders on a daily basis. Our current ones include- 1. Eye drops for cataract patients, initiated by the Ophthalmologist department head. 2. Panadol/Viox/Temazepam pre-med initiated by two anaesthetists. This applies to any list they are allocated.

I asked Jayne whether these orders were printed, signed and in a folder?

Jayne's response was that they are printed on standard A4 with an individual MSO (Medication standing order number) at the top. The clinical division and department are stated, as is the name of the doctor involved. An MSO details section is then inserted which describes the parameters used and the treatment being prescribed. Following all of this is the Dr's signature and designation and an authority from the RPAH Drug Committee. The final entry is the "authorised for use until" date. The standing orders are kept in multi-places. One copy in the Pharmacy room, one in a folder at the nurses station, and copies in the policy folder (in CNE office).

Jayne also mentioned that RPAH having an anti-emetic protocol this is essentially the same set-up except it involves a flow chart.

Thank you so much Jayne for your valuable input.

If you would like more details from Jayne contact me and I will pass on the request.

This information will certainly please one of our members from Broken Hill.

Gisele from Wagga Base hospital sent me a copy of their standing orders for pre-operative eye drops.

This form indicates the surgeon, procedure, preoperative medication, doctor's signature and date.

There is a notation for nurses using standing orders to document the medication given in the patient's chart. Below that there is a space for the approval of the Drug Committee, the date and who authorised the form.

Thank you very much Gisele Parry from Wagga Wagga. If you wish a copy of this form contact me.

### **NEW QUESTION!**

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

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](mailto:jhurley@wollongongdaysurgery.com.au).

Something that may interest some of you? If anyone would like to receive this newsletter via email you can email Nadime and we will compile a database and send it to you?

Lastly I would like to thank the committee for a great 2003 and look forward to an exciting 2004.

Don't forget the committee are here to support you our members.

Jacqueline Hurley President.

### **Recipe**

**A Great finger food!**

**Cherry Tomatoes on sticks.**

**Punnet of cherry Tomatoes**

**Fresh basil**

**Marinated Baby Bochocini**

**Tooth picks**

Cut Cherry Tomatoes in half. Wash and tear fresh basil leaves.

Stick 1 half of cherry tomato on tooth pick then basil leaf, baby Boch, basil leaf and second half of tomato. Your done. Lay them on a serving plate.



- **Treasure's report**

We have now 182 financial members we are aiming for 200 members. Please encourage your colleagues to join your association.

- **From the Editor**

Introducing your new editor Nadime Roumieh from the Boulevard Day Surgical Centre, Fairfield. Nadime has enthusiastically accepted this role as editor so if you have any articles you would like to share with your colleagues either here or in our national Journal please let one of your committee members know or phone me at work on Ph 02 97257799, Fax 02 97257134  
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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](http://www.adsna.info).

Have a look. We try to keep it up to date. Cathy is very diligent.