

# MASSACHUSETTS PAIN INITIATIVE

***MassPI Winter Bulletin 2009***

**Volume 13**



If you have events to share or would like more information about MassPI, please visit MassPI website at <http://www.masspaininitiative.org> or contact MassPI by calling (508) 270-4653, or emailing [info@masspaininitiative.org](mailto:info@masspaininitiative.org)

## Contents

**News & Important Highlights**  
**Power Over Pain Update**  
**MassPI Council Updates**

**Resources, Continuing Education, Training**  
**Upcoming Calendar**

## **DON'T MISS - SAVE THE DATE IN 2009!**

The Massachusetts Pain Initiative Spring General Meeting is an all-day symposium:

### **Current Trends in Pain Management.**

It is scheduled to take place on Friday April 3, 2009  
at the Best Western Royal Plaza in Marlborough MA from 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM.

Registration and a continental breakfast will begin at 7:30 AM.

*To register:  
See attached brochure for details!*

## **MassPI Leadership Steering Council Members**

Carol Curtiss, RN, MSN, **Consulting Chair**  
*Clinical Specialist Consultant, Curtiss Consulting, Greenfield, MA*

Anne Marie Kelly, BSN, RN-BC, CHPN, **Co-Chair**  
*Pain Management Educator and Consultant, Catholic Memorial Home/Diocesan Health Facilities, Fall River, MA*

Ann Marie Harootunian, RN, MS, FNP, **Co-Chair**  
*Nurse Practitioner, Pain Center Caritas Norwood Hospital, Norwood, MA*

Peggy Flood, RN, BC, MS, AOCN, **Public Awareness Council Co-Chair**  
*Clinical Nurse Specialist Emerson Hospital, Concord, MA*

Hannah Lyons MSN, RN-BC, AOCN, **Public Awareness Council Chair**  
*Oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist Hematology/Oncology Inpatient Bone Marrow Transplant Program, Mass. General Hospital, Boston, MA*

Cheryl Pacella DNP(c), RN, HHCNS-BC, **Professional Education Council Chair**  
*Quality Improvement Manager, Hebrew Senior Life Home Care, Canton, MA*

Cindy Steinberg, **Legislative Council Chair**  
*New England Director, American Chronic Pain Association*

Jeanne Connolly-Horrigan, MS, **Website Chair**  
*Director of Communications, Tufts Clinical and Translational Science Institute and Manager, Clinical Research Training Program, Tufts University Sackler School of Graduate Biomedical Sciences, Boston, MA*

Christopher Lucas  
*Coordinator of Media Advocacy, American Cancer Society, Boston, MA*

Srdjan S. Nedeljkovic, MD  
*Brigham & Women's Hospital, Pain Management Center, Dept. of Anesthesiology, Perioperative and Pain Medicine, Boston, MA*

Ginger Newell-Stokes, MS, RN  
*Clinical Nurse Specialist, Franklin Medical Center, Greenfield, MA*

Hallie Greenberg, MS-PREP, BSN, BC  
*Nurse Education, Brigham & Women's Hospital, Boston, MA*

Gayle Peterson, RN  
*Staff Nurse, Massachusetts General Hospital, ASPMN-President-Massachusetts Chapter*

Cyndie Rodman, MS Candidate  
*Tufts University School of Medicine Pain Research, Education and Policy Program*

**News & Important Highlights**

MassPI is pleased to announce that the **Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing** unanimously adopted an **Advisory Ruling on the Management of Pain** on February 11, 2009. Cindy Steinberg and Ann Marie Harootunian participated in the meeting in which the Ruling was presented, discussed and voted on.

MassPI is also pleased to announce that the **Massachusetts Board of Registration of Physician Assistants** unanimously adopted a **Policy on the Management of Pain** on February 12, 2009. Cindy Steinberg and Kris Walker attended the meeting and discussed the Policy at length with the Board.

The MassPI Legislative Council approached the Boards in May, 2008 about adopting pain policies to guide their licensees in the appropriate assessment and management of pain and has been working with the Boards to bring them to fruition. MassPI will be working with the Boards to communicate these policies to licensees and provide educational opportunities in pain management for healthcare professional around the state. For more details on these Rulings and the roll out plan, please see the Legislative Council Update below.

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**Kudos to two members of the MassPI Steering Council!**

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It is our great pleasure to announce that Carol Curtiss has been selected by the Alliance of State Pain Initiatives (ASPI) as the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award for her exceptional contributions to MassPI and ASPI. The award was presented at the ASPI conference in Austin, Texas on October 31<sup>st</sup> 2008. No one deserves this recognition more than Carol for her extraordinary service and dedication to MassPI over the years. Please join us in congratulating her, she is truly deserving of this award.

Also, our heartfelt congratulations go out to Jeanne Connolly-Horrigan. The Alliance of State Pain Initiatives (ASPI) annually issues State Pain Initiative Champion Awards to recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the growth, development, and accomplishments of a State Pain Initiative. The ASPI Advisory Council and National Office staff have selected Jeanne as one of the recipients of these prestigious awards. In the words of Ronna Popkin, Outreach & Conference Coordinator, "her work has greatly benefited people in pain, increased awareness of the issues surrounding pain management, and been of inestimable value to the Massachusetts Pain Initiative." Jeanne is truly a "State Pain Initiative Champion!" Jeanne's award was also presented at the ASPI conference on November 1st, 2008. Congratulations Jeanne, we all deeply appreciate your special service and dedication to the Massachusetts Pain Initiative.

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**A Special Welcome to our Administrative Assistant: Gretchen Kindstedt!**

Gretchen joined MassPI in May 2008 as our new Administrative Assistant. The creation of her position allows the MassPI Steering Council and members to devote more time to the work we do promoting and improving pain management. Gretchen is a graduate student at Tufts University and will complete her

studies in May 2009 with a MS-Pain, Research, Education, and Policy. You can contact Gretchen with any issues regarding MassPI at [email:info@masspaininitiative.org](mailto:info@masspaininitiative.org) or [gkindstedt@mac.com](mailto:gkindstedt@mac.com)  
Phone number: 508-270-4653

## Member Updates

Jeanne Connolly-Horrigan, Website Chair, as recently been appointed to a new position at Tufts. Her title is Director of Communications, Tufts Clinical and Translational Science Institute and Manager, Clinical Research Training Program, Tufts University Sackler School of Graduate Biomedical Sciences.

Nancy Kowal, a member of the Legislative Council, was recognized for her advocacy work on a state and national level. She was the recipient of the Advocacy Award from ASPMN at the annual meeting that took place Sept. 2008 in Tucson, AZ.

Hannah Lyons has recently left her role at Metrowest Medical Center to assume a position as Oncology CNS in the Hematology/Oncology Bone Marrow Transplant Program at MGH.

Cindy Steinberg, Chairperson of the Legislative Council, has been named to the Board of Directors of the American Pain Foundation

Cheryl Pacella has recently left her role as Performance Improvement Advisor for Masspro. She now works as the Quality Improvement Manager for Hebrew Senior Life Home Care, based in Canton, MA.

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## MassPI Leadership Meets for Strategic Planning:

Members of the Steering Council and the Chairpersons of the Legislative, Professional Education and Public Awareness Councils meet periodically throughout the year, both in-person and via conference call, to map out strategies for MassPI's structure and work in the months and years ahead. In addition to our on-going work, MassPI will focus on recruiting and retaining members and fund raising to support projects and activities. Anyone interested in volunteering to help with MassPI activities or to join a Council should contact Anne Marie Kelly ([annemariekelly@verizon.net](mailto:annemariekelly@verizon.net)) or Carol Curtiss ([carol.curtiss@verizon.net](mailto:carol.curtiss@verizon.net)).

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## In the News...

### **Pain & Fatigue Classes Now Available Online from ACS**

The American Cancer Society's free, interactive online "I Can Cope" classes are a quick, convenient way to answer questions about a variety of topics related to a cancer diagnosis. Classes are self-paced. It usually takes about 20-30 minutes to complete a class, but it may take longer if one watches the videos and reads the linked information. A person will need to register the first time he or she takes a class. To learn what classes are available and to answer other questions about these online classes, visit [http://www.cancer.org/docroot/ESN/content/ESN\\_3\\_1x\\_I\\_Can\\_Cope\\_Online.asp](http://www.cancer.org/docroot/ESN/content/ESN_3_1x_I_Can_Cope_Online.asp)

### **Power Over Pain (POP) is NOW MassPI Pain Resource Education Programs**

#### **MassPI PREP UPDATE:**

MassPI's very successful Power Over Pain Education programs have a new name! These education programs are now called MassPI's Pain Resource Education Programs, or MassPI's PREP. The name change was done to avoid confusion with the American Pain Foundation's Power Over Pain Network. MassPI's PREP is a grassroots public and professional awareness program in Massachusetts that has reached over 1400 people, both public and professionals. The goal of this program is to educate healthcare professionals and communities in Massachusetts to understand, and advocate for good pain management. Since the program was started in 2004, 46 MassPI PREP programs have been provided to the public by our volunteer presenters. MassPI has a team of volunteer presenters, several of whom are

available to present the program in Spanish. You can learn more about MassPI's PREP by visiting <http://www.masspaininitiative.org/power.htm>. If you are a trained presenter for MassPI's PREP, please contact Hannah Lyons [hflyons@partners.org](mailto:hflyons@partners.org) or Cheryl Pacella [cherylpacella@hrca.harvard.edu](mailto:cherylpacella@hrca.harvard.edu) for your new and expanded program slides. Changes include revisions to the Professional Education presentation and new "stand-alone" modules on Pain Assessment, Pain in the Elderly, and a Skills Module on dosing and equianalgesic conversions. If you would like to become a trained MassPI PREP volunteer or want more information, please contact Gretchen Kindstedt via e-mail at [info@masspaininitiative.org](mailto:info@masspaininitiative.org). MassPI will assist in coordinating PREP presentations for health care professionals and/or the public. Trainings for presenters last about 1.5 hours and are conducted around the state.

### **MassPI Working Council Updates**

#### **Public Awareness Council by Peggy Flood and Hannah Lyons Co-Chairs**

In the Fall of 2008, the Public Awareness Council completed a "Pain Referral Resource Guide for Massachusetts" which is available at [www.masspaininitiative.org](http://www.masspaininitiative.org). The list is intended as a resource for patients and caregivers, however, Mass PI does not endorse any of the Pain Clinics or Centers listed. The list is not comprehensive and does not include individual pain physician practices. Information listed is accurate as of October 2008. If you have additional or new information about a Pain Clinic or Center and would like to add it to the Pain Referral Resource Guide, please e-mail it to [info@masspaininitiative.org](mailto:info@masspaininitiative.org) attn. Hannah Lyons.

In addition, over the past year, the Public Awareness Council has revised the Massachusetts Pain Initiative brochure, which is now available in PDF format at [www.masspaininitiative.org](http://www.masspaininitiative.org). In addition, the Public Awareness Council completed revisions to the Partners Against Pain education booklet called *Taking Control of Your Pain* that is distributed on a national basis. The revised booklet is available from your Purdue Pharma representative or Mass PI.

There has been a lot of interest in "Train-the-Trainer" sessions for future MassPI PREP educators. Training sessions have been on hold as we completed revisions and modifications to the program. Mass PI will be offering training sessions soon (early spring) that will be in the form of a one and a half hour conference call. Several dates and times will be announced soon. If you are interested in becoming a trainer, please contact Peggy Flood at [floodpeg@verizon.net](mailto:floodpeg@verizon.net) or Gretchen Kindstedt at [info@masspaininitiative.org](mailto:info@masspaininitiative.org).

#### **Professional Education Council by Cheryl Pacella, MSN, RN, HHCNS, Chair**

The Professional Education Council is focused on expanding outreach of the former Power Over Pain (POP) now known as MassPI PREP, for healthcare professionals. A number of presentations to professional staff have taken place thus far and we would like to expand the program even further. The content of the program has recently been revised and up-dated.

Our Pocket Tools have been a big success. Some minor modifications were made in February 2008. Pregabalin (Lyrica) is now listed as a valuable medication for the treatment of neuropathic pain and fibromyalgia. The new version is currently available. To date, more than 10, 000 copies have been distributed.

The Professional Education Council has held several conference calls this year and has identified a couple of goals for the group:

- Reach out to the various Nursing Staff Education Departments at hospitals to promote the professional version of MassPI PREP, we will provide speakers and Contact Hours
- Reach out to Long-Term Care Facilities to further promote education about pain assessment and interventions to professional and non-professional staff
- Develop a Speakers' Bureau to help organizations plan their own individual programs
- Review and update the content on the MassPI website specific to the Council

- Work with the Public Awareness council to ensure that we have an accurate list of presenters and that they have been kept up-to-date regarding the new version of the program
- Provide training for new MassPI PREP presenters
- Work with other members of MassPI to maintain an accurate list of MassPI members and contacts

We're happy to report that MassPI programs qualify as continuing education programs recognized by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). This is thanks to the work of Hallie Greenberg and The Rhode Island State Nurses Association. Our programs do qualify for Category 2 CME's for physicians.

As always, the Professional Education Council welcomes new members. For further information, please contact Cheryl Pacella at [cherylpacella@hrca.harvard.edu](mailto:cherylpacella@hrca.harvard.edu) or 781-821-3109. We will plan to meet again in the fall of 2009 and will hold 2 – 3 conference calls in the meantime. We hope to see many of you at the program in April!

**Legislative Council by Cindy Steinberg, Chair**

The Legislative Council met at the MassPI Fall meeting in October, 2008 and again by conference call on January 28, 2009.

**Massachusetts Licensing Board Pain Policies**

As announced above, both the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing and the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Physician Assistants unanimously adopted Rulings on the Management of Pain at their February, 2009 meetings. MassPI Legislative Council members attended the Board meetings and discussed the importance of the Rulings in promoting effective pain management for the citizens of Massachusetts. The Legislative Council has been working with the Boards on the development of these Rulings for many months and is pleased that they have been adopted. The text of the Rulings are available on the Boards' websites and will soon be available on the MassPI website.

The Legislative Council is also working with the Boards of Registration in Pharmacy and in Dentistry on the development of pain policies. Cindy Steinberg, Nancy Kowal, Jane Gannon and Ann Marie Harootunian attended these Board meetings in February and discussed policy drafts with Board Members and DPH staff. We plan to return to these Board meetings in March when the proposed policies will be discussed further.

MassPI has developed a roll out plan for the new Rulings with DPH that includes announcements in professional association newsletters and websites, an article in professional publications, the delivery of the MassPI PREP Basic Pain Management Training Program at various locations around the state and an on-line pain management CME listing so that licensees can fulfill the directive of the Rulings to acquire pain management knowledge and skills.

**Massachusetts Legislation**

The Legislative Council has been working with lawmakers at the start of the new Legislative Session that began in January and is pleased to announce that for the first time MassPI has worked with lawmakers to initiate legislation in the 2009-2010 session. The three bills introduced in January would go a long way toward achieving MassPI's goals of improving the quality of life for pain sufferers in Massachusetts and removing existing barriers to effective pain management.

*HD 768 An Act Requiring Pain Assessment and Management in Healthcare Facilities* sponsored by Representative Jay Kaufman, would amend the Commonwealth's Patient Rights Law to ensure that every patient or resident of a healthcare facility would have the right to prompt assessment, management and treatment of his or her pain. Nineteen states currently have the right to pain management in statute.

*HD 831 An Act Requiring Pain Management and Prescription Drug Abuse Training for Prescribing Medical and Healthcare Providers* sponsored by Representative Steven Walsh, requires prescribing practitioners seeking to obtain or renew their professional license to demonstrate completion of continuing education in pain management including identification of patients at high risk for substance abuse and other aspects of prescription medication abuse.



HD 2114 *An Act Relating to the Safe Dispensing of Pain Management Medication* sponsored by Representative John Scibak, removes the 30 day limit currently in place for Schedule II medication, which requires pain patients receiving certain pain medications to return to the prescriber and pharmacy every 30 days to receive a new prescription, further clogging an already overburdened medical system and further aggravating the pain and suffering of those who are seeking pain relief. The bill would allow a medical provider to prescribe a dosage they deem appropriate, up to 90 days, putting Massachusetts in line with standard DEA policy.

We will be asking for your support in various ways as these bills come up for hearings and make their way through the legislative session toward passage. We will be reviewing all other bills filed in this session and will be discussing and formulating our approach to them. We anticipate that there will be a new Prescription Monitoring Program Enhancement Bill filed as well as bills filed to restrict access to certain pain medications.

### **Federal Legislation**

HR 756 *The National Pain Care Policy Act of 2009* was reintroduced into the U.S. House of Representatives by Representatives Lois Capps and Mike Rogers on February 3, 2009. This is an excellent bill that would improve pain research, education, training, access, outreach and care. This is a reintroduction of HR 2994 which passed the House in 2008. We are hopeful that the bill will clear both chambers in the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress and will be working to garner support for the bill from our Massachusetts lawmakers. MassPI along with 90 other organizations have signed a Consensus statement supporting the bill.

### **Future Activities**

The Legislative Council will be working with lawmakers in the coming months to educate them on pain policy issues and garner support for these important bills both at the state and federal level. We will also be working with DPH and healthcare licensing board officials to encourage adoption of pain policies by the remaining boards and to roll out these important policies to thousands of licensees across the state.

**The Legislative Council welcomes new members to help us achieve our ambitious agenda. If you are not on our e-mail list but would like to be, please send an e-mail to Cindy Steinberg at [csteinberg@rcn.com](mailto:csteinberg@rcn.com).**

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**Have you changed jobs? Let us know by emailing MassPI at [www.masspaininitiative.org](http://www.masspaininitiative.org) Click on "Contact Us."**

### **Resources, Continuing Education, and Training**

#### **New Pain Management Tool Kit Available: Pain and Dementia**

The Resource Center of the Alliance of State Pain Initiatives (ASPI) has an educational tool for detecting pain in patients with dementia. "Detecting Discomfort in Dementia: Focus on Behaviors - What Nursing Assistants Need to Know About Pain," was developed under the direction of Karen Stevenson, MS, RN, Manager of Professional Education and Institutional Change Programs for ASPI and June Dahl, PhD., Senior Advisor for ASPI. The 13-minute educational video and the accompanying booklet, "Tools for Inservice Education" provide the necessary information to help nursing assistants understand the role they play in practicing good care for cognitively impaired residents in pain. Carol Curtiss, MassPI volunteer, is co-author with Stevenson and Dahl of the Teaching Guide that accompanies the DVD. For information on how to order "Detecting Discomfort in Dementia: Focus on Behaviors," please visit the ASPI website at: [www.aspi.wisc.edu](http://www.aspi.wisc.edu) or call: 608.262.0978. The cost for the DVD and Training Booklet is \$49.99.

**Continuing Education** is available through [www.medscape.com](http://www.medscape.com) This is a great link for health care professionals looking for articles on current research related to assessment and treatment of pain. Upon accessing the site, you will be asked to provide contact information and then you will start receiving periodic articles that cover a wide array of health-related topics.

### **Online Resource for People with Chronic Pain**

Chronic pain sufferers have a free, online resource to help them develop personalized pain management strategies.

www.PainACTION.com features:

- Self-paced, self-assessment tools
- Online pain journal to monitor pain and track progress
- Self-help strategies for pain management
- Research findings and evidence-based pain treatments
- Tips from national pain management experts
- Recent pain-related news to keep patients up-to-date on new developments

PainAction.com brochures are available to distribute to patients. For copies or more information, email [painaction@inflexxion.com](mailto:painaction@inflexxion.com) or call Evelyn Corsini, MSW, at (800)848-3895 X232. The site is funded through an unrestricted educational grant from Endo Pharmaceuticals, and is powered by Inflexxion, Inc.

### **Resource for People Living with Pain**

The American Pain Foundation released a resource, "Treatment Options: A Guide for People Living with Pain". Written and reviewed by leading pain specialists, including two members of the Advisory Council for the Alliance of State Pain Initiatives, the guide provides credible, comprehensive information about medications, psychosocial interventions, complementary approaches, rehabilitation therapies, surgical interventions and much more. For information about the guide, go to the APF's website at [www.painfoundation.org](http://www.painfoundation.org)

### **Pain Management Pocket Tools Available**

MassPI's Pain Management Pocket Tool is an excellent resource for all healthcare professionals. The tool includes principles of pain management, management of breakthrough pain, switching from one opioid to another, opioid equianalgesic chart, adjuvant analgesic drugs, commonly used non-opioid analgesics, and management of opioid side effects. You may request a minimum of 10 tools for your facility. The cost is \$1 a tool, from 1-100. For quantities above 100, cost is 50 cents a tool (i.e. 150 tools cost \$125.). There is a fee for shipping and handling (\$5.00 for 1- 100 tools and \$20.00 for an order of 101 or greater).The pocket tool was updated in 2008 and includes the most current information. An order form and a copy of the pocket tool are located on the MassPI website at

<http://www.masspaininitiative.org/pros.htm#pain>

### **Tufts University School of Medicine, Master of Science in Pain Research, Education and Policy and Certificate of Advanced Study in Pain Topics**

Research on the mechanisms, nature and treatment of pain has advanced enormously in the past decade making the field of pain exciting, dynamic and full of opportunity. The Tufts University School of Medicine Master of Science in Pain Research, Education and Policy and the Certificate of Advanced Study in Pain Topics is meeting the needs of practicing health care professionals to provide optimal pain management by offering a unique, interdisciplinary program that sets the standard for pain education. For more information, contact Richard Glickman-simon, MD at [richard.glickman-simon@tufts.edu](mailto:richard.glickman-simon@tufts.edu) or 617-636-3640 or go <http://www.tufts.edu/med/prep/>.

### **American Nurses Credentialing Center and the American Society for Pain Management Nursing Announces New Certification for Pain Management Nurses**

ANCC introduced this important nursing certification in collaboration with the American Society for Pain Management Nursing (ASPMN), the nation's leading organization for nurses committed to improving the way pain is managed. The first certification exam took place in October 2005. The certification is available to licensed, registered nurses, whose clinical practice includes work with diverse patient populations experiencing pain. To download a pdf version of ANCC's Pain Management Certification for Registered Nurses, please visit <http://www.nursecredentialing.org/cert/PDFs/PainMgmtCat.pdf>

**Congratulations to all of our members who have recently passed this exam! Please let us know who you are!**

**For a list of other resources and links, please visit: <http://www.masspaininitiative.org/links.htm>**

### **Upcoming Events Calendar 2009**

#### **April 03, 2009**

We are very excited about our all day program! This promises to be a jam-packed event full of new and useful information to assist health care professionals in pain management. We have a number of experts from a variety of different areas. The Professional Education Council is working hard to meet the needs of our membership by offering topics that have been specifically requested (e.g. the role of physical therapy, addressing the special needs of children, and the growing use of methadone). Please refer to the attached brochure for more details and be sure to register early!

#### **The Eastern Massachusetts chapter of ASPMN presents**

Acupuncture and Pain Management : DISCUSSION, DEMONSTRATION, APPLICATION

SPEAKER: CAROLINE L. JOHNSON, M.Ed. licensed acupuncturist

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

SHERATON BRAINTREE HOTEL, BRAINTREE, MA

REGISTRATION: 5:30 PM BUSINESS MEETING AND DINNER 6 PM

PROGRAM 6:30 PM – 7:45 PM

EASTERN MASS CHAPTER MEMBER: \$25.00 NON-MEMBER: \$35.00

Check payable to: Eastern Mass Chapter ASPMN

Mail to: Ann Marie Harootunian 7 Barbara Road, Walpole, MA 02081

Questions?? [Annmarie.Harootunian@caritaschristi.org](mailto:Annmarie.Harootunian@caritaschristi.org) or 508-668-5053

#### **ELNEC News:**

Below, you will find the complete 2009 Schedule for national ELNEC Train-the-Trainer Courses--10 courses in all, presented in 7 different states and 9 various cities across the US. You will see that in an effort to reduce both time away from work and participant hotel expenses, we have reduced the length of the trainings to 2 full days in 2009.

Note that a second ELNEC-Critical Care course for 2009 has been added to the schedule (October 23-24 in the Washington, DC area).

We anticipate the February 20-21 ELNEC-Pediatric Palliative Care train-the-trainer program to fill-up quickly, as people from all over the country watch what is taking place in California, regarding the pediatric palliative care waiver. You will not want to miss Lori Butterworth and Devon Dabbs, co-founders and co-executive directors of the Children's Hospice and Palliative Care Coalition (CHPCC), as they give a history and up-date of the coalition, including pediatric palliative care legislative efforts in California and nationally. They will describe their groundbreaking work in empowering families and advocating for children, too. CHPCC will also have a Partnership for Parents presentation, that will give participants an opportunity to hear personal stories directly from parents who have suffered the death of a child. Also, they will provide a description of their online support network for parents of children with serious illnesses. If you do not work in a pediatric setting, please forward this e-mail to any of your colleagues who may work in neonatal ICU, post-partem, pediatrics, etc.

#### **4 ELNEC-Core Courses**

April 21-22: Oklahoma City, OK (in collaboration with Mercy Health Center)

June 25-26: Minneapolis, MN (co-sponsored by the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association [HPNA])

August 13-14: Orlando, FL (co-sponsored by HPNA)

September 24-25: Boston, MA (co-sponsored by HPNA)

2 ELNEC-Pediatric Palliative Care Courses  
February 20-21: Sacramento, CA  
September 25-26: Memphis, TN (in collaboration with St. Jude)

ELNEC-Critical Care Courses  
October 23-24: Washington, DC

2 ELNEC-Geriatric Course  
March 11-12, 2009: Richmond VA (tri-sponsored by Massey Cancer Center and The Virginia Association of Nonprofit Homes for the Aging)  
May 15-16: Pasadena, CA (FREE registration for 100 California nurses. Non-California nurses welcome to attend)

To register for any of these courses, go to: [www.aacn.nche.edu](http://www.aacn.nche.edu)  
If you have any questions, contact:

Pam Malloy, RN, MN, OCN  
ELNEC Project Director  
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One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530  
Washington, DC 20036-1120  
202-463-6930, Ext. 238 (voice mail)  
202-785-8320 (fax)  
[pmalloy@aacn.nche.edu](mailto:pmalloy@aacn.nche.edu) No virus found in this incoming message.

### **Planning for Fall of 2009**

Do you have a special content area in which you are interested and would like to learn more about? We're always looking for new ideas and potential speakers. Please contact Cheryl Pacella at [cherylpacella@hrca.harvard.edu](mailto:cherylpacella@hrca.harvard.edu) with your thoughts.

**Do you like to travel?** Then you might be interested in attending the International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP) 13<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Pain scheduled to take place in Montreal, Canada from August 29 – September 2, 2010. Access their website at [www.iasp-pain.org](http://www.iasp-pain.org) for more information. The IASP is an international organization that brings together professionals from a variety of settings for the purpose of promoting pain relief worldwide. This past year, Hallie Greenberg, serving on the Professional Education Council attended the IASP conference in Glasgow, Scotland.

October 20, 2008, marks the launch of the **Global Year Against Cancer Pain**. Built around the theme of "Raising Awareness ▪ Improving Treatment ▪ Growing Support," this 2008-2009 campaign aims to provide a voice to millions of patients around the world who experience cancer-related pain and suffering.

The IASP has also posted a wonderful article on screening for opioid abuse on their website, which you can access and download at [www.iasp-pain.org](http://www.iasp-pain.org)