

# Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner Care

Vol. 23, No. 2

Official Newsletter of ARNPs United of Washington State

February 2012

## Excellent News Story on NP Practice

KNDO reporter Karma Dickerson did a very positive news video on Raney Comment, DNP, ARNP's practice. You can watch this at:  
<http://www.kndo.com/story/16775080/your-health>

## AUWS Board of Directors

ARNPs United of Washington State Board of Directors welcomes our new members and would like to thank our outgoing Board Members for their years of service to the ARNP community.

### Incoming Board Members:

- ☐ Chris Porter, FNP
- ☐ Stephanie Nesser, FNP
- ☐ Jeannie Boudrieau, FNP

### Outgoing Board Members:

- ☐ Paul Means, FNP
- ☐ Robyn Choffel, FNP
- ☐ Kristi Farrell, FNP
- ☐ Jerry Green, FNP

### Continuing Board Members:

- ☐ Deonne Brown-Benedict, FNP
- ☐ Louise Kaplan, FNP (Legislative Chair)
- ☐ Sarah Korkowski, NNP
- ☐ Nancy Lawton, FNP (President)
- ☐ Catherine Luria, FNP
- ☐ Angie Miller, CNM (Treasurer)
- ☐ Deb Smith, FNP (Immediate Past-President)
- ☐ Ashley Fedan, CRNA (Secretary)
- ☐ Mary Anne Murray, FNP

### Staff:

- ☐ Bob Smithing, FNP (Executive Director)
- ☐ Tracy Kiele (Administrative Assistant)

## ProviderOne to Start Updating License Info

As of January 23, 2012, ProviderOne will automatically update professional, pharmacy, and hospital license information from an interface with the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) for all Washington State providers. The license information will be retrieved directly from the DOH on a daily basis and will update license information in ProviderOne.

Shortly after the license update process begins in ProviderOne, claims will begin to be denied for expired licenses. Washington State providers who experience claim denials as a result of this new process will need to contact the Washington State Department of Health to address the status of their license.

Out-of-state providers will need to maintain their own professional, pharmacy, and hospital license information in ProviderOne.

To access additional training materials, please visit <http://hrsa.dshs.wa.gov/provider/training.shtml>.

## Medical Marijuana

From WA DOH

The Department of Health recently received several reports and complaints about health care providers inappropriately recommending medical cannabis or not following the requirements established in law. In an effort to ensure that all health care providers are familiar with the law and follow requirements and practice standards when recommending medical cannabis, we have developed a list of frequently asked questions focused on providers.

Conditions and criteria for providing a recommendation are clearly established in chapter 69.51A RCW. It also includes a list of health care providers authorized to recommend medical cannabis. Before a provider recommends medical cannabis to a qualifying patient, a patient-provider relationship must be established, requirements and restrictions established in RCW 69.51A.030 must be met, and practice standards must be followed as with any type of treatment. Recommendations must include the information required by the law, must be written on tamper-proof paper, and must be signed by the provider.

State law establishes immunity against prosecution for authorized health care providers appropriately recommending the use of medical cannabis to qualifying patients. A provider may be charged with unprofessional conduct for not complying with the requirements and restrictions established in the law or for not following practice standards. It is important that providers understand that immunity is not extended to federal prosecution. Marijuana is not legal under federal law for any reason.

The DOH does not promote or discourage the use of medical cannabis recommendations yet wants to ensure that providers are informed about the law and exercise sound professional judgment when making these recommendations. You can find more information at [www.doh.wa.gov/medicalmarijuana](http://www.doh.wa.gov/medicalmarijuana). Send practice questions about recommending the use of medical cannabis to your board or commission. Send general questions about the law to [medicalmarijuana@doh.wa.gov](mailto:medicalmarijuana@doh.wa.gov).

### Prescription Drug Monitoring Info Available

New system aims to cut prescription abuse and improve patient safety.

The Washington State Prescription Monitoring Program has collected more than 3.1 million records for controlled substance prescriptions across the state. And now prescribers have access to this information.

Last month practitioners and pharmacists started creating accounts to track patient prescription information. Since then, the most dispensed drug was Hydrocodone/Acetaminophen, the generic form of Vicodin. It accounts for more than 800,000 prescriptions and represents more than 44 million pills.

Practitioners can register for an account online ([www.wapmp.org](http://www.wapmp.org)). Once registration is approved they can request and review patient information. Prescribers and pharmacists can use this data to intervene with patients earlier. They can also identify dangerous drug interactions, watch for misuse, and recognize under-managed pain or the need for substance abuse treatment.

The Department of Health already provides access to this system to our agency's health professional licensing investigators, the Health Care Authority, the Department of Labor & Industries, and the Department of Corrections.

More information on the program, also known as Prescription Review, is available online ([www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/PMP/public.htm](http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/PMP/public.htm)).

The Department of Health website ([www.doh.wa.gov](http://www.doh.wa.gov)) is your source for a healthy dose of information. Also, find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

### Guidance for Pharmacists Regarding the New Chronic Non-cancer Pain Management Rules.

The 2010 legislature passed House Bill 2876 requiring that the medical quality assurance commission, and four other prescribing boards and commissions, adopt rules for the management of chronic non cancer pain. The board of pharmacy was not included in the requirement to develop rules.

The goal of the prescribing rules is to provide direction for practitioners who treat patients with chronic non cancer pain. Pain management is a dynamic and challenging area of medical care that often includes opioids.

An increase in overdose deaths and hospitalizations in Washington State due to prescription opioids parallels an increase in prescribing of opioids.

All prescribers of long-acting opioids are encouraged to have at least four hours of continuing education on that topic.

Practitioners who have 12 continuing education credits on the topic of chronic pain management within the prior two years are exempt from the requirement for a pain management consultation when prescribing more than 120 mg morphine equivalents per day

- ☐ Pharmacists are not required or expected to enforce these rules.
- ☐ Pharmacists are required to provide safe patient care.
- ☐ If a pharmacist receives a prescription for 120mg or greater morphine equivalent per day, the prescriber can be contacted for clarification.

More information regarding the pain management laws and subsequent rules, as well as guidance and resources are available via the medical commissions web page at: <http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/MQAC/PainManagement.htm>, and the Department of Health's web page at: <http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/Professions/PainManagement/>

### Provider Resources and Tools for Appropriate Emergency Room Care

The Medicaid program of the Washington State Health Care Authority is implementing a policy that requires the Agency to determine the medical necessity of using the Emergency Room to provide health care services. This utilization review program will focus on the medical necessity of the place of service, not the medical necessity of the services provided. An effective date will be announced later.

Below is a list of programs and tools that will help you assist clients in the proper use of Emergency Room services:

- A Tool to Manage Frequent ER Users and Narcotic Abuse: Patients Review and Coordination <http://hrsa.dshs.wa.gov/prr/index.htm>
- Case Management Tools for Medicaid Clients Receiving or Eligible for Long Term Care Services and Supports: LTC Case Management <http://www.adsa.dshs.wa.gov/Resources/clickmap.htm>
- Know What Happens in Another Emergency Room: Emergency Department Information Exchange (EDIE) <http://www.ediecareplan.com/>
- Monitoring Narcotic Abuse: Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) <http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/PMP/public.htm>
- Narcotic Prescribing <http://www.agencymeddirectors.wa.gov/guidelines.asp>
- ER providers are encouraged to use tools found at <http://hrsa.dshs.wa.gov/pharmacy/Toolkit.htm>

Any of these tools may help you decrease inappropriate use of the ER. Working together we can insure our clients have safe and appropriate medical care.

### Preceptors Needed for Seattle University

Seattle University needs preceptors for our ARNP students. Spring Qtr 3/26-6/9

Students complete 150 hours over 10 weeks. We need ARNPs, MDs, PAs in: Family, Geriatrics, Psychiatrics, Pediatrics, Midwifery, Women's health, Urgent Care, Specialty (eg; cardio, neuro, etc)

We are offering some perks for your talented, tireless efforts. Please contact Linda Frothinger at: 206-293-4416 or frothil@seattleu.edu.

### Guiding the Future... Love to teach...

Precept an FNP, ANP or PNP student!

Precepting involves 1 to 2 days a week for the 10-week quarter, Winter and/or Spring.

Preceptors needed for beginning to advanced students.

Contact Fiona Shannon, fiona@uw.edu for more information on precepting University of Washington students.

### Classified Ads

#### ARNP Wanted - Bremerton WA

Group Health's Bremerton Behavioral Health Services team is searching for an experienced Nurse Practitioner to join and contribute to their integrated care delivery services.

As a Nurse Practitioner on this team you will provide care to a wide range of Behavioral Health service patients. The ARNP is an integral member of an interdisciplinary team and has authority to prescribe medications, order tests, create Psychiatric assessment evaluations and maintain treatment plans. In this role you will use evidence-based practices to monitor clients' progress in care. You will participate in using Lean standard work processes to enhance quality clinical care initiatives within your practice. You will monitor your ongoing caseload management. This position will be in an outpatient setting with no weekend work.

To express interest in this exciting opportunity, please visit [www.ghc.org/careers](http://www.ghc.org/careers) and apply to job #110937.

Group Health is an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to a diverse and inclusive workforce.

### CE Opportunities

#### The Moore Center Presentation

Dr. Craig Johnson & Dr. John Sargent to Speak at The Moore Center **2 FREE CEs** Date: Tuesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, Time: 5pm - 8pm Location: The Moore Center - 1601 114th Ave. SE, Ste. 180 Bellevue, WA RSVP Required. Please contact Katie Klute: [kklute@moorecenterclinic.com](mailto:kklute@moorecenterclinic.com) to RSVP or for additional event details. Event is free of charge. Drinks, hors d'oeuvres and dinner are provided.

#### UW Health Care and Social Work Certificates

Advance your skills, expand your network or earn contact hours and CEUs. UW Professional & Continuing Education offers the following certificate programs: Gerontology (online), Geriatric Mental Health (classroom), Medical Management (classroom), Psychological Trauma: Effective Treatment and Practice (online & classroom), Integrated Behavioral Health (online), and Infant Mental Health (classroom). Visit our website for full descriptions and start dates: [www.keplearning.uw.edu](http://www.keplearning.uw.edu).

### Meetings

#### Puget Sound Nurse Practitioners Association

Join us! Puget Sound Nurse Practitioners Association is a non-profit organization supporting ARNPs in Puget Sound since 1998. We meet every other month and offer a social hour/networking and a speaker presentation.

Annual dues are \$40/\$20 for students. \$20 per meeting for guests. Apply for membership and find meeting information at <http://PSNPA.org>

#### Private Practice NP Discussion Group

All are welcome. Meetings will be Sep/Nov/Jan/Mar/May always on the second Thursday of the month from 6:30-8:00 at FamilyCare of Kent in Kent, WA. RSVP at least 48hr in advance to [mwiley@familycareofkent.com](mailto:mwiley@familycareofkent.com) so we can order food and drinks. Address and directions on [www.familycareofkent.com](http://www.familycareofkent.com). Sponsored by NP Central.

#### West Sound Advanced Practice Association

Meets the second Thursday of the month. Meetings include networking/dinner/educational session. E-mail [Fionafnp@centurytel.net](mailto:Fionafnp@centurytel.net) for more information.

### Ad Information

Copy deadline is the second Tuesday of the month prior to publication. Ads may be accepted later than this on a space-available basis. Position Available and Continuing Education Ads of less than 66 words are \$45, of 66 to 130 words are \$75, 131-180 words are \$105, and greater than 181 words are \$175. Position Available Ads are priced per insertion. Continuing Education Announcements are per offering for up to three (3) consecutive insertions. New Product Announcements per product for one insertion of 130 words or less are \$75, more than 130 words are \$175. Ad Inserts are \$750 for one issue. All ads are subject to space limitations and editing. Call for detailed rate information. Mail copy to ARNP Care, 10024 SE 240th St, #230, Kent, WA 98031. Phone 253.852.9042. Fax 253.852.7725. Email [care@nurse.net](mailto:care@nurse.net).

#### ARNPs United of WA State

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## 2012 Legislative and Regulatory Agenda

### Priority Issue: Authorizing Pharmacists to Accept All Prescriptions from Out-of-State ARNPs

A law passed in 2010 authorized pharmacists to accept prescriptions from ARNPs licensed in any state or in a province of Canada that shares a common border with the state of Washington. Shortly after the law was signed, a legal analysis identified a technical error. Only the pharmacy act was amended. For pharmacists to accept all prescriptions, a section of the state's controlled substances act also needed to be amended. This technical error resulted from an inadvertent omission when the bill was drafted.

**House Bill (HB) 1486 would authorize Washington pharmacists to fill prescriptions for controlled substances prescribed by out-of-state ARNPs by amending RCW 69.50.101.**

Status: Passed by the House of Representatives 1/17/12 and was referred to the Senate Health and Long Term Care Committee

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### Actively Support

**SB 6037 Limiting access to reports and records of autopsies and postmortems**

Status: This bill was amended to allow ARNPs, upon request, to meet with the family of a decedent to discuss the findings of the autopsy or postmortem. The bill is in Senate Rules.

**HB 2186 Concerning licensed midwives ability to work with RNs and LPNs**

Status: The bill passed the House of Representatives 1/26/12 and was referred to the Senate Health and Long Term Care Committee.

**HB 2648 Removing the expiration for the additional surcharge imposed on registered nurses and licensed practical nurses to fund the Washington Center for Nursing**

Status: The bill is in the House of Representatives Rules Committee.

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### Active Opposition

**SB 6394 Requiring transparency for patients regarding training and qualifications of health care professionals**

This bill would have required a health care professional that holds a doctorate degree to identify the type of license, registration, or certification they hold in all advertisements containing their name. Promoted by the Washington State Medical Association, the bill was unnecessary because the Uniform Disciplinary Act already precludes false advertising.

Status: Our lobbyist successfully worked with others to have the bill removed from a scheduled hearing and the bill died in committee.

**HB 2366 Requiring certain health professionals to complete education in suicide assessment, treatment, and management**

The bill now applies to ALL ARNPs, RNs and LPNs, not just psychiatric ARNPs and mandates 6 hours of suicide prevention continuing education every 6 years. AUWS opposes this mandate as ARNPs conduct a self-assessment of continuing competency needs and can obtain suicide prevention education if it is relevant to their practice and professional needs.

Status: It passed the House of Representatives February 10, 2012 with 92 yea 5 nay and is now in the Senate.

January 23, 2012

Dear Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner:

## **We Need Your Help!**

ARNPs United of Washington (AUWS) invites you to become more actively involved in your professional organization through your financial contribution. **Contributing to AUWS is the best investment you can make for your present and future professional practice.** Through increased participation and financial contributions, you have the opportunity to:

- Vote for our board of directors
- Receive the state newsletter ARNP Care electronically
- Participate in our committees
- Contribute to the profession

**The actions of AUWS benefit all the advanced practice nurses in the state of Washington.** Our organization funds the lobbyist who represents all of us in Olympia. Representation is essential for monitoring and forwarding the interests of all ARNPs in state legislation.

Furthermore, **AUWS connects us with one another through ARNP Care, our newsletter, the AUWS website, and our new Facebook page which provide regular updates on important information.** These resources keep you informed of state and national developments relevant to our practice.

**The efforts of AUWS have assisted in providing Washington State the broadest scope of practice in the country.** We have full prescriptive authority. We can practice without a required collaborative practice agreement. **The Pearson Report rates Washington as A+ an exemplary state** in which to practice as a nurse practitioner<sup>1</sup>.

We ask for your participation and financial contribution to become a sustaining member of AUWS. Your contributions ensure the continuation of our work supporting all ARNPs and our practices. **Please donate one day's pay to your organization, ARNPs United.** If you earn \$60,000 a year, consider contributing \$230. Even small donations help; **any amount is greatly appreciated.**

**To contribute, please fill out the enclosed form, or visit our website [auws.org](http://auws.org) to donate online.** If desired you can split your donation into monthly payments.

Thank you for your support!



Nancy Lawton, MN, ARNP, FNP, President

1. The 2011 Pearson Report, The American Journal for Nurse Practitioners, NP Communications, LLC ([www.webnponline.com](http://www.webnponline.com))



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Dear Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner,

Did you know that ARNPs United could accept your contribution through the use of a Visa or MasterCard? All you need to do is fill out the Credit Authorization Form below and return it by mail or fax. Thank you for supporting ARNPs United!

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