Annual Report
2011-2012

Renal Dietetic Practice Group

Renal Dietitians
a dietetic practice group of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
2011-2012 KEY RPG PROJECTS

Expanded Positions & Services
• RPG leadership has begun efforts to revise RPG’s mission, vision, & strategic plan to highlight RPG’s renewed focus on maximizing member benefits, services, and patient resources.
• To meet these changes, RPG leadership approved expanding the 2012-2013 RPG Executive Committee by 8 positions:
  • Mentor Program Chair
  • Social Media Chair
  • Webinar Chair
  • Projects Chair
  • Handouts Subcommittee Chair
  • Website Updates Subcommittee Chair
  • iPad Subcommittee Chair
  • Kidney Friendly Foods Initiative Chair
If you are interested in contributing to any of these programs, please contact any member of the Executive Committee.

Publications
• Membership includes subscription to the Renal Nutrition Forum (RNF), a quarterly peer-reviewed publication.
• RPG, as part of the Academy, is an accredited provider of CPEUs by the Commission on Dietetic Registration. In 2011-2012, members received 12.5 free professional development and continuing professional education units (CPEU) through the RNF.
  • The editorial team contracted a new RNF designer and printing company for improved product and reduced cost.
  • RPG approved moving to an all-color RNF in 2012-2013.
  • RPG approved editorial team restructuring in 2012-2013 for improved workflow, efficiency, and timeliness of publications.

Electronic Communications
• Members receive eblasts on RPG timely topics and previews of the upcoming RNFs.
• Online membership surveys are posted each quarter.

Website (renalnutrition.org)
• The RPG website features a variety of professional resources, including the opportunity to receive and save RNF continuing professional education hours online.
• Membership includes access to the members-only section of the RPG website, www.renalnutrition.org, which features free CPEUs, current archived
issues of the RNF, CPEU tracking, downloadable forms and applications, and other topics of interest to renal dietitians.

- Many upgrades were implemented to RPG’s website in 2011-2012, including:
  - The RNF archives were upgraded to be a searchable database (with topic, author and subject search functions), so any specific topics or articles are easier to find.
  - The website was upgraded to daily new-member updates to the database for more seamless access for new members.
  - The addition of Survey Monkey surveys and routine, pertinent eblast communications to keep members engaged and informed.
  - Additional advertising opportunities through website banner ads.
  - Focused on consistent branding and organization recognition.

- Approval to update & restructure the Certified Specialist in Renal Nutrition (CSR) webinars in 2012-2013

**Professional Resource Center**

- Members have access to the Professional Resources Center (PRC), formerly the Lending Library, which enables the checkout of current text books and other materials free of charge. This contains materials recommended for review for the Certified Specialist in Renal Nutrition exam.
- PRC has over 50 of titles of books/DVDs to choose from, with multiple quantities, which allows more than one member to request the same book, at the same time.
- In 2011-2012, the PRC was revamped so ordering is automated online, eliminating the cumbersome ordering process.
- Several new books were added to the inventory this year:
  - Cooking without a grain of salt
  - A Guide to Nutrition and Diet for Dialysis Patients
  - Pocket Guide to Nutritional Assessment, 4th Edition
  - Nutrition & Health Series: Nutrition in Kidney Disease

**Professional Development & Resources**

**Webinars (Live & Recorded)**

- Directing Patient Conversations Toward Meaningful Behavior Change
- Directing Patient Conversations Toward Meaningful Behavior Change: Plain Language, Self-Management, & Motivational Interviewing Strategies
Patient Education Handouts

- The End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Spanish pamphlet has been updated and undergone a face-lift (also available in English). These are available at RPG’s eCommerce store (on the web site under Materials for Purchase).

Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo (FNCE) 2011 Activities, San Diego, CA

Spotlight Session

“The Skinny on Bariatric Surgery: Illuminating the Evidence from Early Stage CKD through Transplant” presented by Judy Beto, PhD, RD, LD, FADA and Maria Collazo-Clavell, MD.

Networking Membership Breakfast:
RPG members at FNCE attended a complimentary breakfast with RPG leaders to learn of upcoming events and projects, discuss concerns, and network with colleagues.

Student Stipends:
$100 stipends awarded to six students to attend FNCE 2011

Awards

RPG offers educational scholarships for advanced degrees, travel stipends for attending professional conferences, and an Outstanding Service Award to members. See Award-Grants-Scholarships at www.renalnutrition.org for details.

2011-2012 Award Recipients

Outstanding Service Award – Jerrilynn Burrowes, PhD, RD, CDN
- Awarded for her extensive publications, presentations, and other contributions to RPG and nephrology nutrition.
- Awarded all-expenses-paid to the 2012 FNCE in Philadelphia, PA.
Conference/Meeting Stipends:
$2,000 awarded between five members
for continuing education or conference
expenses.

Scholarship:
$2,000 awarded to Meike Orlick, RD,
CSR, LD toward a post-baccalaureate
degree.

Public Policy
• RPG leadership met with Academy
Policy Initiatives and Advocacy (PIA)
staff to discuss concerns in renal
nutrition regarding ‘disparities in care.’
With their assistance, RPG drafted
and offered a member survey to
identify concerns. The results will be
analyzed and reported in 2012-2013.
• Provided comment on pertinent
Academy initiatives and legislative
issues.

Joint Projects

National Kidney Foundation/Council
on Renal Nutrition
• The 2nd revision of the A Clinical Guide
to Nutrition Care in Kidney Diseases,
anticipated to be released in 2012.
• Continued work on plans for the Kidney
Friendly Food Shelf, in consultation with

the Academy’s Food & Culinary
Professionals Supermarket Subgroup:
The plan is to better educate grocery
store RDs regarding renal diets, create
an education resource for patients to help
simplify their food choices, and more!

National Kidney Disease Education
Program (NKDEP) and the Academy
• RPG members reviewed the Chronic
Kidney Disease Nutrition Management
online certificate of training modules
which were completed during
2011-2012.

American Kidney Fund (AKF)
• RPG member appointed to help assist
in the creation of a web-based micro-site
program to educate health care
professionals and promote use of
Medicare’s CKD reimbursement benefits.

American Association of Kidney Patients
(AAKP)
• Provided reviewers for a renal cookbook
Meetings with RPG Representation

- RPG Executive Committee Transition Meeting
- Academy Leadership Institute – 2 RPG Executive Committee Members present
- Academy House of Delegates
- RPG Executive Committee Meeting at FNCE in 2011.
- Academy Public Policy Workshop
- The Western Society of Pediatric Nephrology in Vancouver, Canada
- The National Kidney Foundation’s Clinical Meeting in Washington, DC
  - The National Kidney Foundation Council on Renal Nutrition’s Executive Committee Breakfast
- The 2012 International Congress of Nutrition & Metabolism in Renal Disease, Honolulu, Hawaii

Industry Sponsors

It is through the generous support of the following sponsors that RPG is able to fulfill our mission and vision. Special thanks for supporting RPG’s valued programs!

- **Abbott Nutrition** - Forum advertiser
- **Vitaflo** - Forum and website advertiser
- **Nutricia** - website advertiser
- **The Cranberry Institute** - Forum advertiser

Financial Outcomes

Revenue: $94,616  
Expenses: $98,796  
Total Net Assets: $337,526

RPG Donations/Support

- Academy Research Toolkit
- Academy MNT Electronic Newsletters
- Academy Eat Right Society
- Academy Foundation
2011-2012
Executive Committee

Back row (left to right):
Cathy Goedeke-Merickel, Sarah Kruger,
Megan Sliwa, Sara Erickson, Stacey Phillips,
Rachael Majorowicz.

Front row (left to right):
Pam Kent, Kathy Madigan, Susan DuPraw,
Jane Louis.

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