

Renal Dietitians Practice Group Annual Report 2015-2016

Renal Dietitians

a dietetic practice group of the
eat right. Academy of Nutrition
and Dietetics



RPG Strategic Plan

Mission: Empowering members to be the nation's leaders in nephrology nutrition.

Vision: RPG members are a valued source of expertise in nephrology nutrition.

Goals:

1. To be a premiere source of nephrology nutrition.
 - a. Provide relevant clinical resources, valued initiative and programs to engage a diverse membership.
 - b. Enhance and promote the development of innovative resources for membership.
 - c. Support members in professional development endeavors and career ladder progression.
2. Adapt and respond to current and future societal trends impacting the nephrology community.
 - a. Embrace new technologies for communication and education.
 - b. Provide resources to encompass changing societal demographics and improve our membership's cultural and behavior change competencies.
3. Promote advocacy of nephrology nutrition issues.
 - a. Advocate for nephrology nutrition issues.
 - b. Support research and resources impacting nephrology nutrition.
 - c. Develop relationships with organizations to maximize collaborations on nephrology related concerns.
 - d. Inform and engage our membership on public policy issues impacting nephrology.

Membership

RPG had 2242 members at the end of the fiscal year according to our Member Services Committee. RPG donated a VISA gift card to the FNCE Foundation Silent Auction. Members that visited the FNCE DPG/MIG showcase received an engraved business card case. Member Services continues to promote

communication through e-blasts, surveys, welcoming new members and assisting with questions and concerns that arise among membership.

Public Policy and MNT/Reimbursement:

In August of 2015 we submitted regulatory comments for the Medicare Program; End-Stage Renal Disease Prospective Payment System, and Quality Incentive Program. In November of 2015 we submitted comments proposing a new Healthy People 2020 objective related to the utilization of and access to Medicare Part B's CKD Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) service.

For the 2015-2016 year RPG advocated for important issues pertaining to our profession including:

- Reauthorization of the Older Americans Act to protect nutrition programs for seniors and ensure that qualified nutrition staff such as RDNs are included at all levels of the program
- The Preventing Diabetes in Medicare Act to extend Medicare coverage for MNT for people with pre diabetes and risk factors for developing Type 2 diabetes
- The Treat and Reduce Obesity Act to extend Medicare coverage for intensive behavioral therapy for obesity to RDNs

In addition to lobbying our legislators, the 2015 Public Policy Workshop also included 2 days of educational and preparatory sessions including the opportunity to attend a "boot camp" which provided additional training for the advocacy leaders (DPG PALs, state affiliate policy leaders).

RPG appreciates the collaborative efforts of Sarah Mott and Lois Hill in keeping our members abreast of policy and reimbursement issues and the survey they jointly created for our membership.

Awards & Scholarships

RPG offers educational scholarships, research

grants and travel stipends for the advancement of education and an Outstanding Service Award for a practitioner making a significant difference and positive impact in nephrology nutrition. These opportunities include attendance at professional conferences. In 2015-2016 RPG awarded a total of \$1839 to 4 members.

FNCE® Student Stipends awarded: 6 dietetic students

Awards: There was no RPG Outstanding Service Award nominee for 2015.

Conference/Meeting Stipends in 2015-2016: 4 RPG members were awarded a total of \$1839 for continuing education opportunities or conference expenses. Those stipend recipients were required to contribute an overview of their learning experience in an article published in the Renal Forum.

Scholarship Awardee in 2015-2016: There were no RPG scholarships awarded.

RPG donated to the Academy Foundation Annual Fund: \$500

Leadership

RPG Executive Committee (EC) members were encouraged to complete the Academy Leadership Modules at eatright.org and were reimbursed if they achieved a minimum score of 80% on all modules.

Professional Development and Resources

Publications:

Members receive a subscription to the "Renal Nutrition Forum" (RNF), published quarterly. RNF is peer-reviewed and offers the opportunity to earn complimentary CPEUs in each issue. The RNF also includes an up-to-date Patient Education Handout, which members may reproduce for use with their patients.

RPG appreciates the efforts of Stacey Phillips, RNF Managing Editor and the editorial team: Julie Colvin, Desiree DeWaal, Clarina Kennedy

and Hannah Sobol, for publishing timely topics for members' education.

Electronic Communications:

Members receive regular e-blasts to help keep them apprised of current events impacting nephrology nutrition. Important issues, including legislative issues, CPEU opportunities, student research participation, RPG announcements were sent monthly to help members remain current on issues that impact their practice area. RPG moderates a LinkedIn group to facilitate discussion on key issues and to promote professional networking between members.

Web-site:

RPG's comprehensive website, www.renalnutrition.org offers a detailed calendar of CPEU conferences/events, information regarding nephrology nutrition and a members only portal. This portal allows members access to complimentary CPEUs offered, current and archived issues of RNF, access to the Professional Resource Center (PRC), webinars, patient education handouts, scholarship and stipend applications, access to EC contact information and so much more. RPG is grateful to Cathy Goeddeke-Merickel and Melissa Prest for their diligent maintenance of the RPG website.

Webinars:

The following webinars provide 1 CPEU each and are available on the RPG website. Webinars are offered on our website, with RPG members given a substantial discount.

- MNT Business Transitioning from ESRD RDN to CKD RDN
- Practical Tips – Providing Medical Nutrition Therapy in Chronic Kidney Disease Stages 3 and 4
- Nutrition and Pediatric Renal Disease – Infant/Toddlers
- Nutrition and Pediatric Renal Disease – Adolescents
- MNT & Transplantation
- MNT for In-center Hemodialysis
- Nutrition Support in the Acute Kidney Injury Patient Requiring Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy

- PD & Home Therapies
- Directing Patient Conversations Toward Meaningful Behavior Changes
- Directing Patient Conversations Toward Meaningful Behavior Changes, Part 2

The following webinar is available as a Members Only Exclusive:

- Nutrition and Standardized Language in Nephrology Nutrition

Professional Resource Center (PRC):

The Professional Resource Center (PRC) is a popular member resource. The PRC library includes a collection of over 100 titles of books/DVDs, with many resources available in 2 copies, allowing more than one member to request the same resource at the same time. Up to 3 books can be requested at one time for a 28 day period, including study resources for the Board Certification as a Specialist in Renal Nutrition (CSR) exam. The return postage fee to ship the books back to the PRC is the only charge to members. The following new resources were added to the existing library for 2015-2016:

- Standards of Practice and Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitians 2014 – Revised/Updated
- Core Curriculum for Nephrology Nursing 6th Edition: Books: 6 Modules

Patient Education:

The Patient Education Projects Team is tasked with creating and updating patient education materials with a goal of including a new patient education handout in the most issues of the Renal Nutrition Forum. The dedicated team also works to keep the handouts available on the website up-to-date. The peer-reviewed handouts are developed below a 6th grade reading level and both English and Spanish versions are available on the members only section of the RPG website.

Patient education handouts developed or updated in 2015-2016 include:

- Renal Nutrition Forum Handouts
- Updated Website Handouts

RPG continues to partner with the Council on Renal Nutrition (CRN) to update the National Renal Diet series, with an estimated completion date of late 2017. RPG and CRN have future collaborations planned, including production of handouts on emergency preparedness, low-income meals and an updated renal cookbook list.

Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo™ (FNCE®) 2015 Nashville, TN October 3-6, 2015

RPG FNCE® Spotlight Education Session, Sunday October 4, 2015:

CKD-MNT: Review of Services, Resources and Reimbursement

Speakers:

Andrew Narva, MD, Director of the National Kidney Disease Education Program
 Lucille Beseler, MS, RDN, LDN, CDE, CEO of Family Nutrition Center of Florida, and President-Elect of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics 2015-2016.

Moderator: Elizabeth Neumann, RD, LD

Networking:

FNCE® networking events included a Members Breakfast reception which served 50 members. Additional networking occurred at the RPG booth during the DPG/MIG Showcase.

Collaboration with Other Organizations

- **National Kidney Foundation/Council on Renal Nutrition (CRN)**
- **American Association of Kidney Patients (AAKP)**

Meetings with RPG Representation:

- RPG Executive Committee Transition Meeting
- Academy House of Delegates
- Council on Renal Nutrition
- National Kidney Foundation Spring Clinical Meeting
- International Congress on Renal Nutrition and Metabolism
- Academy Public Policy Workshop

RPG Donations/Support

- Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics Foundation
- FNCE® Student Stipends

Industry Sponsors

RPG extends their appreciation to the following advertising sponsors for their support through sponsored ads in the Renal Nutrition Forum, e-blasts and/or web ads at www.renalnutrition.org. RPG also appreciates the efforts of advertising editor, Emily Cutler, for working with the advertisers.

- Fresenius Medical Care of North America
- Sanofi Renal
- Hillstead Pharmaceuticals

Financial Outcomes

Revenue: \$97,886

Expenses: \$124,976

RPG ended the year with total net assets of \$366,753

2015 - 2016 Executive Committee

Chair

Elizabeth Neumann MS RD CSR

Immediate Past Chair

Joanne Cooke MS RD LD CSR CNSC

Chair-Elect

JoAnn Randazzo MS RD CDN

Secretary

Melissa Young MS RD LD CSR

Treasurer

Sara Erickson RD CSR LDN CNSC

House of Delegates Member

Pamela Kent MS RD CSR LD

RNF Managing Editor

Stacey Phillips MS RD

RNF Editors

Desiree DeWaal MS RD CD FAND

Hannah Sobol RDN CS

Julie Colvin MBA RD CDN

Clarina Kennedy RD

RNF Advertising Editor

Emily R. Cutler MS RD LDN

Electronic Media Managers

Catherine Goeddeke – Merickel MS RDN LD

Melissa Ann Prest MS RD CSR LDN

Nominating Committee Chair

Connie Cranford MS RD LDN

Nominating Committee Chair-elect

Annelle Tschida RD, CSR

Membership Services Outreach Chair

Nilima Desai MPH RD

Awards and Reimbursement Chair

Jackie Termont RD

Professional Resource Center Coordinator

Nadiya Lakhani RD LD

Policy and Advocacy Leader

Sarah Mott MS RD LDN

Social Media Chair/Patient Apps & External Website Reviewer

Melissa Ann Prest MS RD CSR LDN

Webinar Chair

Annamarie Rodriguez RD LD

Patient Education Projects Chair

Rachael Majorowicz RD LD

Patient Education Projects Committee Members

Jennifer Rose Parker RD LDN

Rita Milam MA RD CSR CDE LD

Valerie Hannahs MS RD LD

Manager, DPG Relations

Susan DuPraw MPH RD