

Renal Dietitians Practice Group Annual Report 2017-2018

Renal Dietitians

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



Overview

Renal Dietitians Practice Group (RPG)

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

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

Strategic Plan 2016-2019

Goals:

1. The public trusts and chooses RPG members as the food and nephrology nutrition experts.
 - a. RPG has a strong public presence on a global, national and local level as the premier source of nephrology nutrition.
 - b. RPG drives initiatives and influences stakeholders in the nephrology community.
2. RPG members optimize the health of individuals and populations served.
 - a. RPG promotes advocacy of nephrology nutrition issues on a global, national and local level.
 - b. RPG supports research and resources impacting nephrology nutrition.
 - c. RPG develops relationships with organizations to maximize collaborations on nephrology-related concerns.
 - d. RPG supports evidence-based nutrition guidelines for nutrition practice and education.
3. Members and prospective members view RPG as vital to professional success.
 - a. RPG provides relevant clinical resources, valued initiatives and programs.
 - b. RPG supports members' professional growth and development.
 - c. RPG embraces new technologies for communication and education.
 - d. RPG actively promotes the opportunities in the nephrology nutrition field.
4. RPG's Executive Committee manages the practice group resources to carry out its mission, vision and program of work.

- a. Evaluate current practice to enhance member satisfaction while maintaining or reducing costs.
- b. Encourage and mentor a balanced and professional leadership and volunteer pool within RPG and the Academy.
- c. Ensure that RPG has the financial resources to implement plans and programs to align with its mission, vision and program of work.
- d. Review and update Guiding Principles and structure.

Membership

RPG had 2211 members at the end of the fiscal year according to Academy Membership. Our membership breakdown was:

- Active Members - 2028
- International Members - 29
- Life Members - 3
- Retired Members - 88
- Staff Members - 8
- Student Members - 54

RPG donated a VISA gift card to the FNCE® Silent Auction. In the spirit of the Academy Centennial celebration and RPG's '40th Birthday', dietitians who visited the FNCE® DPG/MIG showcase were asked to share their initial thoughts as a renal dietitian and what they envision for the future. Existing RPG members were entered into a drawing to win a Tiffany "Kidney" Bean necklace. RPG held a drawing for (4) members to attend the Academy Foundation's Gala held during FNCE®. Calculators with the RPG logo commemorating the 40th Anniversary were provided to dietitians who visited the FNCE® DPG/MIG showcase and revised Member Benefits Postcards were previewed to platform the Renal Practice Group. Member Services continues to promote communication through e-blasts, surveys, welcoming new members and assisting with questions and concerns that arise among membership.

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DPG Representation in Academy House of Delegates

The DPG HOD Representative, Mary Kay Hensley, MS., RDN, participated in the required HOD meetings and received training on Championing RDNs in the Roles of Leadership and Codes of Ethics for the Profession.

Activities and information gathering also occurred with respect to the mega-question: How can nutrition and dietetics practitioners secure influential public health (PH) positions in institutions, organizations, and government bodies? Mary Kay provides the following insights:

Based on the dialogue, a series of guiding principles were identified related to actions needed:

1. PH nutrition is embedded in the Academy's new strategic plan.
2. PH affects all areas of nutrition and dietetics practice.

Individual members and the Academy need to work together to create and pursue opportunities that will help advance nutrition and dietetics practitioners to higher levels of PH leadership. In order to achieve our envisioned future, the work on the motion outcomes will continue over the next 3-5 years, and even beyond to advance leadership roles in PH.

Mary Kay continues to be a viable resource and active participant in all areas reflective of RPG's focus.

Public Policy and MNT/Reimbursement:

For the 2017-2018 year the RPG Policy and Advocacy Leader continues to work with the Academy's Senior Director, Government & Regulatory Affairs, Pepin Tuma Esq, to investigate RDNs diet order writing privileges with CMS in the dialysis setting. Mr. Tuma attended the EC Fall meeting to discuss this topic at length.

RPG was represented at the 2017 Public Policy Workshop. Forum articles continue to remain a priority to maintain member awareness.

PAL and Reimbursement Chair Reviewed proposed rules and provided input to

Academy for comment to CMS re: CY 2018 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Sept. 6, 2017 Eat Right Weekly featured RPG comments via Academy to CMS regarding Therapeutic Diet Order writing and ESRD QIP comments.

Policy and Reimbursement member survey completed with Donna Gjesvold, Reimbursement Chair, Melissa Prest, Electronic Media Manager and Melissa Clemons, RPG Webmaster; completed in December 2017. RPG showed further support of public policy issues by supporting ANDPAC with a financial donation.

RPG appreciates the collaborative efforts of Lois Hill and Donna Gjesvold 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.

Student Stipends: There were 6 student stipends awarded for FNCE® attendance from the 2017 Student Stipend Program:

- Melanie Palmer
- Lindsay Pappas
- Patricia Pauyo
- Tiffany Ray*
- Anna Smith
- Monal Velangi

Students were contacted in advance to congratulate and welcome with encouragement to attend the DPG Showcase.

*Tiffany Ray joined the RPG after attending the RPG showcase!

Awards: For 2017 the RPG Outstanding Service Award recipient was Joanne Cooke MS, RD, LD, CSR, CNSC. Joanne was recognized for her

continued work in advancing the field of nephrology nutrition. Joanne previously held the role of chair for the Renal Practice Group and prior to this, the position of Nominating Committee Chair; she has been a powerful resource to the RPG Executive Committee, and to the Academy, since 2000. She has contributed to the Renal Nutrition Forum and other practice group projects. Her experience with professional, work and volunteer activities have contributed to her wealth of knowledge. She has been serving our military veterans as an Advanced Level Practice Renal Dietitian at the VA Medical Center in Kansas City since 2007. She consistently strives to improve the lives of others through her significant contributions and innovations, presentations and publications. Joanne acknowledges the VA has advanced the role of Dietitians, and the VA supports her additional work with kidney projects for Innovation in Dietetics in Chronic Kidney Disease improving efficiency for patient care. Joanne has won many awards and recognitions, continues to seek the means of giving back to her community and profession. As stated in one of her letters of recommendation for Joanne: "Her work embodies the vision for our profession and she continues to be an inspiration for all dietitians." Joanne was awarded during the FNCE® week.

Academy Honorary Membership Award: The Awards Chair in conjunction with the previous RPG Chair, JoAnn Randazzo, had drafted a letter of support for Dr. Andrew Narva to be considered as an Academy Honorary Member in February 2017. Dr. Narva was selected for 2017 and this award was presented to Dr. Narva at FNCE® on October 23, 2017 during the Membership Showcase. Dr. Narva has shown unwavering support and mentoring of registered dietitian nutritionists and renal dietitians for the last 20 years. Dr. Narva has been dedicated to improving the nutrition care of underserved populations most at risk for chronic kidney disease with the Indian Health Service and the National Kidney

Disease Education Program at the National Institutes of Health.

Conference/Meeting Stipends in 2017-2018:

There were three stipend recipients to attend conference/meetings. The awardee is required to submit an article reviewing a session attended at the conference for publication in the Renal Nutrition Forum.

- Kristin Leonberg - \$350
FNCE® Chicago, IL
- Angela Jacobs - \$500
NKF Spring Clinical Meeting, Austin TX
- Marissa Claiborne - \$500
17th Congress of ISPD, Vancouver, Canada

Scholarship Awardee in 2017-2018: There were no scholarships applicants.

Leadership

RPG Executive Committee (EC) members continue to review Tasks associated with Goals and Objectives on the 2016 – 2019 Strategic Plan utilizing SWOT analysis to determine growth opportunities. RPG is on track to implement development of Strategic Plan carrying RPG's Mission and Vision in alignment with the Academy into 2020 through 2023.

Executive Committee Job

Descriptions/Responsibilities have been fully revised and in alignment with the RPG template. EC members were encouraged to take part in the revision throughout the year initiated at the transition meeting.

Dropbox use was utilized once again as a service that RPG pays for on a monthly basis. This service has been determined to be used for storage capabilities to utilize for storage/maintenance of record-keeping.

The RPG Organization Chart is updated to reflect internal growth. Positions have been added to promote and utilize member interests/assets, increase growth potential.

New positions added:

- Marketing & Communications Chair:
initial focus has been on branding and

development of resources to build the appearance of RPG throughout internal/external resources. Further developments exist in promotion of RPG and its resources to elevate RPG externally

- Professional Education Chair: provide oversight to the professional education resources available and identify needs assessment
- Professional Education CPEU Chair: manage CPEU timelines and documentation
- Volunteer Coordinator: allocate professional resources with identified EC needs

Professional Development and Resources

Publications:

Members receive a subscription to the "Renal Nutrition Forum" (RNF), published quarterly. RNF is a peer-reviewed publication 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 Desiree DeWaal, RNF Managing Editor and the editorial team: Hannah Norris, Michelle Bump, Brandon Kistler and Lynda March, 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 weekly or monthly dependent on level of importance to help members remain current on issues that impact their practice area. In addition, e-blasts have been increased this year as a means of advertising. RPG moderates LinkedIn, Twitter and Facebook groups to facilitate discussions

on key issues and to promote professional networking between members.

Website:

RPG's comprehensive website, <https://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 with 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 our Electronic Media Manager, Melissa Prest for her maintenance of the RPG website.

Social Media:

RPG's Facebook - *Renal Dietitians* – RPG and Twitter – @RenalRDNs, under the direction of our previous Social Media Chair, Kyle Lamprecht has steadily grown. This position has been filled with a new Chair as Kyle has been elected as Chair-Elect.

Members are encouraged to "Like" our Facebook page and "Follow" us on Twitter for instant access to the most current information and resources in the field of renal nutrition. RPG's Facebook community currently has 419 members and the RPG Twitter account has 274 followers.

Webinars:

Webinars are offered on the RPG website and provide 1 CPEU each; RPG members are provided a substantial discount. The EC has recruited Anna Roh to fill the role of the Webinar Chair whose activities coordinate with both the Professional Education Chair and Professional Education CPEU Chair. It is determined to revise/update the following webinars to maintain CPEU eligibility:

- Practical Tips – Providing Medical Nutrition Therapy in Chronic Kidney Disease Stages 3 and 4

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- 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

Note the following recorded CPEU webinar expires 01/20/2019

- MNT Business Transitioning from ESRD RDN to CKD RDN

The following webinars are available as a Members Only Exclusive:

- Nutrition and Standardized Language in Nephrology Nutrition
- Directing Patient Conversations Toward Meaningful Behavior Changes
- Directing Patient Conversations Toward Meaningful Behavior Changes, Part 2

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 PRC Chair, Nadiya Lakhani, is to submit requests for new materials. Potential new materials include pending revised clinical guidelines. Encourage to place advertisements of this service as an e-blast and in the Forum.

Patient Education:

The Patient Education Committee is tasked with creating and updating patient education materials with a goal of including a new patient education handout in the most recent issue of the *Renal Nutrition Forum*. The

dedicated team, under the direction of Jennifer Parker, 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 2017-2018 include:

- Preventing Calcium Oxalate Kidney Stones
- Preventing Uric Acid Kidney Stones and Gout
- Making Sense of Phosphorus
- Making Sense of Phosphorus, Spanish
- Eating Well
- Eating Well, Spanish
- Resources for Eating Well

RPG continues to partner with the Council on Renal Nutrition (CRN) to update the National Renal Diet series, pending completion following publication of CKD Guidelines. RPG is working with the Council on Renal Nutrition (CRN) on future collaborations, mentioned elsewhere in the report (SOP/SOPP), Clinical Guide to Nutrition Care in Chronic Kidney Disease. Committee members on the National Renal Diet series:

- Jennifer Parker – RPG
- Rachael Majorowicz – RPG
- Lynn Munson – RPG
- Judy Kirk – CRN
- Janelle Gonyea – CRN
- Jean Stover - CRN

It is determined by the EC committee the Patient Education Chair position, with the addition of the Professional Education Chair, will not be a voting position and will potentially rotate between Patient Education Committee Leaders which under the guidance of Jennifer Parker, has grown. Currently there are 6 committee members meeting the goal of committee expansion.

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RPG Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo™
(FNCE®) 2018 Chicago, IL October 21-24, 2017
RPG's attendance at FNCE® was 201; 170
were early bird registrants.

Spotlight Education Session: The Spotlight Session entitled "Approach to Malnutrition and Low Protein Diets in Progressive Kidney Disease" was a Level 3 session meeting Learning Codes 5340, 5030 and 5090 and offered 1.5 CPEUs.

Speakers : Dr. Kam Kalantar-Zadeh
Kristin Leonberg, MS, RD, CSR, LD/N
Moderator: Sarah Trist MS RDN LDN

Networking:

FNCE® networking events included attendance at the Foundation's First Party of the Second Century at the Crystal Garden at Navy Pier; 15 RPG members attended the event. Additional networking occurred at the RPG booth during the DPG/MIG Showcase.

Second Century Liaison/Historian:

Mary Kay Hensley fulfilled the role of this position that had been created to coordinate RPGs participation in the Academy's Second Century Celebration. Mary Kay has continued share the Academy's vision and strategies, looking forward to the next 100 years with RPG members through a column in the RNF with an emphasis on RPG's own 40th anniversary milestone. This position terminated June 1 2018.

New Member Benefit: Natural Medicines Database:

RPG members now have free access to the Natural Medicines Database by way of the Resources tab on the RPG website. This database will include evidence-based information on the safety and effectiveness of more than 1,400 natural medicines and 93,000 commercially available products.

Collaboration with Other Organizations

- National Kidney Foundation/Council on Renal Nutrition (CRN)

- SOP/SOPP to be reviewed and determine the necessity of revision
- *Clinical Guide to Nutrition Care in Kidney Disease, Third Edition* has 3 co-authors: Stacey Phillips (RPG), Michelle Bump (RPG) and Janelle Gonyea (CRN)
 - The current deadline is a Fall 2020 goal
 - New with this edition will be the option of continuing professional education credits (RDs & RDNs)
- American Association of Kidney Patients (AAKP)
 - EC continues to partner with AAKP in the review of the AAKP Delicious! Recipe cards
 - Three complete sets were favorably reviewed during 2017-18

Meetings with RPG Representation:

- RPG Executive Committee Transition Meeting
- Academy House of Delegates
- Council on Renal Nutrition
- National Kidney Foundation Spring Clinical Meeting
- Academy Public Policy Workshop
- Illinois Dietetic Association
- Kentucky Dietetic Association
- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics MQii Learning Collaborative

RPG Donations/Support

- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation
- FNCE® Student Stipends
- ANDPAC
- Second Century Campaign
- Research Funding
 - EC committee has voted to allocate the remaining \$7,000 of the original \$18,000 that was provided to Academy RISA for the Renal Staffing Project which had been concluded, to the new project "Validating the

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Malnutrition Clinical Characteristics for Adult and Pediatric Acute Care Inpatients". Key contact for this project focusing on malnutrition/staffing is Elizabeth Yakes Jimenez, PhD, RD, LD.

- RPG EC has voted favorably to provide financial support for the Measuring Implementability & Efficacy of Evidenced Based Practice Guidelines for CKD project in May 2018.

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 our advertising editor, Clarina Kennedy, for working with the advertisers.

- Keryx Biopharmaceuticals, Inc
- Fresenius Medical Care of North America (Compas)
- Sanofi Renal
- Relypsa, Inc

Financial Outcomes

Revenue: \$95, 341, increased from the previous year: \$79,259

Expenses: \$104, 291, decreased from the previous year: \$116,706

2017 – 2018 Executive Committee

Chair

AnnaMarie Rodriguez, RDN, LD

Chair-elect

Sara Erickson, RD, CSR, LDN

Immediate Past Chair

JoAnn Randazzo MS, RD, CDN

Secretary

Vacant/Sara Erickson, RD, CSR, LDN

Treasurer

Sandra Daws, RDN, LD

House of Delegates Member

Mary Kay Hensley, MS, RD, CSR

Nominating Committee

Judith Heath, MS, RD, LD, FAND
Pamela Kent, MS, RD, CSR, CDE, LD

Membership Services Chair

JoAnn Randazzo, MS, RD, CDN

Awards and Reimbursement Chair

Vacant/Anna Roh, MS, RD, LDN

Second Century Liaison/Historian

Mary Kay Hensley, MS, RD, CSR

Professional Resource Center Coordinator

Nadiya Lakhani, RD, CSR, LD

Volunteer Coordinator

Kelsey Schoenbacher, MS, RD, LD

Marketing Communications Chair

Stacey Phillips, MS, RD

Professional Education Chair

Sarah Cunningham, MS, RD

Webinar Chair

Anna Roh, MS, RD, LDN

Professional Education CPEU Chair

Nancy Giles Walters, RDN, CSG, LDN

Patient Education Chair

Jennifer Rose Parker, RD, LDN

Patient Education Committee

Valerie Hannahs, MS, RD, LD
Rachael Majorowicz, RD, LD, FNKF
Susanna Slukhinsky, RD, CSR, CDN
Emily Sue Hicks, MS, RDN, LD
Beth Egan, MS, RD, LDN

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