

**Northern California Pain Initiative  
Advisory Council Conference Call  
July 12, 2004, 5-6 pm**

**Summary Notes**

**Present:** Donna Anderson, Mary Bennett, Dr. Mark Blum, Ben Rich, Penney Cowan, Dr. Marcia Grant, Dr. Kathy Keller, Deborah Leary, Dr. Don Lyman, Bill Marcus, Rhonda Nichols, Beverly Nicholson, Paul Riches, May Sung, Rita Yakubik

**Absent:** Dr. Andrew Bertagnolli, Judy Citko, Dr. Barry Cole (in China), Dr. Diane Fink, Dr. Thurman Hunt, Dr. Lori Reisner, Tricia Wynne, Rita Yakubik

**Call to Order** - Donna Anderson, Chair, called the conference call to order. The summary notes of the May 10<sup>th</sup> conference call was reviewed and accepted.

**Staff Update:**

- NCPI members congratulate Paul Riches and his wife on the recent birth of their daughter Kate and welcome Paul back.
- May Sung was invited by AACPI to represent NCPI on the newly formed National Pain Field Council. May reports that the first face to face meeting was held on June 17<sup>th</sup>. The council was formed to solidify ACS's institutional commitment to pain management by providing a link to regional pain initiatives. Some of the action items will include providing a computer link from the ACS website to local initiatives, improving internal and external communication, developing a resource clearinghouse and improving the database content for access to pain resources at the National Cancer Information Center.
- May Sung attended the AACPI Annual Meeting in New Brunswick, June 17-19, representing NCPI, as unfortunately, no other members were able to attend. May reports that NCPI was recognized for its vigorous rejuvenation effort, which was summarized in a timeline format at the meeting in a poster presentation prepared by May Sung and Kathy Keller. Dr. Betty Ferrell of SCCPI received this year's Distinguished Service Award.
- May Sung reports that NCPI's application to the Lance Armstrong Foundation for a development grant has been denied. The Foundation's responded that though the NCPI's proposal was highly qualified, they received three times the number of applications they had anticipated. NCPI is invited to inquire about specific aspects after July 15<sup>th</sup>.
- May reports that a grant application was submitted to the Five Bridges Foundation for \$15,000 to support website development for NCPI.

### **Professional Education Subcommittee:**

- Beverly Nicholson summarized the results of the SB151 Audioconference held on May 19<sup>th</sup>. Pre-registrations were made for 400 lines, 285 of these were actually used with ~1300 listeners (multiple conference phone sites). MDs, RNs and pharmacists participated. Evaluations received indicated the quality of the information provided was excellent despite low volume audio. Paul Riches reports that the Board of Pharmacy website will soon have a streaming audio conference up on their website. Bill Marcus led the effort to develop an SB 151 fact sheet which has been emailed to advisory committee members.

*Action item:* All NCPI members are encouraged to facilitate distribution of the NCPI SB151 Fact Sheet to prescribers and others. Rhonda Nichols will offer it to CANP and ASPMN for distribution. Kathy Keller will contact Sam Roth at CMA and Judy Citko to distribute to the California Coalition for Compassionate Care. Marcia Grant will have it placed on the SCCPI website and in their newsletter.

- Kathy Keller reports encountering a few instances of ongoing confusion among prescribers and pharmacists regarding the requirements to comply with SB151, among them a misinterpretation of the need for security paper to record oral prescriptions received by a pharmacist.

*Action Item:* Members of NCPI Advisory Council are encouraged to continue to talk about SB 151 in the course of the presentations that they make.

- Several newspaper articles have been published recently regarding NCPI and its activities.

### **SCCPI Liaison Report:**

- Marcia Grant reports that SCCPI will be offering their Pain Resource Nurse Course September 8 – 10, 2004 at the City of Hope.
- Beverly Nicholson reports that Catholic Healthcare West will also be offering a course patterned after SCCPI's program but to include pharmacists on October 4, 5, and 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Marcia reports SCCPI's Annual Gala Fundraiser will be held October 6, 2004 at the Pasadena Hilton from 5:30 to 9:30 pm. Mary Bennett describes how this is a significant event where various institutions nominate their employee/pain champions for major recognition by SCCPI, which provides a source of pride and accomplishment for both the institutions and the honorees. Bill Marcus concurs with this observation, having been so honored in the recent past.

*Action item:* Investigate whether an NCPI representative can be invited to participate in the SCCPI Gala.

**510c3 status of NCCPI:**

- Rhonda Nichols reports she has prepared the certificate of dissolution for NCCPI, which now requires signatures. Penney Cowan inquires about federal regulations for dissolution of a non-profit.

*Action Item:* Kathy Keller and Rhonda will assure completion of the certificate of dissolution required by the state of California. Rhonda will investigate to see if any federal requirements need to be met.

**Additional business:**

- A face-to-face meeting is planned in Oakland for September 24<sup>th</sup>. This will be planned in more detail at the next conference call.

*Action item:* Develop agenda for face-to-face meeting. Some items to include are website development, completing strategic plan, membership committee recommendations, including all stakeholders from initial meeting.

- Penney Cowan described the Partners for Understanding Pain's activities planned for September which is designated as Pain Awareness Month. This will include making pain management kits available to healthcare practitioners, particularly nurses and pharmacists. There will also be a conference on September 16-18<sup>th</sup> in Sacramento that will feature Mike Rogers who will discuss HR 1963, the Pain Care Act among other activities.
- Next conference call is scheduled for Monday, August 9, 5-6 pm.