



**Beverly Nicholson, R.N., M.S., A.O.C.N.
Receives the Alliance of State Pain Initiatives
State Pain Initiative Champion Award**

Beverly Nicholson, R.N., M.S., A.O.C.N. received the State Pain Initiative Champion Award at the Annual Meeting of the Alliance of State Pain Initiatives (ASPI), June 23, 2007 in Boston. Beverly has served as Chair of the Northern California Pain Initiative (NCPI) from September 2005 to present, and served on the NCPI Advisory Council since 2004. She has provided intelligent, thoughtful, responsible and inclusive leadership that has enabled the growth of a relatively young pain initiative, a project of the American Cancer Society, California Division, Inc. Under Beverly's leadership, she worked with the officers group to develop "Operating Guidelines," similar to by-laws, to provide structure and formality to the operations of the NCPI. In 2006 Beverly conceived and championed an audio-conference project to increase the awareness of the American Pain Society's evidence-based pain guideline. She secured grant funds from the ASPI to conduct two professional education audio-conferences on the "**American Pain Society Guideline For the Management of Pain in Adults and Children: A Review of Key Evidence-Based Practice Recommendations.**" She led the project throughout the planning and implementation phases and secured CME sponsorship from Mercy San Juan Medical Center.

Prior to Beverly Nicholson becoming Chair of the NCPI Advisory Council, she served as Co-Chair of NCPI's Professional Education Committee in 2004-05. She played a critical role in planning and implementing the audio-conferences targeting health providers and prescribers about the 2004 law that eliminated triplicate prescriptions in California. Ultimately, the audio-conference, "**Senate Bill 151 – Changes in Controlled Substance Prescribing: What You Need to Know on January 1, 2005,**" co-sponsored by the California Board of Pharmacy, reached over 1,500 health providers and prescribers to inform and increase their understanding of this new law in California. Beverly supports the NCPI in other ways, such as representing the pain initiative at the annual meetings of the ASPI, and participated on a panel in 2005 to discuss rejuvenation of the NCPI. She faithfully chairs the monthly conference calls of the Advisory Council and elicits collaboration and participation from those who care about NCPI's mission and improving pain management practices, and she represents NCPI at other meetings and events.

Beverly is Oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist at Mercy San Juan Medical Center in Sacramento, California. She works with adult cancer patients providing consultation for pain, symptom management, and educational and psychosocial needs. She serves on the Palliative Care and Pain Consultation Team. She has volunteered for the American Cancer Society in many different capacities since 1978 serving on local, regional and division Boards, teams and workgroups in Ohio and California. In 1998 she was a recipient of the national American Cancer Society Lane Adams Excellence in Caring Award for Nurses (renamed Lane Adams Quality of Life Award). She is a member of the Oncology Nursing Society, and served as President of the Greater Sacramento Chapter 1996-1998.

The mission of the Northern California Pain Initiative is dedicated to promoting the right of all people to control their pain to maximize their quality of life. Beverly champions its mission and helps to deliver on the mission. Beverly Nicholson is highly deserving of the recognition of the State Pain Initiative Champion Award for all that she has done and continues to do.

ALLIANCE OF STATE PAIN INITIATIVES
1300 University Avenue, Room 4720, Madison, WI 53706
Phone: 608.265.4013 • Fax: 608.265.4014 • Web: www.aspi.wisc.edu

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