President's Message

I wanted to review the current resolutions which are up for discussion at National in October. We have gone from none to about nine encompassing clinical and educational areas. When reviewed at delegate orientation, several caused some lively discussion.

- Update definitions to assure consistent ED metrics:
  Since many entities are looking at ED throughput and times, this resolution recommends that ED metrics be consistent. Is the admit decision time when the patient arrives and the doc says "he's not going home, let's work him up"? Or when the admit order is actually written? What's the timeline for a boarded admitted patient? Three hours after admission? Four hours? Every facility seems to look at these times differently and as reimbursement frequently depends on how well you handle throughput, making sure everyone's times are consistent becomes important.
- ENA role in firearm safety:
  Quite a lively discussion resulted from this resolution recommendation. It advocates for national background checks, a 5 day waiting period and more and better education on firearm safety. We were unable to come to a concensus on how to vote as a NYS ENA delegation. The decision was to vote your conscience.
- Reduction in Prescription Drug Abuse:
  This resolution recommends development of better resources for:
    - Pain management using alternate methods for pain relief
    - Education about medication storeage and disposal
    - Encourage research on evidence based pain management
    - Collaborate to reduce the incidence of prescription drug recreational use and ODs.

  There was much discussion on the current use of the online program in which the provider can look up and individual and see what prescriptions have been given and when. This can generate a discussion with the patient that may include referral to a pain clinic or rehab. The question "with whom are we collaborating" was asked. No one seemed to have the answer, we'll have to wait to ask the writer's of this resolution.

- Promote more education on Mild TBI/Concussion. This resolution proposes that we update the current ENA position statement on Unintentional Sport and Recreational Injuries to recommend that EDs provide:
    - Pt education on post-concussive syndrome
    - Pt education on cognitive rest and RTP guidelines
    - ENA explore or develop an educational resource on mild TBI
- Use of Orientation Guidelines recommends an 'individual' use of the current guidelines. More and more new grads as well as RNs new to the specialty are being oriented in the ED, some with good results, many more not lasting more

than a year in the department. We currently have good orientation modules for ED orientation but need to identify best practice for:
- o Timelines – how long, who with, what's the outcome desired before being given an assignment alone.
- o How to deliver the needed content- online, classroom lectures, 1:1 or in a group?
- o Tracking progress- weekly meetings? With preceptor? Does the preceptor get a lesser assignment? Are they paid extra?
- Use of Nursing Protocols and Meaningful Use- another lively discussion, mostly supportive of this resolution even though it will not effect NYS as RNs are not allowed to use protocol orders. The resolution recommends that the current ENA position statement on nursing protocol orders be revised to include identifying the Emergency RN as a licensed health care provider and verbiage written regarding the entry of protocol orders into the EMR.
- Support for the development of a National Trauma System.
- Support for the standardization of ED codes nationwide. This is already a recommendation from The Joint Commission and will make it much easier to orient new staff if they are already familiar with the codes, being all the same.

I am looking forward to General Assembly; it is always interesting to watch our board and peers make the system work. If you are coming to the conference but not as a delegate, take a few minutes to observe the process, all are welcome to watch and learn how our association works. See you there?

Ginnie