From the Boardroom...

Our recent 34th Annual Convention in Chicago was a huge success; even Mother Nature cooperated. We could be outside without coats any time, day or night, and be comfortable. As anticipated, all of our speakers were warmly received and there was a chance for every attendee to learn something new to take home to his or her practice, no matter what the setting.

ASPSN day at the McCormick Convention Center drew very positive comments. While we all enjoy the convenience of having our educational sessions at the hotel where most of us are staying, the majority of us were on the shuttle bus early to enjoy an entire day at McCormick. Everyone appreciated the chance to visit the exhibition hall at an unhurried pace, and exhibitors were very pleased to see so many nurses present. This was an excellent opportunity to promote the presence of ASPSN.

The Board sincerely thanks our Scientific Session Co-Chairs Pat Terrell and Georgia Elmassian and their committee for planning such a splendid program. Thanks also to all of our sponsors and partners: ASPS; Marena; Allergan Medical; Advanced Bio-Technologies, Inc.; Medicis Aesthetics; Mentor; Bioform Medical, Inc.; Dermik Laboratories; and Sanofi-Aventis/Dermik. Our Spooktacular Monster Mash Ball on Friday evening was a howling success. As you have contact with your reps from any of these companies, please give them your appreciation for their support of ASPSN.

Claudette Heddens, MA, BSN, ARNP, CPSN
Immediate Past President

As your new president for 2009, I’ve centered my vision around collaboration. Open communication and a willingness to accept input from others is the key. I invite each of you to ask for assistance from ASPSN to enhance your plastic surgery nursing career. We all have different focuses within the field and yet we have a common place to come together to share. This was evident at the interactive roundtables in Chicago. It was amazing to me how common our problems were within these specific roundtables. How wonderful to sit together and discuss ideas, solutions that worked, and those that didn’t work so well. You can bet you will see more of this type of collaboration in Seattle. I encourage your activism in ASPSN. Let us hear about your needs and how we can collaborate with you.

LuAnn Buchholz, RN, CPSN
President

Comment Box

ASPSN is interested in the ideas and suggestions members have for the newsletters. Your active involvement is not only vital to the quality of this newsletter, but member participation will also best direct ASPSN toward the interests and professional needs of members.

So send us your wish list for what you’d like to see in the newsletter in 2009: e-mail ASPSN News Editor Susan Lamp at susan.lamp@osumc.edu or Doug Moon at the ASPSN National Office at doug.moon@dancyamc.com.
Save the Date

The 6th Annual Aesthetic Symposium of the American Society of Plastic Surgical Nurses will be held in conjunction with the American Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons annual meeting the first week of May in Las Vegas, Nevada. The format of the meeting will be different this year due to the meeting location. There will be workshops held by the ASAPS beginning on Saturday, May 2, and extending through Monday, May 4, for nurses who wish to attend. The annual aesthetic symposium of ASPSN will be on Tuesday, May 5. There will also be other sessions available through ASAPS for nurses as well. Our host hotel will be the Mandalay Bay. Look for more information in the future and for your registration information that will be mailed by ASAPS. For more information, contact me at marcia.spear@vanderbilt.edu.

Hope to see you there!

Marcia Spear

The 31 Flavors of Fillers: How Do We Choose?

Contact Hours: 1.0*

Presented by:
Shannon Quante, BSN, RN

Sponsored by:
Melicis

Objectives:
Identify factors contributing to aging and how to assess; list common indications for dermal fillers; identify current fillers available on the market and clinical indications for each.

Please visit the ASPSN website for more information – www.aspsn.org

* This continuing nursing education activity was approved by the Georgia Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.
Plastic Surgical Nursing News and Resources

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers About Malpractice Insurance

How much malpractice insurance is enough? There is no comprehensive database that provides any useful guidance on how much malpractice insurance is enough to cover damage awards and expenses of litigation. There are too few cases against nurses practicing in dermatology to provide any specific guidance for nurses in that specialty. To give you an idea of various circumstances, jury awards, and settlements in malpractice cases against nurse practitioners, three case examples follow.


ASPS 2008: Fat Injections Can Improve Breast Reconstruction, Study Shows

Autologous free fat grafting to the breast in 21 patients safely and effectively corrected defects in soft tissue and contour that resulted from postmastectomy reconstruction using an implant, a new study found.

"Patients were uniformly satisfied with the results, as well as the side benefit of abdominal 'liposuction'," said lead author Gregory R. Scott, MD, a plastic surgeon with Kaiser Permanente Medical Center, San Diego, California, referring to the fact that the fat was harvested from the abdomen in all patients. "Results have been very longstanding."


ASDS 2008: Intense Pulsed Light More Effective in Treating Photodamage Than Pulsed Dye Laser

Intense pulsed light (IPL), alone and with blue light, appears to be much better than pulsed dye laser (PDL) in treating patients with photodamage, according to results from a 4-way comparison study presented here at the American Society for Dermatologic Surgery 2008 Annual Meeting.

During her presentation, Jill Waibel, MD, from Palm Beach Esthetic Dermatology and Laser Center, in West Palm Beach, Florida, said that although many light sources have been used to activate 5-amino-levulinic acid (ALA), "the big question...[is]: Which one is the best? And I think there's been no consensus on that. So we wanted to find out, in our private practice, what would give us the best clinical results. Our objective was to prospectively study 4 different combinations of light sources in the treatment of both AK [actinic keratoses] and photodamage."


Obama Wins: What It Means for Healthcare

Tuesday’s election of Democrat Barack Obama ushers in a new administration that is all but certain to include some level of health care reform. Less clear is how extensive that reform will be and when it will come.

The Illinois senator has proposed sweeping changes in the health care system designed to provide health coverage to millions of uninsured Americans.

But experts tell WebMD that the current financial crisis makes sweeping change unlikely any time soon.

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