

SANPPAA Quarterly Newsletter

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September 2011

Greetings Sacramento Members,

I can't believe the summer is over and the new year for our chapter has begun!! I look forward to seeing some of you at the upcoming dinner meeting next week at Mulvaney's B & L. The Sacramento board of directors is hard at work to make this next program year a success one. We will be sending out a survey this month in order to hear from members on what they envision for the Sacramento Chapter and how the board can improve. We you receive the survey, please take the time to fill it out and give us your feedback.

The biggest goal the board has for the chapter this year is to establish committees. We see this as a means for members to get involved with the chapter in a small way. The time commitment should be small. In this manner, members will get a better understanding of how your local chapter and state organization operates. The following are the committees we would like to establish with 4 persons, which would include the chair.

1. Education – planning monthly dinner

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Calendar of Events

Educational Events for 2010-2011

September 13, 2011
October 12, 2011
November 8, 2011
December 14, 2011
January 10, 2012
February 8, 2012
March 13, 2012
April 11, 2012
May 8, 2012
June 13, 2012

Please check the [CANP- Sacramento Chapter](#) website for details.

BOD Meeting: Next BOD Meeting Sunday, November 13, 2011 time 12-3 PM, place to be determined.

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- meetings
2. Scholarship – reading applications and recommending a recipient for the scholarship to BOD
 3. Membership – membership recruitment and retention
 4. Public Relation – coordinate public events and promote image and reputation of NPs and CANP. Coordinate outreach to local NP programs.
 5. Finance – developing and presenting the annual budget to the membership
 6. By-law – writing resolutions for the local and state organization and reconciling bylaws from the HOD
 7. Nominating – establishing a BOD ballot for the membership to vote on

8. Legislative Advocacy – occasionally attend local events at the request of CANP leadership such as fundraisers, stakeholder meetings and legislative hearings.
9. Student Representatives – update the BOD and membership on issues effecting students

If you are interested in learning more about the committees or joining one, please contact me via email and I'll answer any questions you may have. Legislatively, a lot is happening and I've attached the legislative report prepared by your legislative co-chair, Sandy Schmeck.

My hope is to lead the Sacramento Chapter into the next phase and expand the ability of members to have a voice and be involved on the local and state level.

Thank you,
Sheri Rickman Patrick, FNP MSN
President
CANP-Sacramento Chapter

Legislative Advocacy Report

August 28, 2011

Co Chairs- Sandy Schmeck MSN, FNP, Elisa Savageau NP

SAVE THE DATE- LOBBY DAY IS FEBRUARY 28 2012 SACRAMENTO CA

Below are the issues that are at the forefront of interest of NP's nationally and at the state level.

Federal Legislation

There are three key pieces of federal legislation that directly affect NP practice.

After much discussion with the staff at the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), they have expedited their state plan amendment processes and are now granting Medi-Cal provider numbers to nurse practitioners, which will allow NPs to bill directly for services provided, rather than under a physician's number.

AB 1591, Chan, Chapter 719, Statutes of 2006 requires DHCS to permit a certified nurse practitioner to bill Medi-Cal independently for his or her services. Further, the statute requires that the Department make payment directly to the certified nurse practitioner if he or she bills independently for his or her services. 14132.41 (b) defined "certified" as "nationally board certified in a recognized specialty". The **code does not limit or specify** which certifications will be recognized or accepted by Medi-Cal.

DHCS issued this provider bulletin with more detail implementing this change -- see item #17 referenced at this link:

<http://files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/bulletins/artfull/cah201106.asp>

NPs wishing to bill Medi-Cal should contact the DHCS provider enrollment staff to obtain a provider number. This is big news for NPs and a big victory for CANP since our pushing is what moved the Department to implement.

S227 The Health Care Planning and Improvement Act of 2011 which would authorize NPs to order home health care services without documentation from a physician. Need to reach out to Congress to amend language to include NPs.

S56 the Medicaid Advanced Practice Nurse and Physician Assistant Act of 2011. This bill would remove the states discretion for recognizing NPs as primary care providers in the **Medicaid Managed Care Programs.** While NPs are, and have been, recognized as providers in the fee for service portions of the Medicaid and other health care programs, problems are still being experienced in Medicaid Managed Care Programs. Click here to send letter <http://www.capwiz.com/aanp/issues/alert/?alertid=30621501>. Or you can call the senators directly. Please look up your legislators within your districts to submit your letters of support.

California State Legislation

SB 393 – Medical Homes. The family physicians have accepted our offer to co-sponsor this bill with them. They have also extended this offer to the physician assistants, so we will be part of a nice coalition. A letter indicating our support/co-sponsorship of the bill was prepared and will actively lobby the bill. Bill amended language c/w federal legislation.

STATUS: Based upon amendments that were put into the bill by the Assembly Appropriations Committee, the California Academy of Family Physicians, and the lead sponsor of the bill, has decided to make the bill a **two-year bill**. From a process perspective, this means the bill will not move again until January. They are hoping to make changes to the bill – they do not like, and did not agree to; the amendments the committee included. They are hoping to engage in negotiations over the fall in hopes of revising the language again. CANP will continue to be involved in these discussions and negotiations but the bottom line is that the bill will not go to the Governor this year.

SB 635 – Increased funding for primary care workforce training. This bill would increased the funding that is available for the Song-Brown Program, which provides financial support to students in designated nurse practitioner programs throughout the state. The bill is being carried by Senator Ed Hernandez, who you will recall is a strong supporter of nurse practitioners, having carried CANP’s scope of practice bill a few years back. I recommend that CANP actively SUPPORT this bill.

SB 65 – Allows for non-medical personnel to assist students in administering prescription pancreatic enzymes in the case where a school nurse is not available. Recommend CANP adopt an OPPOSE position.

SB 161 – Allows for non-medical personnel to administer Diastat to pupils who may be having epileptic seizures when a school nurse is not available. Recommend CANP adopt an OPPOSE position.

SB 233 is a bill sponsored by the PA’s to clarify that they can practice in Emergency Rooms. Initially our political lobbyist suggested amended language to include nurse practitioners as well to ensure that the PA’s were not expanding their scope beyond that of an NP and to ensure that the absence of NPs is not interpreted to mean that the Legislature believes that NPs should NOT be working in emergency rooms. Since that time new developments emerged, inconsistent with initial intent of bill. (CANP recommends neutral position).

AB 396 is a bill which would allow the State of California to draw down federal matching funds for health services provided by DHS to underage youths from juvenile detention centers and probation camps. It would prohibit a juvenile detainee who is an inpatient in a medical institution from being denied Medi-Cal eligibility because of his or her status as a detainee of a public institution.

Every month we try to bring national/ local information to the forefront that is of interest to our membership. Thank you for allowing Elisa and I serve as your conduits for information that affect NP’s.