



The FAPHN VOICE

MARCH 2008

VACCINES: BAFFLING TOPIC FOR PARENTS

Florida Association
of Public Health
Nurses, Inc.

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March 2008

Special points of interest:

- *Board and Officers Take Action.*
- *4th Qtr Members*
- *News Release*

Children today receive more vaccines than their parents did. Parents worry that the medical industry has doubled the amount of vaccines and worry whether this is safe for the children. Parents with children who have autism believe the vaccines are somehow related to autism.

Vaccines are “among the greatest achievements of biomedical science and public health”, according to Roush et al JAMA 2007; 298:2155-2163> The number of cases of most vaccine-preventable diseases is at an all time low in the United States. JAMA report 2007 records “a greater than 92% decline in cases and a 99% or greater decline in deaths due to diseases prevented by vaccines recommended before 1980 for diphtheria, mumps, pertussis, and tetanus.” The report continues stating that “endemic transmissions of polio, measles, and rubella have been eliminated in the United States. Smallpox has been eradicated worldwide. Declines were 80% or greater for cases and deaths of most vaccine-preventable diseases targeted since 1980 including hepatitis A, acute hepatitis B, Hemophilus influenza type b, and varicella.”

Is there a connection between autism and vaccines? According to pediatrician Dr. Robert Sears, a member of Orange County, California’s famous pediatrician family, “pretty much every parent with an autistic child in my experience does believe that the vaccines are related.” Dr. Sears states in his book, “The Vaccine Book” that “there are a few research studies that show there may be a link; however there are research studies that have tried to prove a link but have not proven a link.” To date, according to a March 7, 2008 document from Dr. John Middaugh with the Florida Department of Health, 16 scientific studies have found no association between childhood immunization and autism. Ten of these same studies found no association between the MMR vaccine and autism; six found no association between thimerosal and autism. The Institute of Medicine released a report in May 2004, addressing this concern of vaccines and autism. This report found that neither thimerosal nor the MMR vaccines are associated with autism.

The State of Florida under the leadership (continued on page 3)

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Sharon Surrency

Hello again, fellow nurses!

I hope this finds you well and energized as we enter into the Spring season. FAPHN has been working hard on your behalf as you will see by several reports in this edition regarding advocacy and planning for our upcoming year and annual conference.

We are in serious need for knowledgeable, willing nurses to step up to the plate and serve in the FAPHN organization. Your experience and know-how is too hard to come

by to let it lapse in a way that others can not utilize your talents. **We need:**

- Board members
- Officers
- Committee members and especially chairpersons to pull the committees together
- Volunteers to help on projects

I see FAPHN as a vessel that we can use to promote nursing in public and community health and is essential as an advocate for local and national action to support us in our mission. We seem to be one of only 5 public health nursing associations in the country. Massachusetts, Connecticut, West Virginia, Colorado, and New Jersey have Associations and I am so proud that Florida is ranking right up there with them! We have to roll up our sleeves now and get to the hard tasks of planning a conference and getting a new slate of officer and board members!

We have been blessed with the opportunity to support the Association of State and Territorial Directors (ASTDN) as they meet in Orlando on May 3-5. FAPHN entered into a contract to assist them in the operation of their conference by providing supportive services. This enables us to promote FAPHN to all the attendees and to get our name out there for all to see. My thanks to those volunteers who have already jumped in and offered to help! You are my heroes!!

I look forward to seeing each of you on **July 29th** in **Orlando** at the **Omni Champions Gate Hotel** as we celebrate another year together with the theme "**Champions for Public Health Nursing**". We will keep you posted on our progress in planning the convention. Watch for our **SAVE the DATE** e-mail. Until then, have a safe Easter and Spring season and I wish the best for you and your families!! **Sharon**

FAPHN's LEGACY TASK FORCE

This task force was formed to develop the infrastructure necessary to capture historical information about public health nursing and nurses in the state of Florida. Chairperson Dr. Katherine Mason has a committee of passionately interested and supportive persons to help FAPHN achieve this goal. The immediate task of

the is committee was to develop the tools to accomplish the mission. A set of purposes and goal statements, resource list development and agenda are in various stages of completion. The list of participants is growing however kudos to the initial planners. Working with Dr. Mason are Marie McMillan, Dr. Kim Curry, Historian Toni Johns and Christine Ardalan

Templates for collecting oral history are being reviewed by the Task Force Members along with information obtained from the National Association of Oral Historians.

If any of you have pictures, stories, information to share, please contact the Task Force members mentioned in this article or any of the Officers or Board Members.

VACCINES: BAFFLING TOPIC FOR PARENTS

(continued from page1)

of Governor Crist, established the Task Force on Autism Spectrum Disorders to address the immediate and long term issues such as diagnosis, screening, treatment, counseling and coping skills, access to services, assistance in obtaining services, financing and insurance coverage to name a few. This task force plans to address long term economic impacts, coordination of provider services, and case management.

The Centers For Disease Control (CDC) in response to widespread media coverage regarding autism and childhood vaccines held a teleconference March 6, 2008 to address the issues of vaccine safety. Dr. Gerberding of the CDC stated that "Immunization is life saving. CDC is adamant in reaffirming current vaccine recommendations for all children."

CHILDHOOD and ADOLESCENT VACCINE SCHEDULE

Source: American Academy of Pediatrics

- **Hepatitis B (HepB):** Birth; 1-2 months; 6-18 months
- **Rotavirus (Rota):** 2 months, 4 months, and 6 months
- **Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis (DTaP):** 2 months; 4 months; 6 months; 15-18 months; 4-6 years; 11-18 years
- **Haemophilus Influenza type b (Hib):** 2 months; 4 months; 6 months; 12-15 months
- **Pneumococcal (PCV):** 2 months; 4 months; 6 months; 12-15 months
- **Inactivated Poliovirus (IPV):** 2 months; 4 months; 6-18 months; 4-6 years
- **Influenza (Flu):** yearly from 6 months to 5 years
- **Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR):** 12-15 months; 4-6 years
- **Varicella (Chickenpox):** 12-15 months; 4-6 years
- **Hepatitis A (HepA):** two doses 12-23 months
- **Meningococcal (MCV4)** 11-12 years
- **Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (Tdap):** 11-12 years
- **Human Pappillomavirus (HPV):** 3 doses to females 11-12 years

FAPHN BOARD TAKES ACTION AGAINST PROGRAM "Eli Stone"

On January 29, 2008, FAPHN sent a letter to the American Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) informing them of FAPHN's concerns with ABC's plan to broadcast a new show "Eli Stone". The first episode contained misleading information that could cause harm to infants and children while misleading the parents of these children. This episode would depict that parents should forego safe and effective vaccinations for their children based on the incorrect premise that vaccines cause autism. FAPHN's letter emphasized, *"The misinformation the Eli Stone script communicates to viewers about vaccine safety of childhood vaccines is irresponsible and dangerous. This information could make parents so fearful that they won't immunize their children and the United States and other countries could see a rise in life-threatening diseases, as rates of childhood immunizations decline."* The letter continued expressing FAPHN's knowledge of and empathy concerning autism and closed with, *"Please do not allow this episode to be viewed on January 31, 2008."*

1st QUARTER NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Bonard, Shirley [LPN]
Ferrol, Paula [LPN]
Figueroa, Tonia [LPN]
Hamblin-Simander, Karen [LPN]
Levonian, Catherine
Mildrum, Joanne [LPN]
Shaw, Beverly [LPN]
Sin, Adriana [LPN]
Stutz, Elizabeth [RN]
Van Toi, Donna [LPN]
Weber, Kathleen [LPN]
Wilson-Gallares, Debra [LPN]

FULL MEMBERSHIP

Albers-Tena, Kris [RN]
Andrews, Cheri L. [RN]
Breedon, Danna [RN]
Cadenhead, Virginia [RN]
Cappelletti, Elizabeth [RN]
Craig, Susan [RN]
Curry, Kim [Ph.D, RN]
Dickerson, Catherine [RN]
Diggs, Amy [RN]
Doggett, Janice [RN]
Eaves, Tara M. [RN]
Edwards, Janet [RN]
Egdish, Robin [RN]
Evans, Roger [RN]
Gulley, Patricia [RN]
Hale, Peggy [RN]
Hanson, Patricia [RN]

Harder, Terri [RN]
Harris, Deborah [RN]
Heintz, Mary [RN]
Higgs, Joan E. [RN]
Laliberte, Marie [RN]
Lethqm, Meridith [RN]
Mangueira, Sheri [RN]
Marr, Kathleen [RN]
Mason, Stephen E. [RN]
Maydish, Barbara [RN]
McCarty, Mary Ann [RN]
McVey, Beverly [RN]
Mix, Connie [RN]
Navarro, Severa [RN]
Neasman, Annie [Ph.D-RN]
Nuland, Judith [RN]
O'Brien, Marian [RN]
O'Hara, Ann [RN]
Plese, Paula [RN]
Randell, Barbara [RN]
Roush, Connie S. [RN]
Schultz-Gonta, Mary J. [RN]
Stewart, Karen O. [RN]
Sumner, Deanna [RN]
Thompson, Charlotte [RN]
Thornell, Ann [RN]
Twarog, Judith M. [RN]
Vick, Stephanie [RN]
Waynaustas, Dawn [RN]
Whetsell, Cindy [RN]
Woods, Lana [RN]

SPECIAL THANKS AND APPRECIATION TO EACH OF YOU WHO PAID YOUR DUES AND TO THOSE WHO PLAN TO CONTINUE TO PAY DUES WHEN YOUR RENEWAL DATE ROLLS AROUND!

ALACHUA CHD LOOSES ADMINISTRATOR BELCOURE

After 36 years of public service, former Administrator in the Alachua CHD is moving on to those “envious” retirement years. Mr. Thomas Belcoure is noted for his many efforts to improve public health and especially his support of public health nursing and its issues and challenges. FAPHN wishes Tom Belcoure the best years yet to come and we thank him for his 36 years of energies and interest in public health nursing and public health nurses. Maybe, in the words expressed by FAPHN President Sharon Surrency, *“we can rely on your leadership as a consultant or educator in some fashion,”* Mr. Belcoure.

NEW REPORT ON NEED FOR PUBLIC HEALTH WORKERS

According to the Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH), in a statement released on Wednesday, February 27, 2008, more than 250,000 additional public health workers are needed by 2020 to avert a public health crisis. In order to address these significant shortages, ASPH is calling for an ***“increase in federal investment in public health education and training in addition to the coordination of a centralized enumeration effort to adequately understand current and future workforce needs.”*** ASPH held a briefing in the Capitol building on Wednesday, February 27, 2008, for interested press and legislative staff.

The assessment and related materials are available on-line at www.asph.org/shortage.

| JULY 2008 | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |

**SAVE THE DATES!!! MAKE YOUR PLANS
AND SAVE MONEY ON REGISTRATION!!!**

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES, INC.

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FAPHN is a publicly-supported tax-exempt charitable organization effective December 3, 2002 with notification from IRS September 15, 2006.. FAPHN is the nonprofit educational organization responsible for providing leadership for the profession of public health nurses and promoting quality health care for consumers through educational programs for public health nurses, advocacy, and influencing public health practices in the State of Florida.

Contributions to FAPHN are deductible to the extent that they are gifts and no consideration is received in return. Ticket purchases and similar payments in conjunction with fundraising events may NOT qualify as fully deductible contributions.

FLORIDA SALES TAX Exemption: FAPHN received Certificate of Exemption which is good for 5 years.



Florida Association of Public Health Nurses, Inc.

P.O. Box 22994
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33335

E-Mail: membership@faphn.org

FAPHN Membership Application

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Street Address: (HOME) _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: (HOME) _____

(OFFICE) _____

E-Mail: (HOME) _____

Agency/Employer: _____

Agency Address: _____

Agency E-Mail: _____

Check Status: Annual dues for membership [one year from date of joining or renewal]

_____ Active RN: Full dues. \$50.00 Eligible for FAPHN benefits; Hold Board position. Voting privilege.

_____ Retired RN: Dues are half-price.\$25.00 All benefits of Active RN classification.

_____ Student RN: Half-price Dues May not hold Board position and may not vote.

_____ Associate: Half-price dues. Any individual or business entity interested in supporting FAPHN. Eligible to receive newsletter and reduced registration for conference Not eligible for Board position , to vote or receive mini-grants or scholarships.

School of Nursing: [Students] _____

Area (s) of Interest: .Serving on Board: _____ Yes _____ No
Attending Conferences _____ Y _____ N

Other Interests: _____

Thank you for your interest. Please mail your application with dues payment to address noted above.