



Breaking News. . .Specialized Geriatric Services

Welcome to the RGPc Newsletter. Breaking News brings you current information related to Specialized Geriatric Services (SGS) while offering our Regions a venue for sharing news, events and initiatives with others. If you have news that you would like to share across RGPc please email jhorvat@stpetes.ca

Special points of interest:

- Highlight on Niagara
- RGPc Update
- Additional News
- Recommended Reading List

Issue 5

January/February Newsletter 2005

Highlight on Niagara

The Second Annual RGPc/St. Peter's Geriatric Service Recognition Awards dinner will be hosted this May in Niagara. A large number of nominations has been received and the Planning Committee, consisting of representatives who have volunteered their time from SGS in Niagara, has been busy working to ensure it is a wonderful evening of inspiration and celebration for all.

Niagara Community Partners have met to formalize an Elder Abuse Protocol. Under the direction of the Regional Elder Abuse Consultant, the group is developing a one page laminate with a decision tree and referral information to guide professionals and care providers when dealing with cases of suspected abuse.

Be sure to mark Wednesday, September 28, 2005 off in your calendar as the Fall Conference, "Unraveling the Mysteries of the Brain", will be held at the Americana Resort and Conference Center. This Annual event is a partnership between the Alzheimer Society of the Niagara Region, Niagara Geriatric Mental Health Outreach Team, Geriatric Assessment Program and Niagara Regional Public Health.



Congratulations to the Case Managers from CCAC Niagara and Contract Service Agencies on their completion of the 2 day Community PIECES program. The program was well received and the newly established links will enhance the collaboration between the service providers and the Psychogeriatric Resource Consulting Services. As well, the PRC's would like to commend the Administrators and Supervisors who have committed to take part in the PIECES Enabler program. Day One of this two day program took place in early January. The second will be completed in February. At a time when LTC Facilities are busy preparing for the implementation of new Care Standards, they have allotted a great deal of time to participate in numerous educational, research and pilot projects. Special thanks to these facilities for their commitment and expertise in filming the educational component of the

Update from Niagara, continued...

MAREP/PRC Responsive Behaviour Project, and for their participation in the GPA (Gentle Persuasive Approaches) Pilot Project.

The Annual Alzheimer Society National Conference is set for April 7-9 in Regina Saskatchewan. Niagara will be well represented at this event by members of the Dementia Care Network, Alzheimer Society and Psychogeriatric Resource Consulting Services. These representatives will take part in presentations on the Acute Decompensation

Protocol, the Young Carers Initiative Niagara (YCIN) and the MAREP/PRC Research and Educational Project focusing on Responsive Behaviours in Long Term Care.

Thank you to Michele Bliss, Niagara Psychogeriatric Resource Consultant for providing updated information from Niagara.



**Next month:
Highlight on
Hamilton.**

If you have any highlights from the Hamilton area for the newsletter, please email jhorvat@stpetes.ca

News from the RGPc

Best Practice:

Thank you to the PRC's from each region who worked very hard over the past year to develop a poster based on Best Practice Guidelines called "**The Management of Challenging Behavior in Dementia Care**". This colorful and informational resource is now available and will be distributed by PRC's to interested SGS and LTC facilities. If you are interested in the poster, please email jhorvat@stpetes.ca for

more information.

Two years ago, the RGPc established a Best Practice Task Group to focus on the translation of research in to practice with a focus on topics relevant to SGS. A One-Minute Survey was developed and distributed throughout our seven regions to determine the key areas for action. Feedback indicated that the Management of Behaviour in Dementia was most relevant to respondents, followed

closely by Hospital Discharge and Risk Management.

The Task Group has finished its work on Dementia and, as per the survey feedback, is looking at hospital discharge and risk management as it relates to Transition Planning.

Education Strategy:

Last fall, the RGPc brought together Key Educators in SGS from across the

News from the RGPc, continued...

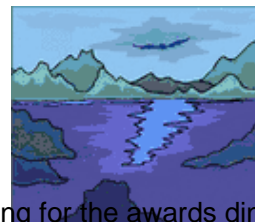
seven regions to begin a new Education Strategy to facilitate the sharing of geriatric resources across RGPc regions. It was determined that the best approach would be to focus on Education about one 'Geriatric Giant' topic per year. The focus for 2005 will be Delirium. Educational 'packages' will include a Delirium Resource Binder, Poster and newly developed Case-Based Scenarios for use in Long-Term Care settings. Through McMaster University, standardized patients will be trained against clinical scenarios. It is anticipated that this Education focus will kick off this spring.

Another exciting initiative for the RGPc involves collaborative work with the University of

British Columbia. Geriatricians from the UBC have developed a comprehensive Care for the Elderly curriculum and have shared this curriculum with the RGPc. They have asked the RGPc to evaluate the curriculum and, as part of this, we will be testing the content using Interdisciplinary teams at pilot sites across the region.

This is a wonderful capacity building exercise with very little cost at this stage. Some staff are planning to incorporate the curriculum as part of an orientation for new staff, build capacity for existing staff and/or link with the continuum of care partners to enhance overall planning for seniors. If interested, please contact Jenifer Horvat (905) 549-6525 ext. 12434.

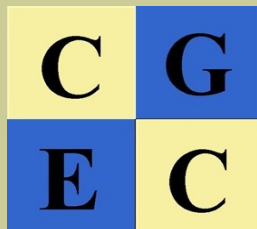
2nd Annual RGPc/ St. Peter's Geriatric Service Recognition Awards



Planning for the awards dinner is well underway. Representatives in Niagara have taken the lead in planning this years' event and are working hard to ensure it has a distinct Niagara flare - highlighting the best that the Region has to offer. The RGPc is working closely with them and is now forming a Selection Committee to review nominations and choose winners.

RGPC Education Calendar—for more information, visit the Education Calendar online at www.rgpc.ca
February 2005

M	T	W	T	F
	1 Between you & Me-Tips for communication with someone with AD	2 If Not Now, When? A Play about Aging		3
7 Info Session—Alzheimer Society of HN	8	9	10	11
14 Info Session—Alzheimer Society of HN	15	16 The effects of childhood sexual abuse on senior women Back injuries—transferring & repositioning	17 Regaining QOL after Stroke	18
21 Info Session—Alzheimer Society of HN	22	23	24	25
	28 Info Session—Alzheimer Society of HN Local Health Integration Networks—Transforming Healthcare in Ontario			



Long Term Care Resource Centre

January 2005 Reading List

**“When you absolutely positively have to know, ask a librarian!”
American Library Association (ALA)**

The medicine chest of the soul.

- Inscription over the door of the Library at Thebes.

Happy New Year from the Long Term Care Resource Centre.

- Booth, C.E. (2004) Water exercise and its effect on balance and gait to reduce the risk of falling in older adults. *Activities, Adaptation and Aging*, 28(4), 45-
- Rosenthal, K. (2004) The New look of IV therapy. *Nursing*, 35(12), 66-
- Hermans, M.H.E., Bolton, L. (2004) Clinical consultation: how do we manage critically colonized wounds? *Rehabilitation Nursing*, 29(6), 187-
- Siders, C. et al. (2004) Evidence for implementing nonpharmacological interventions for wandering. *Rehabilitation Nursing*, 29(6), 195-
- Evitt, C.E., Quigley, P.A. (2004) Fear of falling in older adults: a guide to its prevalence, risk factors, and consequences. *Rehabilitation Nursing*, 29(6), 207-
- Brillhart, B. et al. (2004) Safety concerns for rehabilitation nurses in home care. *Rehabilitation Nursing*, 29(6), 227-
- Lyons, K.S. et al. (2004) Pessimism and optimism as early warning signs for compromised health for caregivers of patients with Parkinson's Disease. *Nursing Research*, 53(6), 354-
- Clark, P.C. et al. (2004) Influence of stroke survivor characteristics and family conflict surrounding recovery on caregivers mental and physical health. *Nursing Research*, 53(6), 406-
- Nelson D. et al. (2004) Using a mentorship program to recruit and retain student nurses. *Journal of Nursing Administration*, 34(12), 551-
- Bernard, M. (2004) Overcoming ageism, one student at a time. *Geriatrics*, 59(12), 11
- Brown, U.K., Krunik, M.E. (2004) Behavioral disturbances in dementia: finding the cause(s). *Geriatrics*, 59(12), 32-
- Clark, A.P., Baldwin, K. (2004) Best practices for care of older adults: highlights and summary from the preconference. *Clinical Nurse Specialist*, 18(6), 288-
- Kleckner, C. (2004) A meaningful entrance: photo therapy as a psychotherapeutic intervention. *Journal of Psychosocial Nursing and Mental Health Services*, 42(11), 22-
- Aud, M.A. (2004) Dangerous wandering: elopements of older adults with dementia from long term care facilities. *American Journal of Alzheimer's Disease and other Dementias*, 19(6), 361-
- Zandi, T. (2004) Relationship between subjective memory complaints, objective memory performance and depression among older adults. *American Journal of Alzheimer's Disease and other Dementias*, 19(6), 353-
- Rousseau, P. (2004) The Ethics of palliative sedation. *Caring*, 23(11), 14-
- Reifsnnyder, J., Hoplamazian, L.M., Maxwell, T.L. (2004) Preventing and treating pressure ulcers in hospice patients. *Caring*, 23(11), 30-
- Hogstel, M.O. et al. (2004) Ethics committees in long term care facilities. *Geriatric Nursing*, 25(6), 364-

You see, I don't believe that libraries should be drab places where people sit in silence, and that's been the main reason for our policy of employing wild animals as librarians.

— Monty Python skit