

En Route Care Research Interest Group

Members of TSNRP's En Route Care (ERC) Research Interest Group (RIG) are beginning the team's work of advancing ERC with evidence-based practices and research, as well as facilitating related ERC research consultations. The RIG has created three subgroups: medical evacuation, patient safety, and pain management.

The Medical Evacuation subgroup, led by Dr. Lori Loan, has been researching the possibility of pre-hospital ketamine administration protocols while still in theater to decrease instances of phantom limb pain in amputees. The group has also discussed the need for further research on the most appropriate personnel expertise needed at the point of injury.

The ERC Patient Safety subgroup, led by Lt Col (sel) Susan Dukes, USAF, NC, has focused on aeromedical evacuation (AE). Proposals have been developed to enhance communication during patient hand-offs and to look at discrepancies surrounding medications and equipment in the AE environment.



Although the photo does not include all group members, these nurse scientists first met at AMSUS to lay the foundation for future work. Left to right: Capt Rowena Faner, Dr. Lori Loan, Col Elizabeth Bridges, Lt Col (ret) Karen Evers, Maj Jennifer Hatzfeld, Lt Col (sel) Susan Dukes.

The ERC Pain Management subgroup, led by Col Elizabeth Bridges, USAF, NC, has found that there are only three studies to date on ERC pain management, but there is now a published clinical practice guideline on pain management with standardized order sets. The group has discussed the need to continue conversation on the nursing-related and multidisciplinary research questions to be asked in this area. During a recent phone conference, RIG members from Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC) expressed interest in solving patient comfort concerns during transport from Andrews Air

Force Base to WRAMC in semi-sized ambulance vehicles on the uneven surfaces of the Capital Beltway.

The group congratulates RIG member and co-author MAJ Richard Morton, AN, USA, for his recent paper published in December's *Critical Care Nurse* on the Army's development of tactical trauma transport teams (*Critical Care Nurse*, 2010; 30(6), 57–66). Anyone interested in joining the ERC RIG is welcome and encouraged to contact Col Elizabeth Bridges at ebridges@u.washington.edu or Lt Col (sel) Susan Dukes at susan.dukes@wpafb.af.mil. ★

Calendar

May 2011

National Teaching Institute & Critical Care Exposition
2 – 5 May, Chicago, Illinois

Research Development Course
25 – 27 May, San Diego, California

June 2011

Application for the Graduate Research Award, Graduate Evidence-Based Practice Award, and Fast Track Award
due at TSNRP 1 June

Evidence-Based Practice Grant Camp
13 – 17 June, San Antonio, Texas

July 2011

Summer Institute on Evidence-Based Practice
30 June – 2 July, San Antonio, Texas

Deadline for abstract submission for the Karen A. Rider Federal Nursing Poster Session at AMSUS
due at AMSUS 30 July

August 2011

Letter of Intent for FY 2012 Funding Cycle A
due at TSNRP 2 August

Post-Award Grant Management Workshop
date TBD, location TBD

October 2011

Grant applications for FY 2012 Funding Cycle A
due at TSNRP 4 October

Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science (CANS) Special Topic Conference “Comparative Effectiveness and Patient-Centered Outcomes Research”
12 October, Washington, DC

November 2011

117th Annual Meeting of AMSUS (The Society of the Federal Health Agencies)
6 – 9 November, San Antonio, Texas