

Report on the first OlyAreaAP RoundTable

Julie Dybbro here, with a special report on the February 25th, 2010 RoundTable.

There were 14 of us in attendance and I think we all felt it was a great forum and something that should continue. Here are a few of the highlights:

1. Socializing and networking and catching up (the snacks were great).
2. Since one of the purposes of the RoundTable is to connect the talent of Advanced Practice Providers (APPs), we started off with everyone talking about our own areas of expertise. We identified the importance of networking and utilizing the skills within our group. In other words, lets promote APPs and when feasible, refer our patients to one another. We made a list of the talent in the room with the idea that keeping a current referral database on our website would be dandy. I will be in contact with our inimitable webmaster (Pat Sonnenstuhl) to figure out how to maintain such a database on our website.
3. The other vital thing that happened at the meeting was an update on some of the legislative and political things flying around that could significantly impact all our careers. There are several APPs that have a pulse on the political and they gave some highlights of what's in the air and how it might be important to keep it out of the water.
4. We had a very important discussion on the business side of being an APP (I am using this acronym loosely but cannot at present think of a better abbreviation that is all inclusive of Np's, PA's, CNM.s, DNP's, etc.). Everyone got real excited when we discussed that there is a lot of fun to be had by opening our own business or just promoting ourselves in a business-savvy way. There was a great deal of interest in exploring more business-related APP issues in the future.
5. Lastly, I gave an update on hormone therapy. I handed out the North American Menopause Society's (NAMS) recently released 2010 Position Statement on Hormone Therapy. This is a very important document that deals with the significant current research concerning the risks/benefits/side

effects/efficacy of hormone therapy. A must-read for anyone that prescribes or counsels patients on hormones. It is easily available and free on the NAMS website: www.menopause.org.

So in a nutshell: this RoundTable was all about networking, snacks, the talent within, hot flashes, and APPs going to the bank!

What's next: There were several people that wanted to host the next RoundTable. We forgot to pin down the next host so we just need the next volunteer to pick their topic, organize, and moderate the meeting. Let Pat Sonnenstuhl know the details so she can send out the announcement. Originally, we talked about doing these quarterly but I do not think there needs to be any sort of schedule or formality. Whomever wants to host the next one should pick their topic, pick a date, and people will come. We spent half the meeting networking and brainstorming and the other half on the topic of the day. It was great fun and super informative. Thanks to everyone for participating! Best, Julie Dybbro, ARNP