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Winter 2010 / Volume 28, Number 1

## Feature

### **The Historical Role of the Otorhinolaryngology Nurse Practitioner**

**Patricia M. Zarnitz RN, MSN, RNFA, CORLN, CRNP, BC-FNP**

The role of the Nurse Practitioner (NP) in the specialty practice of Otorhinolaryngology (ORL) continues to evolve. NPs work in a collaborative practice environment integrating nursing and the medical model. They engage in critical thinking skills, expert clinical practice, and professional leadership, and evaluate and conduct research. This article presents a literature review on the historical evolution of this specialty practice role. Examination of past and present roles in varied practice settings and diverse healthcare systems provide a historical perspective and the momentum necessary to chart future growth and development.

## Departments

### **Editorial: State of the Society**

Kari McConnell, RN, CORLN

### **Highlights of the 2009 SOHN 33rd Annual Congress and Nursing Symposium**

#### **Poetry Corner: Employee Termination**

Editor: Maggie Kramper, RN, FNP, CORLN

Author: Maggie Kramper, RN, FNP, CORLN

#### **Highlights from the Hill:**

##### **A Review of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009:**

##### **What is in it for Nursing?**

Editor: Janice Adams, BSN, MPA, NE-BC, CORLN

Reviewer: Janice Adams, BSN, MPA, NE-BC, CORLN

#### **Products of Interest: Product Modifications**

Editor: Carolyn Waddington, RN, MS, FNP-C, CORLN

#### **Media Review: Review of the Core Curriculum for Otorhinolaryngology and Head-Neck Nursing**

Editor: Linda K. Clarke, MS, RN, CORLN

Reviewer: Ann Luther, APN, ACNS-BC, CORLN

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Winter 2010 / Volume 28, Number 2

## Feature

### **Recommended Cleaning and Processing of Flexible Otolaryngology Endoscopes**

**Jan Adams, BSN, RN, MPA, NE-BC, CORLN**

**Karen Baker, MSN, RN**

Uncertainty about endoscope reprocessing in the Otorhinolaryngology (ORL) office setting continues today, especially regarding the care and cleaning of flexible endoscopes. In an effort to answer questions concerning how, when and how long to process endoscopes in the outpatient office, the Society of Otorhinolaryngology Nurses (SOHN) has partnered with the Association of periOperative Nurses (AORN) to establish standards for all Otolaryngology nurses to adopt and utilize, ensuring a safe and effective methodology for cleaning flexible endoscopes in the outpatient ORL office. This protocol has been approved by the SOHN Board of Directors as the recommended guideline for ORL nurses to follow when performing endoscope reprocessing in the outpatient ORL office.

## Departments

### **Editorial: Look Who's Getting Older**

Linda Schuring, MSN, RN

### **Gerontology-ORL: Cancer in the Lives of Older Americans**

Editor: Sarah H. Kagan, PhD, RN, CS, AOCN®

Author: Ann Sievers, RN, MA, CORLN

### **Products of Interest: High Level Disinfection Products**

Editor: Carolyn Waddington, MS, RN, FNP-C, CORLN

### **Media Review:**

#### **Putting evidence into practice: Improving oncology patient outcomes**

#### **Site-specific cancer series: Skin cancer. Pittsburgh: Oncology Nursing Society**

Editor: Linda K. Clarke, MS, RN, CORLN

Reviewer: Linda K. Clarke, MS, RN, CORLN

### **Poetry Corner: Reflection**

Editor: Maggie Kramper, RN, FNP, CORLN

Author: Stan Thawley, MD

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## Feature

### **Assessment of Oral Mucositis in Adult and Pediatric Oncology Patients: An Evidence-Based Approach**

**Michele Farrington, BSN, RN**  
**Laura Cullen, MA, RN, FAAN**  
**Cindy Dawson, MSN, RN, CORLN**

Oral mucositis is a frequent side effect of cancer treatment and can lead to delayed treatment, reduced treatment dosage, altered nutrition, dehydration, infections, xerostomia, pain, and higher healthcare costs. Mucositis is defined as “inflammatory lesions of the oral and/or gastrointestinal tract caused by high-dose cancer therapies. Alimentary tract mucositis refers to the expression of mucosal injury across the continuum of oral and gastrointestinal mucosa, from the mouth to the anus” (Peterson, Bensadoun, & Roila, 2008, p. ii122). Evidence demonstrates that oral mucositis is quite distressing for patients. In addition, the majority of oncology nurses are unaware of available guidelines related to the care of oral mucositis.

## Departments

### **Editorial: Nightingale Initiative for Global Health**

Linda Schuring, MSN, RN

### **Highlights From The Hill: Nurse in Washington 2010**

Editor: Jan Adams, BSN, RN, MRA, NE-BC, CORLN  
Author: Jan Adams, BSN, RN, MRA, NE-BC, CORLN

### **Article Critique: Evidence-Based Guidelines for the Definition and Management of Children with Acute Otitis Media**

Authors: Victoria T. Ellis, CRNP  
Kellye O. Jones-Ho, CRNP

### **Gerontology-ORL: Try This**

Editor: Sarah H. Kagan, PhD, RN, CS, AOCN®

### **Media Review: Reaching Past the Wire: A Nurse at Abu Ghraib I’ll Scream Later**

Editor: Linda K. Clarke, MS, RN, CORLN  
Reviewer: Linda K. Clarke, MS, RN, CORLN

### **Products of Interest: Updates and Recalls**

Editor: Carolyn Waddington, MS, RN, FNP-C, CORLN

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## Feature

### **Endoskeletal Ossicular Reconstruction Using the Kraus K-Helix Crown and Piston Middle Ear Prostheses**

**Eric M. Kraus, M.D., M.S., F.A.C.S.**

**Julia Y. Christopher, R.N., B.S.N.**

The Kraus K-Helix titanium middle ear prostheses are novel, newly designed ossicular replacement prostheses available in two versions, the K-Helix Crown and the K-Helix Piston. The prostheses have been developed for reconstruction of an eroded long process of the incus (incus-to-stapes) or completely absent incus (incus-to-footplate/oval window neo-membrane) during ossiculoplasty in chronic ears, non-chronic ears, or failed stapedectomy. Reconstruction is indicated to restore sound conduction of the ossicular chain during tympanoplasty.

## Departments

### **Editorial: See No Evil, Hear No Evil, Speak No Evil**

Linda Schuring, MSN, RN

### **Highlights From The Hill: What does the Healthcare Reform Act have to do with me? Plenty! Read On.**

Editor: Jan Adams, BSN, RN, MRA, NE-BC, CORLN

Author: Jan Adams, BSN, RN, MRA, NE-BC, CORLN

### **Gerontology-ORL: How to Manage Pain in the Elderly**

Editor: Sarah Kagan, PhD, RN

Reviewer: Erin M. McMenamin, MSN, CRNP, AOCN, ACHPN

### **Products of Interest: Ossicular Implants**

Editor: Carolyn Waddington, MS, RN, FNP-C, CORLN

Reviewer: Carolyn Waddington, MS, RN, FNP-C, CORLN

### **Media Review: Advancing oncology nursing science**

#### **Learning Site for Healthcare Professionals**

Editor: Linda K. Clarke, MS, RN, CORLN

Reviewer: Linda K. Clarke, MS, RN, CORLN

### **Poetry Corner: Silver Winters**

Author: Kerstin Parmley

Editor: Maggie Kramper, RN, FNP, CORLN