

September 13, 2006
4:00-6:00 pm

Present: Allentown: Julie Herbener, Tara Treadway, Jim Lemma, Amy Bernd, Pam Smith
Abington: Pip Shafer, Irina Brailovski

Welcome to Tara Treadway from LVH!

CEU activity: October 25, 2006. 4:00-6:00 on respiratory care issues. Speaker is confirmed; handouts from companies will be obtained. Pip will arranged for a VistaCom tech to be at Abington and at LVH on that day to troubleshoot the system. Flyers are done and approved by the CEU administrator and they will be sent out. We'll add the room #s to the flyers... PNG Room Abington and VTC Room LVH.

Info re: VistaCom: LVH can broadcast video to multiple sites. AMH can broadcast to one site. LVH can do 3. Other VistaCom facilities are Lancaster General Hospital and Hershey Medical Center. Jim has a call in to Hershey and is waiting for a call back. They are the only PA hospitals on the VistaCom system. AMH can only do point to point at present. Expansion of AMH service will depend on resolution of security issues.

We learned later - after the meeting from the LVH AV guys - that ANY facility with teleconferencing capabilities (VistaCom or not) can be used for teleconferencing if they have an ISTN line or an IP. We need to explore this.

Upcoming meetings:

Wednesday January 10 – planning meeting. This will be teleconferenced Allentown and Abington.. 4:00

Thursday March 8 – Food viscosity testing. A hands on activity with line spread testing to measure viscosity of thickened liquids. This will include discussions of variations from a clinical and functional standpoint. Perhaps titled "How thick are your liquids?" We will need to plan items and products needed for line spread testing and can do this at the January planning meeting. Tara did an inservice on this and has some of the necessary equipment. The CEU event will be held from 4:30-6:30pm (please note time change). This meeting will be held in Plymouth Meeting at Ken-Crest. The time is being moved back 1/2 hour to hopefully permit people from areas outside the Philadelphia area to have a better chance to make it to the meeting.

Thursday May 10 – patient/family perspectives (topic tentative)

Other topic ideas: nutritional support, cervical auscultation, EMG.

Feedback on videoconferencing: Consensus was that it has good potential to enable a variety of people from all over the state to be involved in the committee and its CEU

opportunities. It is consistent with the fact that, being part of PSHA, this committee is a statewide committee, so we do need to make efforts to make CEU activities available to a larger area. It is noted that the location changes to permit videoconferencing have resulted in some of our longer term members not attending meetings/CEU events, but overall numbers have been equal or greater with new attendees. The committee must decide as a group how they wish to proceed in terms of making statewide availability a priority. Comments on this issue are welcome from all over the state.

Brainstorming ideas:

Can sessions be videotaped and made available to others for CEUs? (This would involve different CEU procedures and is a question for our CEU administrator.)

Can the times be later so that more can attend from distant areas? That often adds the problem of people's child activity issues.

Hold a Primary Fall Meeting 5-7

Hold a Primary Spring Meeting - even later in the evening.

Teleconference other meetings; have 1-2 a year that are not teleconferenced.

Develop a Western Division/Eastern Division whereby individuals in other parts of the state could plan their own small CEU activities as we do in the East. Pam will help anyone who wishes to learn the CEU process if they wish to develop these programs as part of the Committee on Dysphagia. Any activities must go through the approval process through our CEU administrator via PSHA. This is not a difficult process, but it does involve about 8 weeks' lead time in planning an event. Anyone who is interested please email Pam Smith lobsterpam@aol.com or psmith@bloomu.edu

Can people do reading from handouts, etc., to get CEU credit for workshops that they cannot attend? There is a means to obtain CEUs for independent study, but whether that can be tied to workshops missed would be something to discuss with our CEU administrator.

Statewide planning efforts – if we do begin a Western/Eastern division, perhaps the two divisions could work together to coordinate CEU activities – share resources, etc.

PSHA convention: Committee on Dysphagia can be attached to submissions to PSHA convention to increase our visibility. This does not take away from any individual's presentation in terms of inclusion on the vita. If you want to submit something to convention, remember the deadline is September 25. Please go to:
http://psha.org/call_for_papers.asp

Division 13 Membership Committee update - Pam Smith serves on the ASHA Division 13 membership committee. One of the initiatives they are working on is developing a "Network of 13," which involves many types of activities our group has discussed in the past, such as speaker's bureau, being a resource for information, etc. One specific proposal is a 'state liaison,' which would be a Division 13 member who would serve as a state liaison, to be a connection between Division 13 and the state association and be a visible presence at state events, contributing to state newsletters, etc. etc. Pennsylvania is one of only a few states that has an active dysphagia committee, and some of the items being discussed for the Network of 13 are items our state already has in place.

General discussion about cervical auscultation, electromyography, etc. These would all be good topics for future CEU events.

Goals for the Committee for 2006:

1. Increase the number of sites to which we can transmit CEU events.
2. Increase statewide offerings for continuing education via other means – divisions, readings, etc. with guidance from CEU administrator
3. Increase networking opportunities and communication among members.
4. Increase our visibility at the annual state convention.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela A. Smith, Ph.D.