

The Bridge

AORN of The San Francisco Bay Area



Chapter #0512

September 2021

Upcoming Events

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| Oct. 7 | Chapter Board Meeting
via Zoom, 7pm |
| Oct. 7 | AORN Leader's Edge
Virtual Live Discussion |
| Oct. 7 & 20 | AORN Live Webinars |
| Oct. 12 | Acacia Pharma
Education Dinner, SF |
| Oct. 12 - 14 | Virtual OR Excellence |
| Oct. 16 | MedShare
volunteer morning |
| Oct. 19 & 26 | AORN Hot Topic
Virtual Forums |
| Oct. 21 & 27 | AORN Guidelines
Workshops |
| Nov. 14 - 20 | Perioperative Nurses
Week |

To know even one life
has breathed easier
because you have lived.
This is to have succeeded.

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

Co-President's Message

This month our nation stopped to honor the memory of the victims of the attack on Sept. 11, 2001. Many were lost on that fateful day. Others survived only to suffer long-term effects of injuries or the inhalation of contaminants as they searched for the remains. They returned again and again to receive surgical and medical care long after the tragic event.

This reminds me of the current tragedy of the COVID pandemic. First responders, nurses, respiratory care practitioners and doctors will continue to care for victims of this deadly disease long after the surges abate. There will be long-haulers who will return again and again to us for surgical and medical care. And we will be there for them.

Throughout, we perioperative nurses have given up personal time and effort to support our fellow med-surg nurses when they were stretched to the limit. The stress of uncertainty regarding the safety of our family members has made it difficult to extend a helping hand or even just to go to work as usual. But, we did.

Now who is there for us? Your chapter and its many good hearts and hands. Please take time to join us at one of our education sessions. Share your experiences and find the support and understanding that your family members, no matter how well-meaning, cannot offer. Come to one of our social events and see how the chapter can provide an outlet for your frustrations and questions.

Thank you,
Alice Erskine
Co-President, AORN of The San Francisco Bay Area

2021/2022 Chapter Officers & Board



Co-President
Alice Erskine



Co-President
Colleen Fiammengo



Vice President
Kayla Chin



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Board Member
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Thank You MedShare Volunteers!

Thank you to the those who volunteered their time at MedShare in San Leandro to sort stainless steel surgical instruments on July 24th:

Our next chapter MedShare volunteer morning is Saturday, October 16th. Registration is now open! To register, please visit our chapter website at aornsfbayarea.nursingnetwork.com.



Our volunteers (L to R): Pam Catlett, Kayla Chin, Dolly Chan, Teri Albertolle, Yureka Taylor, Alice Erskine, Ria Rulloda, and Joy Chau.

SIGN AORN'S OSHA SURGICAL SMOKE PETITION!

AORN is seeking members and public support for surgical teams and patients through a national petition urging the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to require surgical smoke evacuation

Sign the petition and AORN will deliver it to OSHA in November in honor of Perioperative Nurses Week.

Sign the petition at aorn.org or scan the QR code. Share it!



Clinical Corner

A Nurse Educator asks: We have a nursing student doing an internship in our O.R. We had several sessions on aseptic technique, and she is now scrubbing. She asked me why the scrub tech can reach up and touch the light handle when she was taught to keep her hands between her nipple line and her waist. All I could say is that the light handle is sterile, but I couldn't explain it. What do the AORN Guidelines say?

Answer: The concept of sterile boundaries is based upon the practice of keeping one's hands in view to ensure they are still sterile. If a sterile person watches his/her hand as it reaches up to adjust the light, then he/she is keeping the sterile hand in view and can safely do this. AORN Guidelines do not address this specific question. They do say the sterile person should keep his/her hands above the waist and between the chest area and the surface of the sterile field. There are other areas where the hands must be above the head, such as when draping a microscope, a C-arm or a surgical robot. The Guidelines simply state that the sterile person should follow the drape manufacturer's recommendations when draping.

If you have any questions about clinical issues, please contact Alice Erskine, MSN, RN, CNOR at aerskine52@comcast.net.

JOIN US



Acacia Pharma Invites You to Attend an Educational Program to Discuss an Antiemetic for PONV

BARHEMSYS®: The First and Only Antiemetic Approved for Rescue Treatment of Postoperative Nausea and Vomiting (PONV) Despite Prophylaxis

PONV is a common complication of surgery and anesthesia affecting ~80% of high-risk patients.^{1,2} More than a third of the high-risk patients will suffer from PONV despite prophylactic treatment.^{3,4} For those patients experiencing PONV, it can be a distressing problem that patients desire to avoid.⁵

Learning Objectives

- Understand the incidence and risk factors associated with nausea and vomiting in a surgical setting
- Recognize the burden and consequences of PONV
- Identify unmet needs in the management of PONV
- Gain knowledge on the safety and efficacy of BARHEMSYS as a rescue treatment for PONV in adult patients

DATE/TIME

Tuesday, October 12, 2021

6:00 PM Pacific

LOCATION

Credo

360 Pine St,
San Francisco, California 94104

Please plan to arrive at the venue 15 minutes prior to program start time to sign in and get seated.

SPEAKER

Linda Minnich, RN

Staff Nurse, Perianesthesia Care Unit
John Muir Health Concord Medical Center,
Concord, California

REPRESENTATIVE

Tracey Lorenz

408-710-8759
traceylorenz@acaciapharma.com

Register Now

Register by visiting <https://rep.acaciabureauportal.com/2mH5D4> or scan the QR code:



Indications

BARHEMSYS is a selective dopamine-2 (D₂) and dopamine-3 (D₃) receptor antagonist indicated in adults for:

- prevention of postoperative nausea and vomiting (PONV), either alone or in combination with an antiemetic of a different class
- treatment of PONV in patients who have received antiemetic prophylaxis with an agent of a different class or have not received prophylaxis

Select Important Safety Information

Contraindication

BARHEMSYS is contraindicated in patients with known hypersensitivity to amisulpride.

Please see additional Important Safety Information on the next page and full [Prescribing Information](#).



Chapter Officers & Board Member Spotlight

Colleen Fiammengo, MSN, BSN, PHN, CNOR, CCM

Co-President



Where do you work? Alta Bates Summit Medical Center, Summit Campus.

How long have you been an OR nurse? I've been a nurse for 36 years.

Specialties? I prefer vascular, plastics reconstruction, general and breast.

What do you do to relax or have fun outside of work? Outside of work I enjoy gardening, traveling, cooking, reading, and old movies.

What inspired you to become an OR nurse? I watched, what I consider to be the very first reality show, a TV program called Life Line. They would follow a physician in different parts of the country for 24 hours with live cameras. One week I watched Dr. Trunkey, a trauma surgeon, who was followed into the OR doing surgery. So at age 11, I knew where I wanted to be.

What do you enjoy about being an OR nurse? What are some challenges? Enjoy: The pace, the physician-nurse team relationship, the art of gaining trust of the patient in so little time, the privilege of advocating, lifelong learning.

Challenges: the obvious ones we all deal with- Do more with less, COVID, staff burnout, time being more important than doing things well.

If you hadn't become a nurse, what career would you have chosen? If I hadn't become a nurse, I would have chosen to be a field biologist.

Kayla Chin, BSN, RN, CNOR, ST

Vice President

Where do you work? Alta Bates Summit Medical Center, Summit Campus.

How long have you been an OR nurse? I started as a surgical tech at Skyline College in 2008 and shortly thereafter went to nursing school.

Specialties? I enjoy cardiothoracic and robotic surgery.

What do you do to relax or have fun outside of work? I have two young children and a husband whom I absolutely love and adore! Outside of activities for the kids, I enjoy gardening, hiking, and traveling. We have done a lot of camping this summer which has been wonderful!

What inspired you to become an OR nurse? I knew I wanted to become a registered nurse at the age of 10. Once I became a surgical technician I realized how much I enjoyed the operating room and never looked back!

What do you enjoy about being an OR nurse? What are some challenges? When I was training to become an operating room nurse, my preceptor said to me "an operating room nurse is the biggest patient advocate out of all types of nurses because essentially all of our patients are under anesthesia and therefore cannot make decisions for themselves."

That conversation really stuck with me! It made me realize a lot of the reason I love my job is because how much of an impact I make on each patients' lives (whether or not they remember me!). One of the more exciting, yet challenging, aspects of operating room nursing is staying up to date with all the new technologies presented to us.

If you hadn't become a nurse, what career would you have chosen?

I would probably have become an elementary school teacher.



VOLUNTEER WITH US!



**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2021
9AM TO NOON**

Join us as we sort medical supplies for shipment to underserved healthcare facilities in developing countries.

RSVP at
aornsfbayarea.nursingnetwork.com



**2937 Alvarado Street
San Leandro**

Questions? Contact Pam Catlett at p.catlett@att.net

**MedShare is a
nonprofit
organization
dedicated to
improving the
environment
and healthcare
through the
efficient
recovery and
redistribution
of surplus
medical
supplies and
equipment.**

medshare.org

**Attire:
casual
closed toe shoes
dress in layers**

