

Summary/Abstract Information Winter 2008 Journal

President's Message

The President's Message is a standing Journal column highlighting current hot topics. Outgoing Executive President Denise Knoblauch, RN, BSN, COHN-S/CM, reviews the Top 10 accomplishments of AOHP during her two terms in office.

Vice President's Update

Receive your quarterly update on governmental issues from the AOHP Vice President in this regular column. Sandra Domeracki Prickitt, RN, FNP, COHN-S, provides readers with details on her move from the position of VP to Executive President and offers highlights of regulatory issues that AOHP actively responded to during her four-year tenure.

Editor's Column

This standard feature provides commentary from the current Journal Editor. Kim Stanchfield, RN, COHN-S, encourages positive discussion about Employee Health's role in managing the many details related to the Family and Medical Leave Act.

Community Liaison Report

Learn how AOHP is cultivating national alliances and partnerships, and receive updates from other health-related agencies, through this regular article. MaryAnn Gruden, CRNP, MSN, NP-C, COHN-S/CM, details how AOHP is gaining visibility as an expert regarding occupational health issues. Read about the association's continuing OSHA Alliance, and receive updates on NIOSH, from participation at AOHP's national conference to the latest information on MRSA and Respirator Fit Testing.

Industrial Hygiene

George Byrns, MPH, PhD, CIH, provides an overview of the importance of ventilation in hospitals as the current topic for this regular column. Understand why good ventilation is critical for healthcare facilities to protect patients and employees. Learn the necessity of monitoring air quality and ventilation system performance, the value of following infection control and safety requirements in new construction and renovation projects, and how to assess the potential need for specially designed ventilation systems in certain areas of your facility.

Healthcare Ergonomics

Lee Ann Jones, director of Clinical Risk Management at Duke University Medical Center, explains how health care professionals can obtain patient cooperation and prevent confrontations when using lift equipment. Patients are often hesitant to comply with the use of unfamiliar lift equipment, compromising a facility's Safe Patient Handling Program – and the health of employees. Communication and education are key to encouraging patients to cooperate in using lift equipment, which is vital to the safety of both patients and health care professionals.

Ready to Research

Linda Good, RN, MN, COHN-S, leads a discussion of the value of concept development. Concepts are the building blocks of theory, and narrowing ideas down to a concept is the foundation of the research process. Explore how to choose an area of interest, identify a concept within that area of interest, share your findings with others and plan future study in this issue's Ready to Research article.

Spotlight on a Star

Every issue of the Journal recognizes at least one exemplary AOHP member and highlights how an individual's volunteerism makes a positive impact on the association. In this issue, AOHP proudly recognizes two major member award winners for 2007. Mary Bliss, Extraordinary Member Award winner, and Lynne Karnitz, Joyce Safian Award winner, share their experiences with fellow members.

Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Asthma

Guidelines for the diagnosis and management of asthma were developed by an Expert Panel commissioned by the National Asthma Education and Prevention Program and coordinated by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health. A lengthy excerpt from these guidelines is included in this article, featuring the control of environmental factors and comorbid conditions that affect asthma, in addition to medication sensitivities, infections, hormones and diet. The Expert Panel provides rationale and recommendations in a variety of areas, from the association between sensitizations to allergens and asthma to allergy testing for perennial indoor, outdoor and seasonal allergens, in addition to occupational exposures, irritants and pollution. The article also documents ongoing investigation into the primary prevention of allergic sensitization and asthma.

Attacking Asthma's Costs – Member-only access.

Helping Workers Kick the Habit Programs – Member-only access.