

Endocrine  
Nurses  
Society

Newsletter...

Vol 1, No 2

October 31, 1990

Atlanta

The First Meeting of the  
Endocrine Nurses Society

by Terri Loriaux

The first official meeting of ENS took place in the Westin Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia on July 19, 1990. The meeting was scheduled to follow the ADA meeting and precede the Endocrine Society meeting. This provided an opportunity for nurses attending either meeting to attend the ENS meeting as well. Wine and Cheese were served, courtesy of Serono, Inc.

Teresa Choate Loriaux opened the meeting with an overview of the history of ENS. She has been gathering names of interested endocrine nurses through announcements in newsletters (AADE, PENS, Insights into Infertility) and the Endocrine Society publications, and at various related conferences. Terri presented information on the existence of other professional endocrine groups, i.e. Pediatric Endocrine Nurses Society, American Association of Diabetic Educators, American Diabetes Association,

Endocrine Society, and the Nurse Subgroup of the Fertility Society. The objectives, fundamental tasks and future goals for the ENS were discussed.

Future plans for a newsletter, certification, and the publication of a journal of endocrine nursing were included.

ENS finances, expenses and contributions, were discussed. By consensus, annual dues will be \$25. Expenses for newsletter publication and to date ENS operations were approved for reimbursement.

We has been working with the Endocrine Society to establish a working relationship between the two organizations. The Endocrine Society executive office has provided much support in the early development of the ENS. The Endocrine Society voted to amend their By-laws to include an associate membership category for nurse membership. This action is pending approval by the membership at large. Given the restrictive criteria for membership this is a remarkable step.

Linda Haas addressed the issue of governance and an official charter. She nominated Terri Loriaux as Chairperson for the coming year. Barbara Solomon seconded the motion and the group approved.

## Steering Committee

### Chair:

Teresa Choate Loriaux, RN MSN CDE

### Vice Chair:

Linda Haas, RN MS CDE

### Finance:

Vicki Turbini, RN

### Charter:

Sandra Hendricks, RN

### Publications:

A. Nancye Alexander-Doelle, RN MAN

### Research:

Barbar Solomon, RN PhD

### Certification:

Carol McCaughtry, RN

### Conference Planning:

Betsy Love, RN

## Membership

Endocrine nurses have continued to respond with interest to the development of the Endocrine Nurses Society. However, we presently have less than 200 dues paying members. Any endocrine nurses who you think might benefit from ENS, feel free copy the membership application and share with your colleagues.

## GOALS 1990-1991

1. Develop an official charter for the ENS
2. Maintain quarterly publication of a newsletter
3. Develop a Membership Directory
4. Establish tax-exempt status.
5. Develop a financial base through grants or other resource.
6. Pursue the development of an nurse/endocrine journal.

## PENS

PENS provides nurses who work with the pediatric client and/or family with resources for networking as well as for increasing their knowledge base through conferences and nursing research. The next PENS conference will be June 26-29, 1991 in Scottsdale, Arizona. Anyone interested in more information should contact PENS, 2545 Chicago Avenue South, suite 408, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55404. PENS has been a valuable colleague in the development of ENS. It is our hope to continue this level of collaboration.

## Associate Membership

On October 18, 1990, the Endocrine Society approved nurse membership category!

## Wish List

In the future I would like to represent all areas of endocrine nursing in short articles on educational methods, treatments, intervention, psychosocial dilemmas, etc. This newsletter could be another resource for clinical decision making within the endocrine population. Any suggestions or articles would be welcomed. Please send to:

A. N. Alexander-Doelle  
UWEC-Sat. Nursing Program  
St. Joseph's Avenue  
Marshfield, Wisconsin 54449

## Comments from the Chair...

I would like to outline three items for your consideration. Let us hear from you so that the decisions we make will reflect the wishes of the majority of our membership.

ISSUE #1...A journal to meet the needs of our subspecialty. From the beginning, one of our goals has been to develop a journal of endocrine nursing. We all agree that there is no medical nor nursing journal which consistently provides relevant information for the endocrine nurse. A major obstacle to overcome is our small size. Most publishers believe that a circulation of about 3000 is necessary to break even. As our group grows in number, we will be more likely to find a publisher to take on this task. We need to recruit our colleagues and gain strength. We presently have about 200 nurses involved in the ENS. That sounds small, but libraries will make up the majority of subscribers. We have been contacted by several other endocrine organizations who have expressed interest in this effort. This expands the number to around 600, still small, but better. I believe this will take at least two years to get to the point of negotiation with a publisher.

In the meantime, we have received an interesting offer from The Endocrinologist. This is a new journal which will focus on current topics of interest in clinical endocrinology. The journal will be divided into departments which include diabetes, lipids and metabolism, thyroid, adrenal, neuroendocrine, reproduction, and growth and development. The publisher and editor have offered to include a department on endocrine nursing.

The addition of this section would increase the visibility of the endocrine nurse, promote collaboration among the health care teams, and advance the endocrine knowledge base of nurses. This journal would also provide a place to publish relevant material and focus the reader's attention to the nursing element of endocrinology. I believe this compliments several of our goals.

In addition, this journal could be available at a reduced rate with membership in ENS. The journal will be offered bimonthly beginning in January, 1991 at a subscription rate of \$60/annually. Resident pay \$40/annually. If we include this journal in our annual dues, Williams and Wilkins has agreed to a subscription fee of \$25. Our annual dues would then be \$50, including the journal.

In the final analysis, this journal might fill our needs. If over time it does not, we would then have a track record to take to a potential publisher. The steering committee is presently investigating the viability of this approach. Please contact myself or Nancye Alexander-Doelle with your opinion.

Issue #2...Congratulations to us! The Endocrine Society informed me that their members voted to approve the addition of a category for nurse membership in the Endocrine Society. This is a landmark event! The Endocrine Society has been instrumental in the development of the ENS. We are planning to have our first symposium in Washington, D.C. on June 19-22 in conjunction with the 73rd Annual Endocrine Society Meeting. Betsy Love will be organizing this effort; please send her any ideas via the ENS P.O. Box.

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## Comments...

Issue 3...We need membership criteria. Sandra Hendricks is working on the development of the ENS by-laws, and this is an issue which needs attention. How do you think the ENS membership should be developed? How should we incorporate interested person into our society? Should we develop associate membership category for persons other than registered nurses? Sandra needs to hear your thoughts. Please communicate your ideas now!

*Seri*

*New Mailing Address:  
Endocrine Nurses Society  
P.O. Box 229  
WestLinn, OR 97068*

## Transcultural Nursing

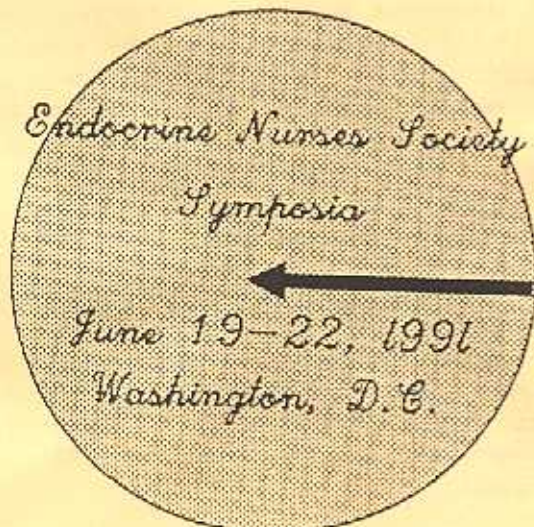
In many cultures, endocrine diseases, i.e., Diabetes, are difficult to treat because of noncompliance. Often this results from conflicting health beliefs. Taking insulin to prevent hyperglycemia or to take daily blood glucose levels to maintain a tight control may seem reasonable to the biomedical world. However, to the client who believes his/her illness results from a disharmony in the Chi, from inadequate honoring of the spirits, from imbalance of hot/cold properties, or voodoo, this treatment seem inappropriate. Because health beliefs differ from culture to culture, nurses act as cultural brokers to promote compliance, health care efficacy and client satisfaction. From time to time, health values, beliefs, and behaviors of various cultures as well as suggestions to facilitate clinical decision making, i.e. cultural brokerage, will be presented here. If you have a specific question or culture you want included, let me know...

Nancye Alexander-Doelle

*Communicate...*

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As you can see, we have many challenges to address in the coming months. Communication is vital. If you have any questions, concerns or comments, feel free to share them. The Endocrine Nurses Society should represent you and your needs.

Address your responses to  
Endocrine Nurses Society  
P.O. Box 229  
Westlinn, OR 97068