

eChapter Education Survey Summary and Recommendations from the Chair of
the Education Committee. January 2007

In late 2006 the eChapter Education committee posted a 7 question survey asking members to provide information that was intended to give direction to the Education Committee in planning the eChapter education initiative.

Survey questions and results from 339 responders follow:

1. Do you require contact hours for license or certification purposes?
yes - 293 no - 46
2. Do you utilize on-line education to obtain contact hours?
yes - 280 no - 59
3. Have you visited the eChapter website in the last 12 months?
yes - 271 no - 68
4. Have you obtained contact hours through the eChapter website?
yes - 80 no - 259
5. Have you linked to other CE sites through the eChapter website?
no - 227
once - 55
twice - 14
more than twice - 43
6. Do you think the opportunity to obtain contact hours through the eChapter web should be made available to:
eChapter members free of charge - 147
eChapter members for a fee - 8
all AORN members free of charge - 145
all AORN members for a fee - 20
anyone who visits the website - 19
7. Comment on how the eChapter can serve you through education, what you would like to see on our education website, and what education activities you would like the Education Committee to consider.
52 responses received

Most comments were related to content that the respondents would like to see posted. One person requested 1 CEU a month, one wanted to create a discussion forum and one person requested a subgroup for ASC be created. Following is a list of the topics requested.

Cardiac - 4
RNFA - 4

Anything related to Surgical Services/Periop nursing - 7
New technology - 3
Patient safety - 3
New procedures - 3
AORN standards - 3
CNOR test preparation - 3
JCAHO - 2
Medications - 3
Education - 2
Management - 2

The following were listed one time: **Ophthalmology, Compliance, FDA, Regulatory, Anatomy and physiology, Broad nursing topics, Topics related to Specialty Assemblies, Updates, Anything related to surgery, New orthopedic procedures, DaVinci, OB Gyn, Urology, Handling errors, Six sigma, Fire, Malignant hyperthermia, MRSA, Legislation, Positioning, Interpersonal skills, Vascular, Emergencies, Care of Spine patients, Laparoscopic surgery, ESU-cautery.**

Two respondents suggested that there be links to experts.

Summary

A few respondents thought there should be a charge to earn contact hours, while 19 thought it should be offered free to anyone who visits the site. The majority however, thought it should be free to eChapter and to other AORN members.

The large majority of respondents require contact hours for certification and they do obtain some of those hours by utilizing online education. The majority have also visited the eChapter website and of those who have, approximately 25% obtained credit utilizing resources found on the eChapter website. Interestingly the majority (227 - around 2/3) of the respondents never linked to other CE sites that are listed on the eChapter website. One third of the respondents had linked and most of those had done so on more than one occasion.

Reflections

Clearly the eChapter website offers value to our members. It would appear however that we need to do a better job of directing members to the links that appear on the website. After reviewing the links and the subsequent offerings there is sufficient material to satisfy most of the content requests that were suggested in the survey.

Currently there are only two programs on the website that are owned by the chapter and for which the chapter can provide credit. It is difficult to get anyone to commit to creating such a program, but perhaps with a marketing effort and an

offer of remuneration someone will volunteer to undertake such a project. The two programs posted will expire this year and without additional programs the eChapter will not be providing contact hour credit. Currently the eChapter has providership capability. Whether this should be renewed in the future will depend upon the chapter willingness to create programs for posting. The Education Committee has written an ad for posting that offers a payment of \$300 for creating a program. The ad also lists all the positive personal and professional reasons for doing this. Author guidelines are also included. Pending Board approval this will be posted. Currently one of our members provided pderioperative related Power Point programs used in her hospital and that have been approved for our use, that are being considered for conversion into eChapter online ed programs (no simple undertaking),

The suggestion from the survey that we provide links to experts is one that I believe we should explore. Could we not solicit information from our members as to their area of expertise and willingness to serve as an expert in that content area. We could then post those names, their areas of expertise, and contact information. Although this would not lead to gaining contact hours it is certainly within the prevue of education.

Finally, I personally visited every website link that is posted on our website and found that a great deal of content that survey respondents requested is already available - There is a need to reinforce to our members that education is out there and that the eChapter is a great conduit.

Submitted January 2007

Cynthia Spry - eChapter Education Committee Chair