

# CRIBSHEET

SUMMER 2006

The Regional Perinatal System Newsletter

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## Standards for the Role of the OB Registered Nurse (RN) in the Care of Pregnant Women Receiving Analgesia/Anesthesia by Catheter Techniques (Epidural, Intrathecal, Spinal, PCEA Catheters)

In 1995 members of AWHONN (Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses) began to have concerns regarding the lack of clarity for the nurses' role in supporting epidural analgesia for the pregnant woman due to expanding practice in Labor and Delivery units across the country. There was a position statement published in 1996 after several months of discussion and review of this issue by the Committee on Practice and it has gone through multiple revisions. In 2001 the Executive Board of AWHONN accepted the practice committee's statement in conjunction with AWHONN's new Evidence-based Clinical Practice Guideline: Nursing Care of the Woman Receiving Analgesia/Anesthesia in Labor (2001).

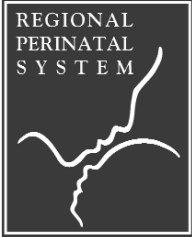
The AWHONN position statement identifies the following: "Whenever regional analgesia/anesthesia is administered, a qualified, credentialed, licensed anesthesia care provider should be readily available as defined by institutional policy" and.... "these licensed providers as described by the American Society of Anesthesiologists and the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists, and /or as authorized by

state law should perform the following procedures:

- ❖ Insertion, initial injection, bolus injection, rebolus injection or initiation of a continuous infusion of catheters for analgesia/anesthesia
- ❖ Verification of correct catheter placement
- ❖ Increasing or decreasing the rate of the continuous infusion"

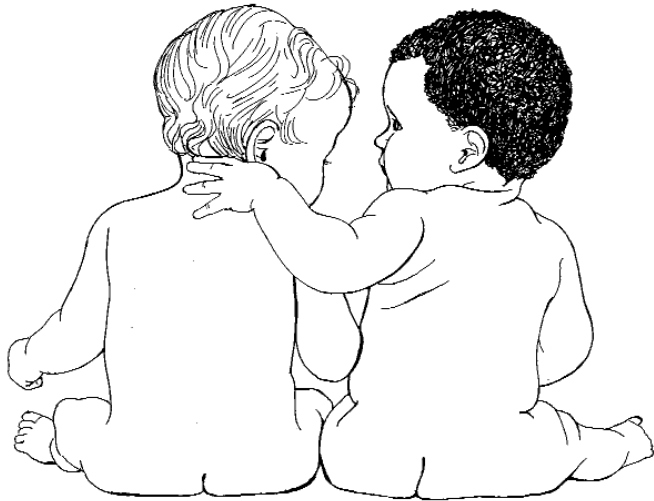
The purpose of the Evidence-based Clinical Guidelines is to provide evidenced based clinical practice recommendations for nursing assessment and management of women undergoing obstetric regional analgesia/anesthesia. Guidelines for assessment and management of the woman and her fetus, as well as for pain relief, motor blockade and the woman's ability to ambulate are presented. The Guideline also provides information about medications used for perinatal analgesia/anesthesia including action, maternal-fetal side effects and potential effects on labor and the newborn. This was based on the framework delineated in the American Nurses Association (ANA) *Manual to Develop Guidelines* (Marek, 1995).

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## Standards for the Role of the OB Registered Nurse (RN) in the Care of Pregnant Women Receiving Analgesia/Anesthesia by Catheter Techniques (Epidural, Intrathecal, Spinal, PCEA Catheters)

Patient safety and quality care is of primary importance to perinatal nurses and the proper "educational infrastructure" must be in place which by adopting the Guidelines this will be ensured. The Regional Perinatal System's Perinatal Nurse Leaders Council (PNLC) education sub-committee recommends the standard in San Diego County is in support of the AWHONN Position Statement and to adopt and practice the use of Evidenced-based Clinical Guidelines: Nursing Care of the Woman Receiving Analgesia/Anesthesia.



### References:

American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Practice Bulletin. Clinical Management Guidelines for Obstetrician-Gynecologists. *Obstetric Analgesia and Anesthesia*. No. 36, July 2002.

American Society of Anesthesiologists. (October, 2000). ASA Newsletter Number 10, Vol. 64 [On-line].

Association of Women's Health, Obstetric & Neonatal Nurses. (2001). *Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guideline: Nursing Care of the Woman Receiving Regional Analgesia/Anesthesia in Labor*. Washington DC: Author.

Association of Women's Health, Obstetric & Neonatal Nurses. (1996 & 2001). Role of the registered nurse in the care of pregnant women receiving analgesia/anesthesia by catheter techniques (epidural, intrathecal, spinal, PCEA catheters). Position Statement. Washington DC: Author.

Marek, K (1995). *Manual to develop guidelines*. ANA Committee on Nursing Practice Standards & Guidelines. Washington, DC: American Nurses Publishing, American Nurses Foundation/American Nurses Association.

Society for Obstetric Anesthesia and Perinatology. (2005). The Role of Obstetric Nurses in Labor Analgesia Management, PRO-CON Forum, 1997 [On-line].

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## Maternal and Newborn Nursing Care Summer Session

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The next session of the Maternal & Newborn Nursing Care (MNNC) course will be held July 13, 2006 thru August 21, 2006. Classes will be held every Thursday and Friday over the six week period including half a day on 8/21/06. This course prepares nurses, with little or no obstetric background, for clinical preceptorship in the labor and delivery setting. Classes will be held at Regional Perinatal System Chestnut Conference Center and are taught by clinical nurse educators from the San Diego community. Approximately 72 nursing continuing education credit hours will be provided. The course fee is \$610.00.

For registration information, please visit our website:  
[www.regionalperinatalssystem.org](http://www.regionalperinatalssystem.org)



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### SPECIAL NOTE:

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The Newsletter will be now only distributed via email.  
Please email us at [regionalperinatal@ucsd.edu](mailto:regionalperinatal@ucsd.edu) or  
call us to update your contact information.

### Order Form and Mailing List Update

Name/Credentials

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Please send me RPS information about:

- Board and Advisory Council
- Committee Activities
- Perinatal Nurse Leaders Council
- Perinatal Nurse Educators
- Maternal & Newborn Nursing Care
- Educational Opportunities
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

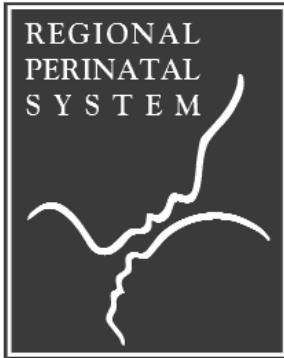
- Please send me CDAPP information about:
- Classes
  - Affiliation
  - Guidelines for Care
  - Education Material
  - GDM Screening & Diagnosis Worksheet
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me information about  
*The Kit for New Parents on:*

- Becoming a Distribution Partner
- Ordering Kits
- Other \_\_\_\_\_



Mail or Fax to:  
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## UPCOMING CONFERENCES

33rd Annual American Association of  
Diabetes Educators  
August 10 - 12, 2006  
Los Angeles, CA

Visit website for conference information at:  
[www.aadenet.org](http://www.aadenet.org)

Lamaze International 2006 Annual  
Conference  
September 7 - 10, 2006  
Boston, MA

Visit website for conference information at:  
[www.conference@lamaze.org](http://www.conference@lamaze.org)

ADA Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo  
September 16 - 19, 2006  
Honolulu, HI

Visit website for conference information at:  
[www.webdietitians.org](http://www.webdietitians.org)

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## UPCOMING CLASSES

Maternal Newborn Nursing Care (MNNC)  
**Summer Session, 2006**  
July 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28 and August 3, 4, 10, 11,  
17, 18 and 21 (half day), 2006  
San Diego, CA

Call Regional Perinatal System at 858-536-5090 or  
Visit website: [www.regionalperinatalsystem.org](http://www.regionalperinatalsystem.org)

Basic Fetal Heart Monitoring Course  
July 21, 2006  
San Diego, CA

Call Regional Perinatal System at 858-536-5090 or  
Visit website: [www.regionalperinatalsystem.org](http://www.regionalperinatalsystem.org)

High Risk Obstetrics  
Current Trends, Treatments & Issues  
August 22, 2006  
San Diego, CA

Visit website for conference information at:  
[www.pesi.com](http://www.pesi.com)