



JAZZ UP

SGNA Healthcare Policy Committee

Katherine Vinci, RNC CGRN, Committee Chair

OUR JOURNEY



Purpose/Goals

The purpose of the Healthcare Policy Committee is to support SGNA'S efforts to actively influence policy regarding colorectal cancer awareness and infection prevention by working with collaborative partners.

Priority Partner Organizations

- 1 ASGE- American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy
- 2 NCCRT- National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable
- 3 DDNC- Digestive Disease National Coalition
- 4 Prevent Cancer Foundation- Dialogue for Action
- 5 ECAN- Esophageal Cancer Action Network
- 6 NIDDK- National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease

Objectives

SGNA Healthcare Policy Committee's objectives are to promote awareness, coordinate efforts with partner organizations, and participate in educational events supporting colorectal cancer awareness, advance the objectives in the IOM Future of Nursing report and strengthen SGNA'S relationship with regulatory bodies such as the FDA. This year we focused on how SGNA members can spread awareness and increase screening for colorectal cancer with the SGNA Region, GI team and as an individual. Examples of those going above and beyond were highlighted during GI Nurses and Associates Week.

Governmental Relations

SGNA wants the FDA to be aware of who SGNA is, our policies, standards and expertise in the field of GI Nursing. Board members of SGNA met with the FDA. To increase the FDA's understanding of SGNA and determine how we can best collaborate. As a result, SGNA joined the FDA's Network of Experts, giving the FDA rapid access to the expert opinions of GI Nurses. As GI Nurses, our voice is being heard.



SGNA Healthcare Policy Committee 2016 – 2017

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This year SGNA had a delegation of ten SGNA members who attended the Digestive Disease National Coalition's Public Policy Forum. The coalition is an advocacy group which focus on digestive diseases, improving public policy and public awareness. We received advocacy training and then went to the Capitol to speak to legislators. The Coalition visited one hundred legislators who each received a packet promoting our issues and information about SGNA. SGNA requested support for the *Removing Barriers to Colorectal Cancer Screening Act*.

Find Your Voice Campaign

In 2010 the Institute of Medicine (IOM) published *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health*

The issues to focus on based on IOM Nursing Report were:

- Improving access to care
- Fostering interprofessional collaboration
- Promoting nursing leadership
- Transforming nursing education
- Increasing diversity in nursing
- Collecting workforce data
- Building healthier communities

The Healthcare Policy Committee identified three of these initiatives which are currently addressed by SGNA programs and initiatives:

IOM Initiative: Fostering Interprofessional Collaboration
SGNA Program: Infection Prevention Champions Program

IOM Initiative: Collecting Workforce Data & Transforming
SGNA Program: Fellows and Scholars Program

IOM Initiative: Building Healthier Communities
SGNA Program: Colorectal Cancer Prevention and Awareness efforts

The final product will be videos promoting these three areas in the *Find your Voice Campaign*

Conclusion

Over the last four years engaging our members at the regional level has been our most powerful tools to influence policy regarding colorectal cancer awareness, infection prevention and the future of nursing. Our committee has done this through engaging Regional Liaisons, promoting Healthcare issues via social media, SGNA app, presentations and direct contact with legislators.

For more information on SGNA Legislative Initiatives go to the SGNA website www.sgna.org .