

January 2008

<http://mosrc.com/> ← **NEW WEB ADDRESS**

2008 Annual State Conference at TanTarA Resort

SAVE THE DATE for the 2008 Annual State Conference at TanTarA Resort. Dates April 30 - May 2. Expect the program brochure to be out in early February. Questions can be directed to Terri Dobey c/o dobeyt@health.missouri.edu.

MSRC Legislative Day 2008

Legislative Day will be held Tuesday, **February 19, 2008** at our Capital in Jefferson City. We encourage all Respiratory Therapists to participate. For more detailed information concerning this important event, please contact any of the MSRC officers. Contact information can be obtained from our website: www.mosrc.com

District Updates

District 1:

On October 24th, District 1 hosted the annual RC week hospital challenge. This year's competition featured a team bowling event with over 30 participants and was cosponsored by several local vendors. Barnes-Jewish Hospital held on for the team title while Travis Helm (St. John's Mercy Medical Center) turned in the highest individual score. A special thanks to all those who participated and made this event a success! District 1 is also planning a CEU event sometime this early spring. Details will be mailed out to local hospitals, so be looking for them soon.

District 2: No Report.

District 3: District 3 had their annual fall conference on October 11 and 12 this year in Jefferson City. The conference was a great success with 117 practitioners and students

participating in the event and 17 vendors were present.

District 4:

District IV met on November 27th at Chappell's Restaurant and Sports Museum. Dr. Gary Salzman presented "2007 Asthma Guidelines" for 1 CEU for each attendee. American Homepatient sponsored the meeting. The next meeting will be January 22nd, 2008 at 7:00pm. Sleepcare will sponsor the speaker and refreshments.

The District IV seminar will be March 7th 2008. Concepts in Mechanical Ventilation-New and Old. 6 CEU's will be applied for from the MBRC.

Future meetings will be-March 25th, 2008-Sponsored by Trianim and Smith Medical on Secretion Airway Mobilization with 1 CEU from the AARC awarded for attendance. May 27th-Giles Wilson will be presenting a program on Airway Clearance. (Mr. Wilson works with Dr. Bird) Elections for officers will be held during this meeting.

District 5:

District V meeting was held on October 25, 2007. Report was given by Rose Shafer about the District V Seminar in August of this year. There was discussion about future meeting dates. Lisa Newcomer, RRT with Apria Healthcare gave a presentation on AARC Advocacy for 1 CEU. The next meeting will be held on January 24th at 7:00pm at My Daddys Cheesecake in Cape Girardeau, MO.

Tentative D-5 meeting date is Mar 27, 2008 with time and location to be announced...watch for flyers to come out.

MSRC- CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

It is once again time to call for nominations from the MSRC membership. President-elect, Vice President-elect, Secretary, and the two Director-

at-Large offices are open for nominations. Only active and life members in good standing shall be eligible for nomination. The following excerpts are from Article IV and Article V of the MSRC Bylaws. To access MSRC Bylaws go to www.mosrc.com .

President-Elect - The President-elect shall become Acting President and shall assume the duties of the President in the event of the President's absence, resignation, or disability, and shall perform such other duties as shall be assigned by the President or Board of Directors.

Vice-President-Elect - The Vice-President-elect shall serve as member of the Program Committee and shall assume the duties of the Vice-President in the event of the Vice-President's absence, resignation, or disability, and shall perform such other duties as shall be assigned by the President or Board of Directors.

Secretary - The Secretary shall have charge of keeping the minutes of the Board of Directors' meetings and the annual business meeting; executing assigned general correspondence; attesting the signatures of the officers of the Society; forwarding an approved copy of the minutes of every Board of Director's meeting to the executive office of the AARC; and shall perform all duties as shall be assigned by the President or Board of Directors.

Director-at-large - The Directors shall represent the members of the Society at the Board of Directors meetings.

Nominations can be directed to:

Warren J. DuBois – MSRC Election Chairperson
Rolla Technical Center
500 Forum Drive
Rolla, Missouri 65401
Phone: (573) 458-0160
Fax: (573) 458-0164
Email: wdubois@rolla.k12.mo.us

Also remember MSRC even numbered districts will hold elections in 2008.

MSRC Professional Education Scholarship

This year's MSRC Professional Education Scholarship application period has begun and runs through April 1, 2008.

Purpose: To further the educational opportunities for the working respiratory care practitioner. Scholarship awards may be used for any educational program offered to the respiratory care practitioner including:

- Accredited CRCE's
- Educational Seminars
- Advanced degrees such as RRT, B.S., M.S., PhD.
- Credentialing in specialty areas such as NPS, CPFT, RPFT, and RPGST.

Eligibility: In order to be eligible for the scholarship, the applicant must be a working credentialed respiratory care practitioner licensed in the state of Missouri; in good standing at the applicant's place of employment; and an active member of MSRC / AARC

Submission: MSRC welcomes original abstracts related to the science and technology of respiratory care. An abstract may report on:

- An original study
- The evaluation of a method, device, or protocol
- A case study

Award: The recipient will receive \$1,000. Only one award will be presented. Awards will be presented at the MSRC State Meeting in Spring 2008.

For more detailed information, contact MSRC Scholarship Chairperson:

Dana Evans, BSRT, RRT-NPS, AE-C
605 Lewis Hall
Columbia, MO 65211
evansda@health.missouri.edu

MU RT Students

The senior respiratory therapy students at the University of Missouri-Columbia decided to hold an event in the student center on campus on Friday, October 26. The event consisted of free lung screenings and the distribution of smoking cessation flyers with local resources. The students also used the time in the student center to promote the profession. It was "Black & Gold Day" on campus, a day for prospective students and their parents to visit and tour the campus and check out programs of study. The senior RT students passed out flyers to the tour groups with information about the profession in general and the program at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Here's a picture of the 10 senior RT students and their booth at the student center.



The students are (L-R): Emily Wilkinson, Jason Domachowski, Kimberly Denningmann, Karen Flinn, Shautonja Pinckney, Andrea Penn, Michael Banning, Kristin Sikora, Paul Hummel and Ashley Edwards.

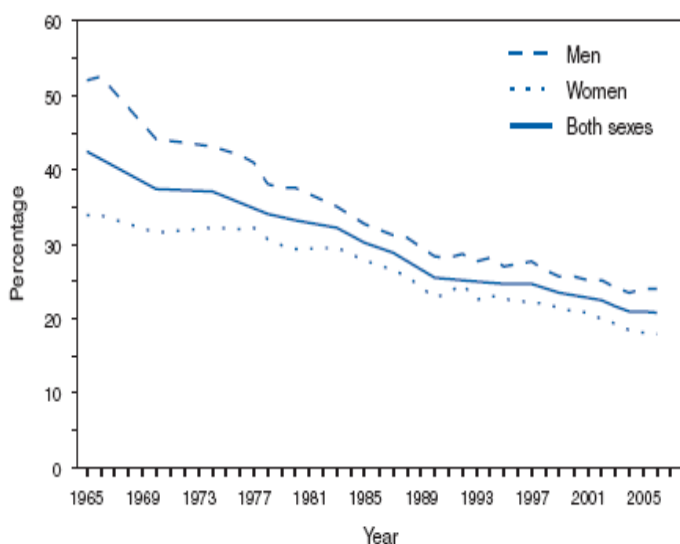
CDC: Decline in U.S. smoking stalls

The decline in cigarette smoking by U.S. adults has stalled after falling for seven years, according to a new report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. An estimated 21% of U.S. adults, or more than 45 million, smoked cigarettes in 2006, a rate that has not changed significantly since 2004, according

to the agency's National Health Interview Survey. Adults with a smoking-related chronic disease were more likely to smoke than other adults, highlighting the need for health care providers to emphasize the importance of quitting. "Health care providers should repeatedly offer intensive smoking-cessation interventions to all of their patients, especially those with smoking-related chronic diseases who continue to smoke," the agency said. Cigarette smoking is the leading cause of preventable disease and death in the U.S., causing an estimated 438,000 deaths annually.

Source: American Hospital Association- AHA News Now - November 9, 2007

FIGURE. Estimated percentage of persons aged ≥ 18 years who were current smokers,* by sex — National Health Interview Survey, United States, 1965–2006



*During 1965–1991, current smokers were defined as persons who reported smoking at least 100 cigarettes during their lifetimes and who, at the time of interview, reported smoking ("Have you smoked at least 100 cigarettes in your entire life?" and "Do you smoke cigarettes now?"). In 1992, the definition changed to more accurately assess intermittent smoking (i.e., smoking on some days) and included persons who reported they smoked either every day or some days ("Do you now smoke cigarettes every day, some days, or not at all?")

Source: Centers for Disease Control. *Morbidity & Mortality Weekly Report. Cigarette Smoking Among Adults --- United States, 2006.* November 9, 2007 / 56(44):1157-1161.
<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5644a2.htm#fig>

Government Affairs: Respiratory Therapy Initiative Sees Great Progress

Remember this bill number....**HR3968!!!** This is the House Bill for the respiratory care initiative. This initiative, if passed into law, would update the Medicare Statute to allow Registered Respiratory Therapists with a minimum of a Bachelor's Degree (Degree not specific to respiratory care), to provide reimbursable services as an extension of a physician's practice under Medicare Part B.

How would this work? Basically, the qualified RRT would be "employed" by a physician, physician's practice, or healthcare provider under the medical direction of a physician. The qualified RRT would be able to provide diagnostics, education, prescription, etc, in line with our current scope of practice. The Medicare part B billing would be at 80% of the allowable for that same service provided by a physician.

Who would this benefit? There are many different groups who would benefit from this new coverage. They would include, but are not limited to:

Patients! Two primary groups of patients would see significant benefit. 1. Patients in rural communities who do not have access to a pulmonologist on a regular bases, if ever. The qualified RRT would be more accessible and provide a level of expertise which could only benefit patient care. 2. Home bound patients or those with limited access to mobility. Although details would have to be address, a qualified RRT could provide a "house call" on behalf of the physician. Patients who have significant technology dependencies, such as home ventilation, could definitely benefit from this. How many times have you heard a family member, patient, or physician say, "If they would have just had a respiratory therapist at home, (this patient) may not have had to be admitted to the hospital!" ?

Respiratory Therapist! This is a great opportunity for ALL respiratory therapist in elevation and recognition of our profession, professionalism and expertise. New and exciting opportunities lie ahead for all therapists as we expand our roles outside of the hospital.

Physicians! This is an excellent opportunity for pulmonary physicians as well as D.O.s and Family practice physicians. They would all then have the opportunity to employ and partner with qualified RRTs to bring a level of expertise to their current practices. This would allow them to provide improved care to more patients in a fiscally responsible manner. Many groups including the American Thoracic Society have written letters of support for our initiative.

What can I do to help?? WRITE, CALL, FAX!

Write your Congressman/woman and ask them to Co-sponsor this house bill. We have NO co-sponsors from Missouri as of yet (12/14/07). Write your Senators: Senator Kit Bond and Senator Claire McCaskill. Ask them to sponsor a companion bill to HR3968.

I have never been much for Politics and would not know where to start! Not to worry.

You can simply go to the AARC website: www.aarc.org follow the link to Capital Connection and draft a letter from there. The AARC has even provided sample language for you to use in your e-mail.

Do it today! Please don't wait. Your letters are needed today.

For more information on this and other important legislation affecting our practice and patients, check out the Capital Connection on the AARC we site or contact one of your Government Affairs Co-Chairs:

Ronda Bradley VENTL8@sbcglobal.net
Joan Kohorst Joan_Kohorst@Apria.com
Bill Lamb bill_rcp@msn.com

2008 John Rogers Memorial Scholarship

The John Rogers Memorial Scholarship is a scholarly works competition for respiratory care students in the state of Missouri. Criteria for submission are status as a current student in an approved respiratory care program in the state of Missouri, good standing in the program, grade point average of 3.0 or higher, and a member of the AARC/MSRC. Flyers will be emailed to respiratory care program directors in January for distribution to students. The email submission deadline for complete applications (including final paper submissions) is April 1, 2008. Each paper will be reviewed by a panel of respiratory therapists throughout the state. Recipients will be announced on April 30, 2008, during lunch at the MSRC Annual Conference at Tan-Tar-A. Encouraged paper topics include original research, new modalities of respiratory care and new advances in respiratory care or pulmonary medicine. For more information, please contact Shawna Strickland at StricklandSL@health.missouri.edu.

3rd Annual Fall Symposium Recap

The MSRC 3rd Annual Fall Symposium was a held November 1 & 2 at the University Plaza Hotel and Convention Center in Springfield, MO. If the evaluations are any indication, the symposium was another huge success for the MSRC and all 232 attendees, as well as the 35 vendors who were present in the Exhibit Hall. The symposium offered 12 CRCEs over the 2 days, covering important aspects of Neonatal/Pediatric Care, Critical Care, Pulmonary Function Testing, and Polysomnography.

CRCE certificates were mailed December 6th to all attendees. For AARC members that supplied their member number, CRCEs have been posted on their online transcript.

We are already in the process of planning next year's symposium to be held **November 3 & 4, 2008**. If you have any specific topics applicable to the above sections, or speakers you feel would be good presenters, please email Diane Oldfather at doldfather@rolla.k12.mo.us

PHS Opens Door to Officer Status for Bachelor Degreed RRTs

Years of networking with the U.S. Public Health Service have now paid off for the AARC and the profession. The PHS has announced that RRTs with bachelor's degrees will now be eligible for service under its Therapist Category, a move that effectively opens the door to officer status for these therapists in the PHS. "It has been a long journey to come to this day," PHS Capt. Karen Lohmann Siegel was quoted as saying. "I hope that when the first RRT officer is commissioned we can have a special celebration to mark this historic event." Follow the link to access the PHS RT web page and read a Q&A with Capt. Siegel on this great new opportunity. <http://www.aarc.org/headlines/07/11/phs/>

Source: NewsNow @ AARC 11/17/2007

Job Opening:

Director of Respiratory Care & Sleep Lab

Perry County Memorial Hospital, located in Perryville, MO is searching for a full-time Director of Respiratory Care & Sleep Lab. Prefer RRT with a minimum of 2 years of supervisory experience. Will consider CRT with a minimum of 5 years of management experience. Must have Missouri license.

Position reports to the Vice President/COO. Functions independently under medical supervision to assure quality patient care in

compliance with the AARC and hospital guidelines. Manages the Respiratory Care Department in all aspects of staffing, productivity, budgeting, and requirements necessary to maintain current in Respiratory Care, Pulmonary Function, EEG, and Sleep Medicine.

PCMH offers competitive salary and benefits, 401K, etc. Please send resume with work experience and references to:

Perry County Memorial Hospital
Attn: Human Resources
434 North West Street
Perryville, MO 63775

Or email: humanresources@pchmo.org

MSRC Has New Web Address

The Missouri Society for Respiratory Care has launched an updated webpage at a new address. The new address is: <http://mosrc.com/>. Please update this address in you "favorites" list from the old address. As with the previous address, you can find information regarding meetings/CRCE's; district information, officers, job opportunities; and of course, archives of previous editions of the MSRChronicle newsletter!

Looking for CRCE's????

Check out the MSRC webpage under the "Meetings/ CRCE Opportunities" tab.

The AARC also has 3 programs that provide 9.0 CEU's available at NO COST for AARC members. For additional information, go to: http://aarc.org/headlines/free_crce/

Passy-Muir offers 5.0 free CEU's online regarding tracheostomy education. Go to the URL address below for access:

<http://www.passy-muir.com/ceu/>

MSRC Information/Concern Contacts:

The Director-at-Large positions of the MSRC are the positions elected to represent the members of the Society at the Board of Directors meetings. If you have any issues or concerns you would like the MSRC to address, please bring them to the attention of the Directors-at-Large. They are:

Tony Mengwasser

Jefferson Memorial
Crystal City, MO
636-933-1629

E-mail: tmengwasser@jeffersonmemorial.org

&

Ron Kiplinger

Saint Francis Medical Center
Cape Girardeau, MO
573-331-3000

E-mail: rkiplinger@sfmc.net

- Click on "update records" at the top of the page
- Enter your login information
- Click "update contact info" and change your address.
- That's it! You're done.

The AARC will then forward that information on to the MSRC.

For more information on the MSRChronicle please contact:

Lee Clinton, MHA, CHE, RRT:

MSRC Publications Chair

Email: Lee_Clinton@hotmail.com

Check out our **NEW** website at the **NEW** web-address:

<http://mosrc.com/>



Missouri Board for Respiratory Care Contact:

If you have any questions about CEU's or your professional license, direct those questions to the Missouri Board for Respiratory Care (MBRC). Phone is 573-522-5865, Fax: 573-526-3489, email: rcp@pr.mo.gov

Need to Change Your Address?

Need to change your address with the MSRC or for the MSRC Chronicle?? Because your membership in the MSRC is included in your AARC membership, the MSRC gets it membership contact information and mailing address information from the AARC. So if you need to change your address with the MSRC, you simply update your address with the AARC. Here's how:

--Go to www.aarc.org