

Conference News

Once again the ARNs conference (Nov 2002) proved to be a very successful event, with delegates attending from all four corners of the country. The educational programme had been devised from the previous years conference evaluations, demonstrating ongoing commitment, from the ARNs committee to meet **your** educational needs

The overall ratings for the conference were:

The meeting fulfilled my educational requirements (1=strongly disagree: 5= strongly agree).	3.97
The information was well presented (1=strongly disagree: 5= strongly agree).	4.14
The meeting was well organised (1=strongly disagree: 5= strongly agree).	4.70
Please indicate your overall score for the meeting (1= Poor: 5= Excellent)	4.24

The lectures included:

- Review of the asthma guidelines
- Legal aspects of specialist nursing
- Breathlessness
- Update on nurse prescribing
- NLP
- Complementary therapies
- Allergy
- Oxygen

The breakout sessions proved to be popular again, with the following topics covered:

- Nurse led clinics
- NO₂/PC20 and arterial blood gases
- Nurse led competencies

The programme had been planned, allowing time and opportunities to meet up with colleagues, old and new, and visit the many stands and review the poster presentations. The gala dinner was, as always, entertaining, finishing off with the opportunity to kick off our shoes and try our hands (or should I say feet!!) at a spot of barn dancing.

Having evaluated your comments on the 2002 conference, the ARNs committee are busy organising the 2003 conference (Ettington Chase 7th and 8th November 2003). The preliminary programme is looking very exciting ,

with professional and clinical areas of practice being addressed, through sessions on higher levels of specialist practice (NMC), working across primary and secondary boundaries, blood gases and oxygen, sex and breathlessness plus lots more!!

Finally just a few of your comments on last years conference

'Interesting to discover that we all do different things but within the same aim in mind'

'Greater awareness of issues of accountability/competencies – need to be clear about what we are trying to achieve and how'

'Practice elsewhere – Posters well worth seeing'

'Importance of meeting up with and communicating with other respiratory nurses'

'A wide and varied educational content, excellent conference – well done'

'I have found this a very stimulating and informative weekend with excellent presentations, up to date and evidence based information'

Sam Prigmore
Respiratory Nurse Consultant
St Georges Hospital NHS Trust
Tooting
London