

**Women's Issues Section Bimonthly Teleconference  
Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup> 8-9 pm ET**

**Present:** Susan Hutchinson, MD; Charles Flippen, MD; Anne Calhoun, MD; Susan Broner, MD; Todd Berner, MD; Ed Messina, MD; Vince Martin, MD; Gretchen Tietjen, MD; Sylvia Lucas, MD, PhD; Sheena Aurora, MD; Lee Peterlin, DO

**Staff:** Andrea Taylor

**1. Introductions**

Dr. Hutchinson welcomed everyone and reminded the members that we'll have calls every other month on the first Thursday at 8:00pm Eastern time.

**2. Section Symposium Proposals: Update**

Dr. Hutchinson shared with the members that their proposal didn't get accepted for presentation at IHC. Andrea shared the proposals that were accepted (Refractory Headache and Post-Traumatic Headache). Debra Hill gave Dr. Hutchinson the idea for the Scottsdale title. She discussed the details of the proposals. Andrea explained the review process is on hold until the Scottsdale program is finalized.

**3. Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) Project**

**21 members of Women's Section have expressed interest (see list)** – Dr. Berner gave an overview of the project. PPFA is the central governing body of around 900 affiliate clinics across the country. At their national headquarters in New York City they do primary women's health care within their clinics. A great deal of the patient population comes to them with contraception issues. Their clinics tend to skew toward young women. They would like to step up their game in treating headache. Several years back they tried to clearly define the way they diagnosed aura. It was a question of any kind of neurological symptom getting checked off and making patient ineligible for contraception. Ann MacGregor helped them better distinguish the criteria for aura. The Medical Director of the PPFA is Vanessa Cullins. She and Dr. Berner thought it would be great if they could do a better job with patients that come in with PCP services that have headache. It is a good idea to demonstrate some outcomes data for guidelines or treatment decisions. Dr. Berner is thinking the section could partner with them to come up with guidelines to implement. They could then look at the data that arises out of that guideline implementation. Dr. Messina shared his recent project of an artificial intelligence mechanism. Dr. Messina will share additional information that Andrea will send to the clinical action team members. Dr. Hutchinson reviewed a note she received from Dr. Cullins. Dr. Hutchinson will also pass on the details of Dr. Messina's system to Dr. Cullins. Dr. Berner explained the PPFA is completely self insured. They have a side by side company that does all of the risk management for the 900 affiliates. One of their charges is to provide education. The section has an opportunity to develop a program and share it with every clinic across the country. Dr. Hutchinson recommended the group create a CME PowerPoint presentation. Dr. Messina's program can be used for CME. Dr. Aurora shared her thoughts on the project. She thinks the group may want to track the history of the patients via a diary type system. Drs. Berner and Hutchinson would like to start a pilot project with a few clinics and analyze the data before rolling it out to the 900 clinics. Andrea will share the email addresses with Dr. Hutchinson for the 21 members who signed up for the project.

**4. AHS Guideline Project on Migraine Medications During Pregnancy & Lactation: Update on this project**

Dr. Hutchinson wanted to briefly let everyone what section is doing. Members of the group are coming up with guidelines in regards to pregnancy, pre-pregnancy and breastfeeding and headache. ACOG currently does not have any guidelines. Dr. Tietjen is the Chair of the AHS Clinical Action Team. She explained the background of the committee. Dr. Sheftell's idea is to funnel things through a committee of teams interested in coming up with guidelines. *Headache* will publish any guidelines that arise. The guidelines will be similar to other Societies in that they are evidence-based. The committee is currently working on guidelines around serotonin syndrome. Dr. Saper is also working on guidelines for opioids. Dr. Hutchinson asked for volunteers to help with the pregnancy, pre-pregnancy and breastfeeding guidelines. She is chairing these guidelines along with Jim Banks, Joan Golub, Kim Oas, Sylvia Lucas, Phil Wakefield, and Debra Hill. Ann Calhoun volunteered to be part of this project.

**5. Research Projects: Update by Lee Peterlin, D.O.**

Dr. Peterlin is the head of the section's research group. Dr. Hutchinson congratulated Dr. Peterlin and her group for the research submission appearing in the April 2009 issue of *Headache* on PTSD and migraine. Dr. Tietjen has been completing a lot of additional research on the underlying cause of PTSD. Dr. Peterlin reviewed their recent project on the association of migraine and the hormonal cycle of women (pregnancy, menopause, PMS, PMDD, etc.). They are trying to start their own database (longitudinal) on the project. They have finalized the first patient survey. It is about 14 pages and should take 30 minutes to complete. They would like to make the survey internet based. Patients would receive the link and have a login where they can complete the survey. Once the survey is complete they would not be able to go back and change their answers. Dr. Peterlin asked for suggestions and feedback. Dr. Messina and his group will be launching a history taker module in the upcoming month they could piggy back on. Dr. Messina gave an additional overview of his system. Dr. Peterlin would like to apply for a small section grant in addition to funding from pharma. Dr. Messina would not charge the section for the use of his program. Dr. Berner suggested that Dr. Peterlin talk to Margaret Moloney since she has done a lot of internet based diary work. Dr. Hutchinson would like to open up the study to all members of the section who would like to participate. She would like to get away from doing Palm Pilot based studies.

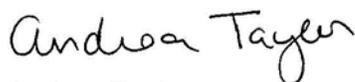
Dr. Tietjen reviewed the abstracts she submitted to IHC. She will also be submitting a paper for the Harold G. Wolff Lecture Award.

**6. Questions/Comments/Suggestions from Members**

There were no additional questions or comments.

The call was adjourned at 8:58.

Respectfully submitted by,



Andrea Taylor  
Program Coordinator