Southern Nursing Research Society
2013 Annual Board/Committee Report

Name of Board Member/Committee : Grants _____

Chair: Elizabeth Reifsnider _____

Committee Members: Committee Members: Angela Green, Barbara Holtzclaw, Daurice Grossniklaus, Diane Chelbowy, Jeanne Marie Stacciarini, Jeanne Salyer, Julie Meaux, Laura Kimble, Lenora Campbell, Linda Moneyham, Mary O'Keefe, Pamela Hodges, Pao-feng Tsai, Patrician Cowan, Susan Letvak, Susan Gatto, Pam Ashcraft.

Place the date and a check in the column of each row.

DATE							
Website							
Policy & Procedures Manual	x						
Membership Communication	x						
Financial Report							
Sent letter/card							
Action items last meeting							

Actions other than that noted in P&P:
The grants committee reviewed 11 SNRS member grants and chose Pei-Ying Chuang PhD, RN, for UT Houston, for her proposal: "The link between neuroglobin and cerebral infarct following anerysmal subarachnoid hemorrohage as the winning proposal." She has submitted her IRB approval form and Ann Mehan Cross will send her the funding.
I have also included on this form a list of the grants that were awarded by SNRS or SNRS+partner in 2013. We have been busy!
Items for discussion/action at board meeting: I want Board advise about replacing/removing a committee member who does not do the work of grant reviews and rarely responds to emails. Is there a term limit for committees? I have asked them to 're-up' and heard yes from this member, but then no response to the work assignment.

Any financial issues to note? Yes _____   No _____   (If yes, then elaborate).

SNRS Grant recipients 2013:
SNRS Research Grant Award
Pei-Ying Chuang PhD, RN
University of Texas Houston Health Science Center, School of Nursing
Study title: The link between neuroglobin and cerebral infarct following anerysmal subarachnoid hemorrhage.
Abstract: Cerebral infarct leads to secondary brain injury, such as cerebral vasospasm and delayed cerebral ischemia, which induces high mortality and morbidity risk in post-aneurysmal subarachnoid hemorrhage (aSAH). Discovery of a biologic indicator associated with delayed cerebral ischemia may diminish neurological infarct deficits by providing for better assessment and quicker treatment.

Neuroglobin (NGB), an endogenous neuroprotector, increases oxygen in cases of cerebral ischemia and binds with more toxic substances in neurons. The purpose of this pilot study is to investigate NGB protein interactions and its coding-region DNA sequencing as associated with cerebral infarct (critical hours) and neurological outcomes (long-term) after aSAH insult. This pilot study uses with 25 healthy control individuals without neurological conditions and 25 consecutively aSAH subjects following inclusion criteria: 1) adults (ages 21-75 years) diagnosed with severe aSAH from a ruptured cerebral aneurysm and 2) Hunt & Hess grade $\geq$ 1 and/or Fisher score $\geq$ 2. The aSAH patients were admitted to the Neuro-Vascular Intensive Care Unit (NV-ICU) at the University Pittsburgh Medical Center. The study was approved by IRBs at the University of Pittsburgh and UTHealth. Neurobehavioral outcomes GOS, NIHSS, and mRS were collected. Descriptive statistics, ANOVA, and mixed linear model will be used.

SNRS Dissertation Research Grant Award

Ansley Stanfill MSN, RN

University of Tennesee, Memphis

Dissertation Supervisor, Dr. Donna Hathaway

Study title: Dopaminergic Genetic Contributions to Obesity in Kidney Transplant Recipients

Abstract: Kidney transplant recipients experience a high likelihood of gaining a significant amount of weight (6-13 kilograms) in the first year after transplant. However, not all kidney transplant recipients gain weight. Studies have found little difference in physical activity and nutritional intake among those who do and do not gain weight. Immunosuppressant medications have also not been shown to play a substantive role. These observations suggest that genetic factors may have a role in the differential weight gain of kidney transplant recipients.

Dopamine is a neurotransmitter that has previously been implicated in substance addiction, and has recently been shown to play a role in models of food addiction. Both dopamine receptor genes and genes related to overall dopamine activity have been associated with obesity, weight gain, and food addiction.

Preliminary gene expression studies in subcutaneous adipose tissue of kidney transplant recipients have confirmed that expression of some dopaminergic pathway genes was negatively correlated with weight gain in this tissue. The purpose of the proposed study is to use real time polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) to determine if polymorphisms associated with these dopaminergic genes have predictive value when combined with demographic characteristics for weight gain in the kidney transplant population.

SNRS/CANS Dissertation Award

Jessica Gordon, MSN, RN

University of South Florida

Dissertation Supervisor, Dr. Maureen Groer

Study title: Skin to Skin Contact and Oxytocin Secretion in Preterm Mothers

Abstract: The specific aim of this study is to explore the relationship between oxytocin and skin to skin (SSC) among lactating mothers with hospitalized premature infants. There are three research questions the PI plans to answer: 1) Does maternal basal oxytocin differ in SSC compared to no SSC over a 7-day time frame; 2) Does SSC frequency affect basal oxytocin levels; and 3) Does SSC duration affect basal oxytocin levels? The PI proposes a descriptive, one group design to explore these relationships. The PI will enroll 35 lactating mothers and their premature infants born less than 37 weeks gestation after the

infants are admitted into the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). There will be three data collection points; baseline (24-48 hours after delivery); session 1 (3 days post delivery) and session 2 (6 days post delivery). Demographic and medical history data will be collected at baseline and updated over the 7-day study period. SSC will be documented by each mother in a daily tracking log and will be recorded in minutes per SSC session indicating start and stop time of SSC and daily 24 hour total minutes of SSC. Four saliva samples will be collected (pre and post SSC at sessions 1 and 2) and analyzed for oxytocin. To test specific aim 1, the difference between the basal oxytocin with and without SSC on each day will be computed to form a new measure. The two differences will be used as the repeated measures of the true difference variable. A mixed effect model will be fitted with the true difference variable as the dependent variable with control variables (gestational age, feeding method, frequency of SSC, duration of SSC) as the independent variables. Different correlation structures will be used to select the best fitting model. Additional analyses using the mix effect model of within session and within subject data will test the acute and sustained effects of SSC on oxytocin. The results of this study are expected to offer a new understanding of the physiology of galactokinesis and insight on the use of SSC as a possible intervention to increase the amount of human milk expressed from the mammary gland.

SNRS/STTI Grant Award
Cheryl Postlwaite
Study title: Exploration of the Accuracy and Precision of the Scott Triggers Instrument in Predicting Postoperative Pressure Ulcer Development
Abstract: National and international standards consistently recommend that all patients be assessed for pressure ulcer development risk, preferably with a standardized risk assessment tool. However, instrument sensitivity, specificity, and predictive validity, particularly as it applies to use of the Braden Scale in the surgical population, is weak. A new, evidence-based risk assessment instrument, the Scott TriggersTM scale, shows great potential as a preoperative predictor of postoperative pressure ulcer development. Implementation of a simple, preoperative pressure ulcer risk assessment tool with strong predictive metrics would enable perioperative and wound care nurses to work proactively in implementing tailored preventative interventions to reduce the occurrence of HAPU in the high risk surgical population. Such interventions should contribute to reduced healthcare costs and significantly improved patient outcomes. The purpose of this retrospective, exploratory study is to investigate the accuracy and precision of the Scott TriggersTM instrument in predicting postoperative pressure ulcer development in a large, heterogenous surgical patient population.

SNRS/ANF Nursing Research Grant
Jiayun Xu, BSN, PhD(c), RN
Johns Hopkins University
Dissertation Supervisor, Dr. Hae-Ra Han
Study title: Decision Making Prior to a Re-hospitalization among Patients with Heart Failure
Abstract:
 The purpose of the study is to compare (1) Heart failure (HF) self-care, (2) decisional delays, and (3) the decision making process prior to re-hospitalization in HF patients who have been re-hospitalized within and beyond 30 days of an admission for HF.
Re-hospitalizations among HF patients are common and costly. Because hospitals and institutions are penalized

for 30 day re-hospitalizations, it is becoming increasingly important to determine how and why patients are being re-hospitalized. Current hospitalization prediction models do not consistently or strongly predict readmission, suggesting the need to examine and explore other patient characteristics such as patient decision making. The proposed study is directly aligned with the American Nurses Association's (ANA) priorities of improving patient outcomes and assessing patient understanding of self-care – in the context of HF.

The study, guided by a modified naturalistic decision making framework, uses a convergent parallel mixed-methods design to gain an in-depth understanding of the HF patient's decision making process with a focus on the critical modifiable variables of self-care and decisional delay. All participants will be recruited through the Johns Hopkins Hospital. A total of 128 participants and 20-32 participants will be recruited for the quantitative and qualitative portions of the study, respectively. For the quantitative portion of the study, participants will be recruited via quota sampling and divided into two groups – patients re-hospitalized within and beyond 30 days of an admission for HF. For the qualitative portion of the study purposive criterion sampling based on the patient's HF Self-Care Maintenance scores will be used to select participants in 4 sampling strata. All participants will complete a 20-25 minute quantitative survey on variables related to HF self-care and decisional delay, and 20-32 participants will be interviewed on their decision making process prior to re-hospitalization. Analysis of covariance (ANCOVA) will be used to analyze the quantitative data. Qualitative descriptive analysis using open coding, creation of a codebook, and reflexivity will be used to analyze the qualitative data. Quantitative and qualitative findings will be merged in mutual context with data displays and matrices. The qualitative data will be examined for fit with the quantitative data to inform interpretation of both significant and non-significant quantitative findings.

An understanding of how HF patients make decisions can serve to inform the development of decision making interventions to improve HF self-care, decrease decisional delays, and to improve HF patient health outcomes. Additionally, understanding the patient's decision making process can help nurses better tailor HF patient discharge planning and education to help decrease re-hospitalizations.