



## December 2016

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Dear Colleagues,

It would appear that along with winter festivities, flu season is also upon us! Across our beautiful country, practice is varied for both patients and staff. In some centres, nurses administer flu vaccines to their patients, while in other places; this is considered primary care and patients go to their family doctor, pharmacy or public health centre.

In 2012, in British Columbia, it was mandated that all health care providers who come into contact with patients must be immunized against the flu or wear a surgical mask during flu season. This decision appears to be supported by nursing and other health care organizations in the province, yet generates a lot of discussion each year. Effectiveness of the vaccine and individual rights are two common themes.

Divergences continue across the country, in Ontario, the RNAO is known for its persuasive campaign "If it could save even one life, isn't it worth it?" <http://rnao.ca/content/get-your-flu-shot>. While, famously in Saskatchewan last October it was announced that health officials were no longer enforcing the mandatory flu shot or surgical mask policy.

What is happening in your practice environment? And what are your thoughts about it? We would like to hear from you!

All the best,

Michele

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### **Patient Handoffs in Nephrology Nurse Practice Settings: A Safety Study**

Research investigating patient handoff processes has inundated the safety literature, but not in nephrology nurse practice settings. Effective patient handoffs are essential for maintaining patient safety by avoiding errors related to poor information exchange. This mixed methods research study

### **Dates to Remember**

**April 18 - 22, 2017**  
[NKF Spring Clinical Meeting](#)

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### **Stay Connected**



### **Forward to a Colleague**

Do you have colleagues that don't receive our monthly newsletters? Please forward this to them using the link below.

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investigated the process of patient handoff across nephrology practice settings and the implications for patient safety and nursing practice. Findings indicate there are too frequently issues with handoffs of patients with chronic kidney disease who must move between many different healthcare providers and healthcare settings. Nephrology nurses reported that the use of multiple methods for handoff communications and practice sites having differing hours of operation present challenges to practitioners, which result in information too often "falling through the cracks."

*By Kear, T.M., Bhattacharya, A., & Walsh, M. (2016).*

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## **CANNT Webinars**

CANNT members are invited to view the following recording which has just been added to the CANNT website:

**Hypertension in Hemodialysis**  
**- by Dr. Robert Richardson MD FRCPC**

[Click here for the link to watch.](#)

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## **Career Opportunities**

- 1 Registered Nurse - Home Therapies - Credit Valley Hospital, Mississauga, ON  
Posted: Nov 9, 2016
- 2 Nurse Navigator - Credit Valley Hospital, Mississauga, ON  
Posted: Nov 9, 2016
- 3 Assistant or Associate Professor, Management of Chronic Illness - University of Calgary, Calgary, AB  
Posted: Nov 3, 2016
- 4 Temporary, Full-time Instructor, Nephrology Nursing Specialty - BCIT, Burnaby, BC  
Posted: Oct 19, 2016
- 5 Registered Nurse, Hemodialysis Unit - St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver BC  
Posted: Sep 7, 2016

[Click here for more information.](#)

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