Welcome to the ARN Abstract Submission Guidelines!

ARN 2020 REACH Conference (Renew, Explore, Advance, Connect, Hope)
October 21 to 24 - 2020, San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter Hotel in San Antonio, TX

ARN is pleased to announce we are now accepting abstracts for papers, case studies, and posters reflective of quality improvement, evidence-based practice, research, education, leadership, and/or program evaluation for REACH 2020. Please read the information below prior to submitting an abstract.

All abstracts must be submitted by **April 3rd, 2020; 11:59pm PT**. You may revise your abstract at any time up until the submission deadline. You will receive a confirming email upon submission. All information that you enter on the abstract form will appear in the conference materials exactly as it has been entered. Thus, we strongly recommend that you draft the body of your abstract offline in a word processing document. After you have checked for any spelling and grammatical errors and verified that your word count falls within the 350-word limit, you can easily copy-and-paste the text from your working document into the online form. ARN reserves the right to edit for size, style, and/or grammar.

For additional questions regarding your submission, call ARN Member Services at 800.229.7530 for assistance.

Overall Conference Goals and Objectives:

- Examine state-of-the-art approaches to improving rehabilitation patient care and outcomes
- Apply strategic knowledge about current issues facing rehabilitation nurses and the healthcare industry
- Incorporate evidence-based interventions into practice for the rehabilitation of patients with a variety of diagnoses

Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) is the Integration of: *(Sackett D, 2002)*

- Clinical expertise (clinician's cumulated experience, education and clinical skills)
- Patient's values, personal preferences, unique concerns, and expectations
- The best research evidence into the decision-making process for patient care

General Submission Topics

We strongly encourage all members to submit abstracts in the areas outlined below. We are also seeking submissions for advanced practice/pharmacology and setting specific topics.

- Administration/Management
- Alternatives to Pharmacology
- Avoiding Burnout/Caregiver Fatigue
- Behavioral Issues
- Bowel/Bladder
- Cancer
- Cardiovascular disease/LVAD
- Care of the Complex Patient
- Caregiver Self-Care
- Case Management
- Clinical Issues across Diagnoses
- Common Rehab Diagnoses, Conditions and Interventions
- Community Reentry
- CRRN Engagement
- EBP/Research Application/Translation
- Employee Engagement/Team Building
- Falls
- FIM Scoring/Documentation

- Gerontology
- Leadership/Management Involvement
- Legal Issues
- Neurological disorders
- Nursing Addictions
- Pain – Chronic and Acute Management
- Pediatrics
- Quality and Pay for Performance
- Recruitment of New Grads in the field of Reducing Nurse Turnover/Staff Satisfaction
- Rehabilitation Nursing
- Self-Care for Nurses
- Skin Wounds
- Spinal cord injury
- Staffing/Nurse/Patient Ratios/Different Shift Lengths
- Stroke
- Transitions of Care
- Traumatic and acquired brain injury

Presentation Formats:

Papers: Authors of selected abstracts will have 15 minutes to orally present their paper and 5 minutes for Q&A. All presenters will be provided an ARN PowerPoint template for their presentation. *Note: ARN accepts only one presenter per paper submission due to the short presentation timeframe. Multiple presenters are not accepted.*

Papers: Authors of selected abstracts will have 15 minutes to orally present their paper and 5 minutes for Q&A. Research abstracts should include a problem statement, significance, research questions/hypotheses, methods including design and measurement, data analysis, results, discussion, and implications for practice, education, leadership, and/or future research. All presenters will be provided an ARN PowerPoint template for their presentation. *Note: ARN accepts only one presenter per paper submission due to the short presentation timeframe. Multiple presenters are not accepted.*

Case Studies: Case studies should reflect advanced clinical nursing practice in a rehabilitation setting and demonstrate implementation of creative, innovative, and evidence-based solutions to a complex patient care problem. Authors of selected abstracts will have 25 minutes to describe a specific clinical problem or issue, present the problem, generate discussion about various possible solutions, then present the solution implemented and outcome. In order to invite audience participation, abstract submissions for case studies must include two questions the authors will pose to the audience. All presenters will be provided an ARN PowerPoint template for their presentation.

Outline recommendation for case study presentations:

- Patient History including diagnoses and medication
- Change in status requiring intervention
- Presentation and examination
- Diagnosis
- Case Discussion
- Basic Facts related to change in status
- Definition
- Key symptoms
- Evidence-based rehab nursing interventions
- Two questions to pose to the audience for discussion
- Solution and outcome

Posters: A visual presentation. Authors must be available to present during poster exhibition sessions for questions from participants. In general, clinical or research posters should include background/significance, methods/approach, results/findings, discussion of results/findings, and implications for practice.

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Avoidance of Commercialism:
All presentations must avoid commercialism. Presentations that constitute promotion and advertising (including the use of logos) will not be considered. If the cost of any presentation has been underwritten to any extent, a clear acknowledgment stating the support, identifying the source, and describing the methods for keeping the content unbiased should be included. Advertising matter that in any way promotes the commercial interest of a particular company, enterprise, or the author(s) may not be distributed or displayed. Statements made in the presentation are the sole responsibility of the author and are not viewed as, or considered representative of, any formal position taken on any product, subject, or issued by ARN.

Review Process:
Each qualifying abstract will undergo a double-blind review by three (3) volunteer ARN members selected by the 2020 REACH Paper/Poster Co-Chairs. The Paper/Poster Co-Chairs make their final recommendations to the Planning Committee based on the results of the initial review. Abstracts that do not fulfill all requirements will not be reviewed.

Review Criteria:
Reviews of all research-based abstracts will be based on the following criteria:
- problem is clearly identified
- theoretical framework is described
- methodology/design are appropriate
- data analysis is described
- major findings are presented with interpretation
- implications for rehabilitation nursing practice

Acceptance Notification:
Letters of acceptance and non-acceptance will be emailed to the primary submitter by June 2020. If you are accepted to present a paper/case study, you will be asked to fill out additional information for ANCC purposes.

Responsibility for Expenses:
The ARN REACH Conference gives rehabilitation professionals the opportunity to present their work within an atmosphere of support by peers and national rehabilitation leaders. Presenters must register and pay for the full conference. Only those presenters committed to attending the conference may submit an abstract. If your presentation is accepted, your session will not be confirmed until your conference registration is received and paid in full. Presenters are responsible for session expenses such as slides and handouts and for personal expenses such as travel, hotel, and meeting registration fees.