

Editor's Corner



Rita Agarwal, MD,

I am writing this a few days after Hurricane Katrina caused catastrophe in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. My thoughts and prayers like many of yours are with the victims of that tragedy. The physicians and other medical staff at Charity Hospital are begging for help to evacuate patients from the hospital. There are reports that medical personnel in some institutions have been working for days without a break. So much for the 80 hour week!! I can't even begin to imagine the chaos, turmoil, exhaustion and despair that they must feel, I find myself asking how or if I could cope.

This issue of the newsletter is traditionally the one that immediately precedes the ASA and SPA's Annual Meetings. We usually highlight all the wonderful speakers at the SPA and encourage everyone to attend. Obviously that will not happen this year.

I do want to as always thank my great contributing authors for all their hard work and effort. Dr. Cheryl K. Gooden has provided a review of an excellent article on PONV in infants and the efficacy of ondasetron from *Anesthesia and Analgesia* as well as writing a new Section called "What's New in Pediatrics". The focus of our first "What's New" is pediatric airway devices. We will try and have a "What's New" segment at least once or twice a year. If you have any suggestions for topics please let me know. Drs. Hoshi Khambatta, Helen Lauro and Mike Williams have also written insightful article reviews. Dr. David Abramson, is a guest editor after having coerced his children into cooperating with our latest "Keeping up with the Kids". Dr. Elizabeth Yun volunteered to summarize the fascinating discussion on the PAC e-mail site that occurred in August and early September on the use of general or regional anesthesia for former premature infants.

As always I welcome contributions of any kind. I'm definitely going to need help with the next "Keeping up with the Kids" unless you want to hear more about what children in Denver like. The next issue of the newsletter is usually dominated by the ASA and SPA's annual meeting review. Since the SPA has cancelled their meeting obviously that won't be the case. You can contact me at Agarwal.Rita@tchden.org.

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