



U.S. Public Health Service Nursing
Chief Nurse Officer's Newsletter
RADM Kerry Paige Nessler
August 2011



Dear PHS Civilian, Tribal, and Commissioned Corps Nurses,

Congratulations to the Commissioned Corps nurses who were selected for Temporary and Permanent Grade Promotions! Promotions are a professional milestone that acknowledges exceptional performance, diligent efforts and a deep commitment to public health. It also speaks to the potential for higher level of responsibility and carries with it new opportunities to serve not only program and Agency needs but also the nurse category and the Corps. I look forward to working with you as we continue to “protect, promote, and advance the health and safety of our Nation”. Please accept my sincerest Congratulations and best wishes for continued success.

A Message from the HHS Secretary Regarding Legislation That Reduces the Deficit and Avoids Default
On August 3, 2011, the President signed into law a bipartisan bill that will reduce the deficit and avoid default. All agencies, including HHS, have been instructed to continue their normal operations and payments as scheduled. The HHS Secretary acknowledged that the uncertainty of the last few days has been very difficult for the nation as a whole and for the employees of this Department in particular. Secretary Sebelius recognized the HHS workforce as the Department's greatest asset, and reassured that we will continue to be one of her top priorities as we move forward.

Commissioned Corps Accountability Workgroup Structure

As you may already know, the USPHS Commissioned Corps convened the Commissioned Corps Accountability Structure Working Groups from February to March 2011. The Working Groups were established to advise the Surgeon General on operations and business process outcomes to facilitate the effective, timely, and efficient implementation of the new accountability structure. The three goals were to: 1) improvement of efficiency, effectiveness, performance and customer service for the Commissioned Corps and to the Commissioned Corps' stakeholders and partners; 2) design a framework to foster a culture of continuous process improvement, including measurable outcomes and accountability; and 3) foster the shared vision for the Commissioned Corps' accountability structure.

The Working Groups submitted their final reports to the Office of the Surgeon General on the new accountability structure on 31 March 2011. A Federal Registry Notice will be posted announcing the New Accountability Structure and implementation will begin. Some key changes are already underway. The position announcement for the Director, Division of Commissioned Corps Personnel and Readiness (DCCPR) was open until 20 May 2011. Two other key position announcements will be opening soon; these include the top positions for the Division of Systems Integration (DSI) and Division of Science and Communications (DSC). Since Nursing is central to the development and implementation of the public health infrastructure of our Corps and Nation, I encourage qualified nurses to apply to these critical leadership positions and take an active role in the creation and implementation of the new system.

Past Visits, Conferences & Meetings:

The USPHS Chief Nurse Officer Toured the New Facilities at National Naval Medical Center (NNMC)

On Wednesday, 27 April 2011, the USPHS Chief Nurse was honored to be invited to a guided tour of the new **America Building and the National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICoE)** located at the NNMC in Bethesda, Maryland. The tour included a visit to the Activities of Daily Living Program, and the Apartment Environment and Occupational/Physical Therapy, which utilized the indoor track and indoor swimming pool. This live-in environment is a wonderful area to facilitate healing of our wounded service members. The U.S. Navy, Army, and Public Health Service are commended for their dedication in providing the full range of prevention, care and treatment to our service members and their families. In particular, CDR Moira McGuire is recognized for coordinating this awe-inspiring event.

Nurse Recognition Day

The 20th Annual U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) **Nursing Recognition Day (NRD)** Conference took place on Friday, 6 May 2011. It was a pleasure to have RADM Chris Halliday, Chief of Staff, to lead the opening session and start off the day. The nurses who attended are very appreciative of his heartfelt and warm opening remarks congratulating the nurses for a “job well-done”, and for taking the time to celebrate NRD. The theme for the day was *Public Health Nurses – Making a Difference in Health Outcomes*. Scientific presentations covered a range of topics including: the concept of ‘Disruptive Innovation’; our connectivity to environmental health and the impact on health outcomes; and the “Kangaroo Care” model of practice for newborns and families. The highlight was the video of LT Borghild “Berkie” Bevans (Ret.) sharing her life story as an Army nurse stationed throughout Europe in World War II.

Congratulations to both LCDR Leslie Wehrlen and LCDR Allison Adams-McLean for their outstanding leadership in organizing and spearheading the “Platinum Anniversary” of the USPHS Nursing Recognition Day. The event was well attended with over 180 nurses registered.



Left: RADM Nessler presented her first CNO coin to RADM Halliday

Right: Borghild “Berkie” Bevans, 1st LT, US Army, USPHS Civilian Nurse (Ret.) and RADM Nessler

New Nursing Officers Complete OBC

The Open House for the **Officer Basic Course (OBC)** Class 42 was held on Thursday, 12 May 2011. There were 19 Nurse Officers who participated in the OBC.

The **2011 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium** was held in New Orleans, Louisiana, from 20-23 June. Despite the limited number of supported travel, both the Symposium and the Nurse Category Day events were well attended by over 700 participants. We were honored by the Assistant Secretary for Health (ASH), Dr. Howard Koh during the Symposium. The Nurse Category Day event examined the role of public health leaders in three major initiatives: 1) the *Post Recovery Phase of Hurricane Katrina and the Deep Water Horizon Oil Spill*; 2) *Nursing Leadership in the Transformation of Healthcare and Emerging Roles of Nurse Informatics Leaders*; and 3) *Creating a Healthier Nation through Effective Nursing Leadership*. The Deputy Surgeon General, RADM Boris Lushniak gave an inspiring speech titled, *Leadership: Applied Principles in Public Health*, while Assistant Director, Health Services Division and Medical Director, Federal Bureau of Prisons, RADM Newton Kendig provided a visionary presentation on *Forward Thinking: A Construct for Identifying Nursing Issues and Advancing Nursing Leadership into the Future*. Congratulations to CDR Wanda Chestnut, CDR Michelle Brown-Stephenson, Nurse Category Day Chairs and the Nursing Category Day Planning Committee on a job well done!

For those of you who were not able to attend this year's Symposium, here are the names of the 2011 nurse awardees and some pictures taken during the Symposium:

CW Nurse Leadership award:	CAPT Maureen Cippel
CW Nurse of the Year award:	CAPT Mary Rettino
CW Innovative Collaboration award:	CDR Cynthia Nielsen-McArdle
CW Advanced Practice Nurse award:	CDR Tracy Williams
Lucille Woodville award:	CDR Brenda Cook
Nurse Responder of the Year	CAPT Holly Williams
Mabel May Wagner award:	CDR Shelly Paynter



RADM Nessler, NPAC Chair, CDR Thomas Pryor, and members of the Nursing Category Day Planning Committee



Three PHS Commissioned Corps Nurses demonstrating splinting and wound care during the exhibit hall hours at the USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium.

PHS Career Planning: “Chief Professional Officers’ Perspective”

The Chief Professional Officers (CPO’s) held a workshop during the **2011 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium** to help Officers with career planning. Some of the topics covered included: *Multiple and Innovative Roads; Conceptual Level – Commitment to Mission, Honoring Tradition, Our Brand; and Mission Matters*. The workshop was recorded by COF and will be available for viewing in the near future.

USPHS Participates in the National Conference of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners

The **26th National Conference of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners** took place in Las Vegas, Nevada from June 22-26. For the first time ever the USPHS was an official participant in the Uniformed Corps Chief Updates Session, 26th National Conference of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) along with our sister services, the U.S. Army, Navy, and Air Force! This session was scheduled from 10:45 AM - 1:30 PM on Wednesday, June 22, 2011, and comprised a presentation from each of the Uniformed Services Chief Nurse or his/her designee detailing its Nurse Corps’ current structure (including NPs), initiatives, and outcomes that influence NP role and practice. CAPT Susan Orsega and CAPT Jane Powers attended on behalf of the USPHS CNO and represented the USPHS with a slide presentation of our Nurse Corps and accomplishments! A branch meeting was scheduled for each service for that evening to discuss service-specific issues. This was the inaugural branch meeting for the USPHS at this event. It provided the opportunity to dialogue with fellow PHS nurse practitioners to discuss issues, initiatives or opportunities pertinent to our service, and to establish a consistent and visible presence at this international forum. Thank you CAPT Orsega and CAPT Powers for representing us so well!

2011 Public Health Service Nursing All-Hands meeting in the field was conducted on 25 July 2011, at 1:00pm CDT, in Fort Worth, TX. The topics discussed during the meeting included the proposed USPHS Commissioned Corps New Accountability Structure, the Federal Public Health Nurse Leadership Network, the Public Health Service Nursing Strategic Plan, Commissioned Corps Nurse Officers Demographics, Basic Readiness and New Billet Collection System. While in Fort Worth, the CNO visited two Federal Bureau of Prisons facilities: Federal Medical Center Carswell, and Federal Correctional Institution Fort Worth on 26 July 2011. The meeting was well attended with about 20 nurses in attendance and approximately 75 phone lines were utilized. Thank you to CAPT Michelle Poindexter, Chief Nurse, BoP for accompanying me and organizing the meeting and site visits.

2011 National Military Family Association's Family Award Luncheon was held on 28 July 2011 at Alexandria, VA. Congratulations to the USPHS Family of the Year, the Thompson family, stationed in Eagle River, Alaska.

Married for 12 years, USPHS officer's LCDR Jasen Thompson (PA-C) and CDR Susan Thompson (RN) and their family embrace the characteristics of perseverance, commitment and service. This active duty couple met while serving at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, MD and married at the Old Post Chapel in Arlington, VA. The young family juggled deployments aboard the USNS Comfort to Haiti and Humanitarian medical missions to the Baltic region, all while they continued to work and finish graduate medical and nursing degrees. They worked hard at maintaining continuity and balance in their young children's lives, despite times when one parent was away for deployments or training. In 2003, after serving the Navy for 8 years, the Thompson's were selected for assignment with the USPHS, giving them the opportunity to care for the Alaska Native population. This move to Alaska was life-changing and strengthened the family's core value of commitment. They quickly acclimated to their new Alaskan lifestyle and developed relationships of trust and respect in their healthcare organization and community. The family has made it a mission to not only serve their country, but to serve their family and local community. They are active in the Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, and Little League Baseball - setting an example of volunteerism that is modeled by their children. They speak and volunteer in the local schools health and science fair and encourage young students to take an active role in their own health. Together, the family devotes time to collect and distribute food to local charities and participates improvement projects in their community. By role modeling and following through on commitments, Jasen and Susan have set examples of good citizenship to their young children. Whether it is in the workplace, in the community, or with each other, the Thompson family takes great joy in working together to help others.



The Thompson family and RADM Nessler at the 2011 National Military Family Association's Family Award Luncheon, Alexandria, VA

USPHS Music Ensemble Performance at the National WWII Memorial

The USPHS Music Ensemble performed at the National WWII Memorial in **Washington, DC, 30 July, 2011 from 7:00 – 8:00 PM** to honor the memories of the Greatest Generation in song as they present music of the era, a tribute to Veterans, and a patriotic celebration in honor of the Uniformed Services.

History on the USPHS Music Ensemble; In late 1999, the idea of creating the USPHS Music Ensemble originated during a meeting of the Scientist Professional Advisory Committee by two Commissioned Corps scientists, CAPT John J. Bartko (ret) and CAPT Derek E. Dunn (deceased). These gentlemen shared a great love of music, and both recognized that unlike our sister services, PHS was a uniformed service without musical groups. A survey was conducted within the scientist category to ascertain interest in forming musical groups. With a favorable survey result, CAPT Dunn brought the idea forward to the Office of the Surgeon General

which embraced the initiative, and authorized a survey of all active duty officers to determine potential Corps-wide interest. Approximately 75 officers throughout the nation responded favorably.

From its humble beginning in late 2000 with premier performances of the handful of officers comprising the Wind and Choral Groups at the Washington, DC Commissioned Officers Association picnic, the USPHS Music Ensemble has grown steadily and skillfully over the past decade currently consisting of approximately 200 officers. The USPHS Music Ensemble represents the Office of the Surgeon General. Its purpose is to provide musical support for formal and informal PHS and non-PHS events and to further enhance the esprit-de-corps, morale and visibility of the Commissioned Corps. Members of the USPHS Music Ensemble are dedicated musicians from across the nation who voluntarily provides exemplary officership throughout the Commissioned Corps through the powerful gift of music. These officers have exceptional commitment to, and pride in, the Commissioned Corps and volunteer considerable personal time for rehearsals, preparations and performances and expenditures in support of PHS. Members of the Ensemble are highly motivated and work toward advancing the visibility of the Corps. Wherever they are, Ensemble officers serve as outstanding ambassadors and representatives of the Commissioned Corps.

Because of the pride of officership and the opportunity to contribute to the greater good of the PHS, many nurses are members of the Music Ensembles. If you would like additional information on becoming a Member, please contact the following Officers:

Wind Ensemble DC-area Group Leader, LCDR Scott Colburn, Scott.Colburn@fda.hhs.gov
Wind Ensemble Field Officers Group Leader, LCDR Karen Nero Munoz, karen.munoz@fda.hhs.gov
Choral Ensemble DC-area Group Leader, CDR Moira McGuire, Moira.McGuire@med.navy.mil
Choral Ensemble Field Officers Group Leader, CAPT Sally Brown, sbrown@cdc.gov
Choral Ensemble Butner, NC Group Leader, CDR Josef Rivero, jrivero@bop.gov
Choral Ensemble Atlanta, GA Group Leader, CDR Valerie Wilson, vxwilson@bop.gov, or
Choral Ensemble Dallas/Fort Worth, TX Group Leader and Music Ensemble Conductor CDR John Tyson Chapman john.chapman@fda.hhs.gov.



The USPHS Music Ensemble at the National WWII Memorial, Washington, DC, 30 July 2011

USPHS Supports Operation Lone Star

Over one hundred United States Public Health Service (USPHS) officers joined forces with the Texas State Guard (TXSG), other local service groups and volunteers to support the State and local health and human services agencies during the first week of Operation Lone Star (OLS), from 24-29 July 2011. The USPHS-1 Team participated in OLS as a training exercise. The team integrates a Rapid Deployment Force (RDF), Mental Health Team (MHT), and Services Access Team (SAT) under a unified command. USPHS-1 was divided into Strike Teams to support four (4) OLS locations in Rio Grande City, Brownsville, San Juan, and Mission to provide medical and preventive services, fill prescriptions, conduct wellness screenings and health education, and patient referrals as necessary.

USPHS-1 also provided general public health and wellness services, which are new additions to the panoply of free services already offered through OLS. MHT-1 staffed the site's wellness center where individuals received nutrition counseling and healthy eating plans, wellness and mental health screenings (i.e. stress management, anger management, depression, etc.), and other education and counseling services. The team also implemented *Operation Let's Move* during OLS, which encouraged children to engage in physical exercise while waiting for services. Childhood obesity is an epidemic across the United States that can be improved with a balanced healthy diet and daily exercise. RDF-1 assisted the Texas State health department with epidemiological studies using OLS data. The results from those studies will help to better understand disease trends in the community, as well as inform future public health interventions and programs.

Workgroups

The **Compensation Policy Advisory Board (CPAB)** was reconvened on 18 May 2011 by RADM Clare Helminiak to support the PHS mission of serving vulnerable populations, staffing hard to fill sites, providing 24/7 response, complementing and advancing DoD collaborations, and addressing other unmet PH needs. In addition, compensation policy supports the rapidly changing needs of the HHS and PHS. The CPAB first convened in 2009 to develop a White Paper which described the initial Special Pay for Nurses plan and a 5-year plan with recommendations for "new special pay authorities for nurses". A review and discussions regarding DoD and Nursing Corps special pays will be conducted. I personally wish to thank CAPT Mary Lambert for volunteering to chair a working group of senior level nurses in the review of the Nurse's 2009 White Paper to provide updated recommendations to myself (CNO) and the CPAB.

Federal PHS Nursing Strategic Plan

On Thursday, 28 April 2011, the Task Force charged with its development first convened to begin formulating a ***Federal PHS Nursing Strategic Plan***. The *Strategic Plan* is being developed to guide our collective plans and activities to better the health status of Americans over the next 5 years. There are currently 40 Nurses (Commissioned Corps, Civil Service, and Tribal) from various agencies participating on this Task Force.

The first *Draft Strategic Plan (Vision, Mission and Values)* document should be finalized and circulated to the broader PHS Nursing community for review and input by late August 2011. After a 2-week comment period from all the nurses, we will seek concurrence from the Office of the Surgeon General (OSG). Communication efforts will begin after we receive OSG approval.

Three additional teams will continue to develop and advance the *Strategic Plan* through to implementation:

- The *Goals and Objective Team* will use input from a prioritization exercise held last month, along with core references such as the *HHS Prevention Strategy*, *HHS Strategic Plan*, *Healthy People 2020*, and *Surgeon General Priorities* to inform and develop the *Federal PHS Nursing Strategic Plan* goals and objectives.

- The *Implementation Team* will be formed to help execute the *Strategic Plan*. Implementation is scheduled to begin on October 1, 2011, the new fiscal year. The NPAC will provide leadership and assistance in its implementation.
- The Communications Team will be tasked with spearheading the communications strategy.

Kudos and many warm thanks to CAPT Susan Orsega who has served as my Co-Chair, to CDR Veronica Gordan who has served as our Recorder, and to all the members of the Task Force that have continued to put in many hours in the conceptual development of our Plan.

Federal Updates

The Obama Administration announced the release of the *National Prevention and Health Promotion Strategy* on June 16, 2011, a comprehensive plan that will help increase the number of Americans who are healthy at every stage of life.

National Prevention Strategy recognizes that good health comes not just from receiving quality medical care, but also from clean air and water, safe worksites and healthy foods. The strategy was developed by the National Prevention Council, which is composed of 17 federal agencies that consulted with outside experts and stakeholders.

The *National Prevention Strategy* includes actions that public and private partners can take to help Americans stay healthy and fit and improve our nation's prosperity. The strategy outlines four strategic directions that, together, are fundamental to improving the nation's health. Those four strategic directions are:

- Building healthy and safe community environments.
- Expanding quality preventive services in both clinical and community settings:
- Empowering people to make healthy choices:
- Eliminating health disparities

The *National Prevention Strategy* was developed with guidance from the public and is supported by the Advisory Group on Prevention, Health Promotion and Integrative and Public Health. The National Prevention Council, the advisory group, and private and public partners will work together to help implement the strategy at the national, state, tribal and local levels and recognize the importance of actively engaging all sectors of society in improving the health and well-being in communities.

More information on the National Prevention Strategy and the National Prevention Council can be found at www.HealthCare.gov/center/councils/nphpphc

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) unveiled the nine graphic health warnings required to appear on every pack of cigarettes sold in the United States and in every cigarette advertisement by September 2012.

This measure is designed to help prevent children from smoking, encourage adults who do to quit and ensure every American understands the dangers of smoking.

The warnings represent the most significant changes to cigarette labels in more than 25 years and will affect everything from packaging to advertisements and are required to be placed on all cigarette packs, cartons and ads no later than September 2012.

Tobacco use is the leading cause of premature and preventable death in the United States, responsible for 443,000 deaths each year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and costs the economy nearly \$200 billion every year in medical costs and lost productivity.

These warnings, which were proposed in November 2010, were required under the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act which was passed with broad bipartisan support in Congress and signed into law by president Obama on June 22, 2009.

Each warning is accompanied by a smoking cessation phone number, 1-800-QUIT-NOW, which will allow it to be seen at the time it is most relevant to smokers, increasing the likelihood that smokers who want to quit will be successful.

For more information on graphic warning labels and hi-resolution images visit www.fda.gov/cigarettewarnings.

Recent Reports and Programs:

- a. **The Institute of Medicine (IOM) published *Engineering a Learning Healthcare System: A Look at the Future - Workshop Summary* on 8 July 2011.** This report describes lessons from systems and operations engineering that could be applied to the organization, structure, and function of health care delivery, monitoring, and change processes.

- b. **The Institute of Medicine (IOM) published *Improving Access to Oral Health Care for Vulnerable and Underserved Populations* on 13 July 2011.** In this report, IOM and the National Research Council assessed the current oral health care system, and developed a vision for how to improve oral health care for these populations, and recommended ways to achieve this vision.

- c. **HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius and Education Secretary Arne Duncan announced awards of \$95 million to 278 school-based health center programs across the country.**
Awardees are currently serving approximately 790,000 patients. The awards will enable them to increase their capacity by over 50 percent, serving an additional 440,000 patients. School-based health centers improve the overall health and wellness of all children through health screenings, health promotion and disease prevention activities and enable children with acute or chronic illnesses to attend school.

The full list of awards is available at www.hhs.gov/news/press/2011pres/07/20110714grantee.html.

Spotlight on PHS Nurses

Please join me in congratulating our nurses for their exceptional leadership and accomplishments!

For her exemplary contributions in 2009 and 2010, **RADM Deborah Parham Hopson** was awarded the Outstanding Service Medal.

Her accomplishments include:

- Leading reauthorization of Ryan White legislation;
- Supporting global efforts to expand treatment;
- Developing the National HIV/AIDS Strategy in conjunction with the White House, as well as pediatric HIV treatment performance measures (in just 7 months) and a final treatment guide for Hepatitis-C infection in HIV patients for use by primary care clinicians;
- Increasing technical assistance to states, and overseeing a 17 percent increase in clients served by HRSA's AIDS Drug Assistance Program;

- Heading a nationwide project to improve identification of infected individuals, get them into treatment and continued care; and
- Implementing a plan to target workforce resources.

CAPT Angela Martinelli, is stepping down from serving as the PHS representative on the **Advisory Committee for Women Veterans**, from November 2007 to May 2011. Her service, efforts, dedication and professional contributions helped shape the quality of health for U.S. Women Veterans. Thank you CAPT Martinelli for a job well done! She is being replaced by CDR Michelle Braun of National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIH/NIDDK)

CAPT Barbara Jenkins was awarded the PHS Chief Nurse Officer Award for her commitment to improving nursing care for this underserved segment of the population, and has dedicated her 16 years of service with the Bureau of Prisons guiding and nurturing nursing staff at this facility in meeting agency and institutional goals in the provision of correctional health care in a hospital setting.

Mr. Daniel Holian, RN, Staff Nurse, MedSurg Unit, FMC Carswell was awarded the PHS Chief Nurse Officer Award for his dedication to the job and demonstrating nursing excellence by providing correct, comprehensive nursing care on the night shift, volunteering to work extra time, when needed, and by diligently meeting the many healthcare demands nurses are faced with in a correctional setting.

Vasana Sayarath, RN, FCI Fort Worth was awarded the PHS Chief Nurse Officer Award for her dedicated service to the facility, her excellent nursing skills, and her professional manner at all times.

LCDR Cubie Beasley was awarded the PHS Chief Nurse Officer Award for her role as the new Nursing Program Manager/Management Trainee. She has served 10 years with the BOP and has been an unending support person and has provided an excellent work product. She willingly works overtime if needed and is quite resourceful in getting any job done. She sacrifices much to support the mission of Nursing and the BOP.

Congratulations to the **10 Nurse Officers** who graduated from the Officer Mid-Level In-Resident Course (OMC) 001 on 17 June 2011. **Officer Mid-Level Course (OMC) training** is a 2-week resident course for mid-level Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service (Corps) officers. The training builds on the foundations set forth in the Officer Basic Course and prepares the officers with knowledge, disposition, and skills necessary to lead as mid-level officers and as the future leaders of the Corps.

Just for Fun: Nursing Trivia

The Nurses at BOP engage in a fun exercise to test their clinical knowledge. A special thanks to CAPT Michelle Poindexter and LCDR Cubie Beasley for sharing!

Are You Smarter Than a Student Nurse?

Previous question with answer and rationale.

A patient's serum potassium is elevated in acute renal failure, and the nurse administers sodium polystyrene (Kayexalate). This drug acts to:

1. Increase potassium excretion from the colon.
2. Release hydrogen ions for sodium ions.
3. Increase calcium absorption in the colon.
4. Exchange sodium for potassium ions in the colon.

Answer: #4

Rationale: Polystyrene sulfonate, a cation-exchange resin, causes the body to excrete potassium through the gastrointestinal tract. In the intestines, particularly the colon, the sodium of the resin is partially

replaced by potassium. The potassium is then eliminated when the resin is eliminated with feces. Although the result is to increase potassium excretion, the specific method of action is the exchange of sodium ions for potassium ions. Polystyrene sulfonate does not release hydrogen ions or increase calcium absorption.

New NCLEX Question!

Which clinical manifestation does the nurse expect in the patient in the postictal phase of generalized tonic-clonic seizures?

1. Drowsiness.
2. Inability to move.
3. Parasthesia.
4. Hypotension.

Source:

Lippincott's Q&A Review for NCLEX-RN
Ninth Edition, 2008

PHS Nurses - Thank You for Your Service to the Nation! I appreciate your expertise and extension knowledge.

Truly,

Kerry

RADM Kerry Paige Nesseler
Assistant Surgeon General
Chief Nurse Officer, USPHS
