



October 2007,

Happy Halloween! I have been stocking up on plenty of candy to add to the obesity problem in my area.

If you are not on the WOCN Wound Forum, Ben Peirce sent out a message that there have been some pressure ulcer documentation changes in the OASIS Manual. CMS has released updates to the OASIS manual, chapters 2, 3, 4, 11, 8 and appendices. Chapter 8 reflects OASIS changes necessary for implementing the 1/2008 PPS case- mix refinements, as well as, the National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel(NPUAP) updated definitions of pressure ulcers and the stages of pressure ulcers, and the revised guidance on the Wound Ostomy Continence Nurses Society (WOCN) Guidance Document on "OASIS Skin and Wound Status M0 Items"). [http://www.cms.hhs.gov/HomeHealthQualityInits/14\\_HHQIOASISUserManual.asp](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/HomeHealthQualityInits/14_HHQIOASISUserManual.asp)

The OASIS Q&A document has also been updated. This is the first update of the CMS OASIS Q & As since 6/2005. Questions and answers that are new or updated are notated by the date at the end of the question. <https://www.gtso.com/hhdownload.html>.

The latest issue of the *5 Alive* will be out mid-November. There will be comments from the fall conference in Louisiana and be sure to check out the scrap book. We have **several** pictures of the entire conference and auction night festivities, election results, WOCN of the Year and President Award recipients and more.

Make sure you go to the WOCN website and check out their new look. While you are there be sure that your personal information is correct. Currently, there are email addresses that are misspelled or have incorrect punctuation. We are not able to correct these. Also check out your regional affiliation. Some members have "I am unsure" as their selection. Be sure to change it to South Central Region.

Tuition scholarships to assist our members attend the Nurse in Washington Internship Program are now available. WOCN national office has scholarships to cover the \$725 cost of registration. SCR has scholarships to pay the remainder of the costs. So if you want to attend NIWI this year, fill out the National application and send a copy of that registration to Debbie Fulmer so she is aware of your interest. If you do not receive one of the national scholarships then SCR will also pay the registration fee. This program will be held March 9-11, 2008 in Washington, D.C. It is hoped that, through the availability of these scholarships, our region will be better able to co-sponsor and send individuals to this worthwhile educational program. The Nurse in Washington Internship Program offers an intense learning experience for WOCN leaders interested in becoming more involved in the legislative and regulatory aspects of healthcare.

The WOCN NIWI Tuition Scholarship Application may be downloaded from the WOCN webpage or may be obtained by calling the WOCN Central Office at: 888/224-9626. The application deadline is December 15, 2007, so please promptly complete and return your application to:

WOCN  
15000 Commerce Parkway  
Suite C  
Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054

Abstracts for poster presentations are **due** November 19<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget that SCR has a poster scholarship for anyone presenting a poster at national conference if they are not sponsored or funded by a company or facility. The application is on our website under scholarships...but here it is for quick access. <http://www.scrwocn.org/Scholarships/PosterApplication.htm>