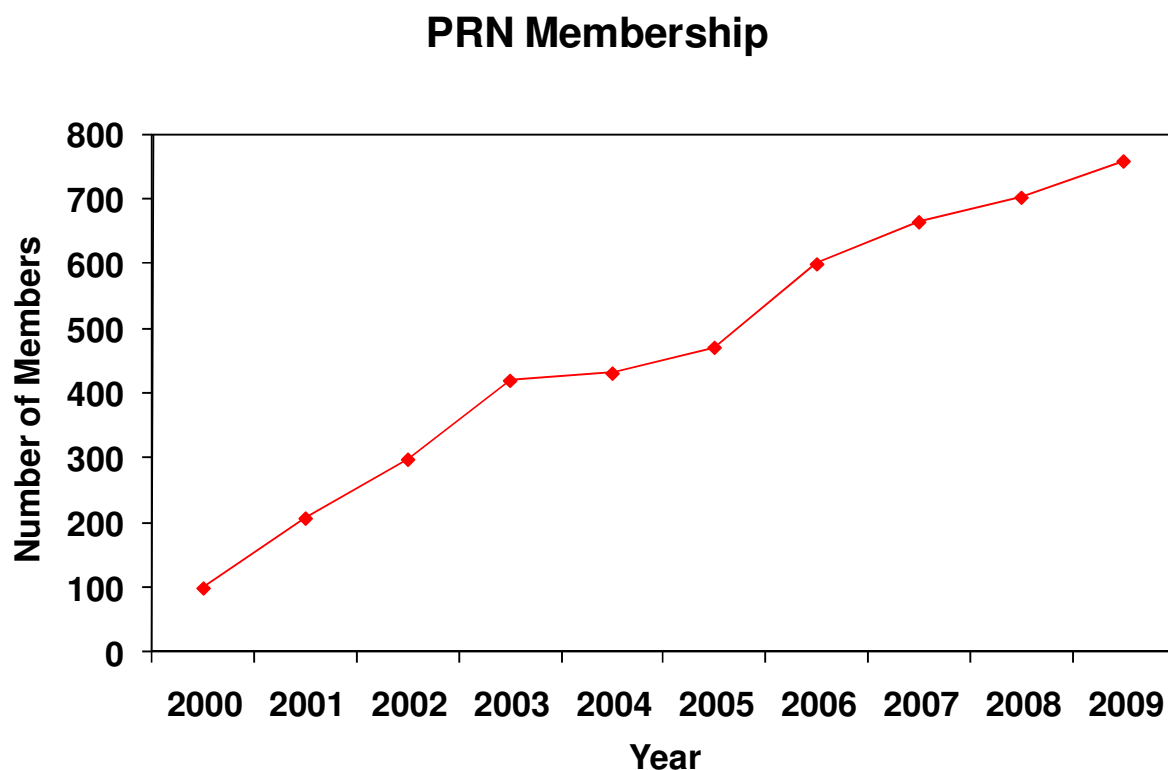


## ADULT MEDICINE PRACTICE AND RESEARCH NETWORK: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

In 1999, at the American College of Clinical Pharmacy Annual Meeting in Kansas City, Missouri, Dr. Cari Brackett and nine other adult medicine practitioners had the insight and vision to develop a forum for sharing the experience and expertise of clinicians and academicians in adult medicine pharmacotherapy. This vision has become the mission of the Adult Medicine Practice and Research Network, which has grown to a membership of more than 750.

Figure



Over the course of the PRN's history, 21 Adult Medicine PRN members have become ACCP Fellows (FCCP), and the number of members holding board certification in pharmacotherapy (BCPS) has continued to increase. Members have participated in all facets of leadership in ACCP, written PSAP chapters, conducted BPS board reviews, served on editorial boards and committees, and given presentations at the Annual and Spring ACCP Meetings.

In 2003 and 2008, the PRN leadership surveyed the membership to better characterize its constituents, including training, certification, practice types and locations, and priorities for the PRN. The results of the 2008 survey (160 of 780 members responded) demonstrate that 95% of Adult Medicine PRN members have a Pharm.D. degree, 61% have completed a PGY1 residency, 29% have completed a PGY2 residency, and 3.1% have completed a fellowship. Almost 70% of respondents are board certified in pharmacotherapy, and 10% report other certifications (e.g., AQ Cardiology, certified asthma educator). Forty-seven percent of survey respondents serve as preceptors, and more than 40% have academic appointments. Adult Medicine PRN members practice in a variety of settings, including inpatient and outpatient settings, and 85% report providing a broad range of

general consulting services. Many members also provide specialized services in anticoagulation, nutrition support, pain management, and pharmacokinetics. In addition, 96% of respondents report devoting some time to research.

## LEADERSHIP

A strong PRN requires a strong team of leaders. Since its inception, ACCP’s Adult Medicine PRN has had leaders with a mission and vision (see Table). These leaders have helped develop the Adult Medicine PRN into what it is today. They have pushed the PRN forward, establishing and conducting business meetings, networking forums, and PRN-designed and -sponsored focus sessions presented at the Annual and Spring ACCP Meetings.

Table Adult Medicine PRN Officers

	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Chair-Elect</b>	<b>Secretary/Treasurer</b>
<b>1999–2000</b>	Cari Brackett	–	–
<b>2000–2001</b>	Don Brophy	–	Wanda (Kilzer) Stipek
<b>2001–2002</b>	Wanda (Kilzer) Stipek	Teri Dunsworth	Jennifer Dugan
<b>2002–2003</b>	Teri Dunsworth	Krystal Haase	Brian Hodges
<b>2003–2004</b>	Krystal Haase	Brian Hodges	Brian Hemstreet
<b>2004–2005</b>	Brian Hodges	Brian Hemstreet	Anne Spencer
<b>2005–2006</b>	Brian Hemstreet	Sharon See	Suzanne Wortman
<b>2006–2007</b>	Sharon See	Suzanne Wortman	Darcie Keller
<b>2007–2008</b>	Suzanne Wortman	Darcie Keller	Sheri Herner
<b>2008–2009</b>	Darcie Keller	Joel Marrs	Ann Canales

Julie Wright Banderas, a member of the Adult Medicine PRN, was elected to the ACCP Board of Regents, serving as the ACCP Secretary from 2008 to 2011.

Dr. Suzanne Wortman, PRN Chair (2007–2008), stated, “Communication and leadership are keys in our profession.” They are essential to the success of each PRN member. These principles, which exemplify the vision of the PRN’s founders, have led to the development of many initiatives of the PRN.

## COMMITTEE FORMATION

Many members of the Adult Medicine PRN have chaired or served on committees and task forces of ACCP. As the PRN has grown, members have sought avenues to reach out and collaborate with others in their areas of expertise and to provide opportunities for individual and PRN growth. The Adult Medicine PRN has established several committees to allow more members the opportunity to participate in the activities of the PRN and to determine its future direction.

- 2004 - The **Nominations** and **Programming Committees** were established. The Nominations Committee is charged with facilitating and promoting nominations of members of the Adult Medicine PRN for ACCP Fellow status, research and practice awards, membership on the Board of Directors for *Pharmacotherapy*, and PRN officers. The Programming Committee was formed to develop PRN focus sessions and other educational programming held at the Annual and Spring ACCP Meetings. This

committee develops topics, objectives, and formatting of programs; identifies speakers; and completes and submits proposals to ACCP according to established timelines.

- 2005 - The **Membership and Research Awards Committees** formed. The purpose of the Research Awards Committee is to give recognition to the efforts of individual PRN member accomplishments. Over time, two \$1000 awards have been initiated: the New Investigator and the Fellow/Resident Research Awards.
- 2006 - The Membership Committee evolved into the **Network/Social Committee**. This committee plans the networking activities for the meetings; submits applications for the business meetings; has developed a welcome packet, which is e-mailed to each new member. This year the committee will create a promotional pamphlet highlighting the goals, accomplishments, and history of the PRN to accompany the welcome packet. The PRN's advocates to Washington, DC, were officially recognized as **Adult Medicine PRN Advocates to Congress**.
- 2007 - The **Newsletter, Poster "Walk-Rounds," and Adult Medicine PRN 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary History Committees** were formed. A biannual newsletter, originally started in 1999, was reinitiated in 2005. This committee is charged with soliciting contributions from the PRN, editing and formatting the information, submitting it to ACCP for approval, and distributing it to the PRN. The newsletter is posted on the PRN Web page as well. The Poster "Walk-Rounds" Committee was formed to recognize PRN member posters and give members a chance to elaborate on their research. The committee determines which posters presented at the Annual and Spring ACCP Meetings are of interest to the Adult Medicine membership, separates them into topics, and solicits volunteers to attend rounds for discussion of them at the meetings. The Adult Medicine PRN 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary History Committee was formed as an ad hoc committee to gather information and complete a paper and a poster for presentation.
- 2008 - The **Research Grant vs. Mini-Sabbatical Feasibility Committee** was created to assess the ability of the PRN to fund PRN research or a mentoring program.

Since the introduction of StuNet, the PRN's members have played an active role as volunteer liaisons. As of 2007, the PRN continued to have **StuNet Liaisons** and **College of Pharmacy (COP) Liaisons** at 92 schools.

## COMMUNICATIONS

One of the core strengths of the Adult Medicine PRN is its vast networking capabilities, allowing members an opportunity to brainstorm on current issues, share practice ideas and research, discuss future programming needs, and socialize with colleagues. The PRN meetings at the Annual and Spring ACCP Meetings are well attended with enthusiastic participants.

The Adult Medicine PRN e-mail list is very active. Having the ability to interact by the PRN e-mail list with more than 750 other knowledgeable pharmacists who face similar challenges is invaluable. The e-mail list not only provides opportunities to share clinical experience and expertise, but also serves as a forum for networking and support for all levels of clinical pharmacy practice (training/education program development, research endeavors, and administrative issues).

In addition, the Adult Medicine PRN Web page serves as a living document. It contains the PRN Handbook, a Document Archives Link, a Membership Directory, PRN newsletters, meeting minutes, and PRN award

information and applications. In response to member requests, the Web site was expanded to include a list of current and past PRN officers, a list of committee chairs and members, and officer and committee charges and responsibilities. The final PRN History Paper, or parts thereof, is likely to be added to the site as well.

In 2007, an e-mail list document repository, or warehouse, was initiated. It was designed to organize and archive policies, protocols, preprinted orders, guidelines, etc., shared by members on the e-mail list to allow expedient, efficient retrieval by members. Although it is not officially run by a committee, three members volunteer to maintain and update the site in conjunction with management information systems personnel at ACCP headquarters.

Nancy Sloan summarized the feelings of many when she said, “The Adult Med PRN group is a wonderful, instant resource for expert information [and experience truths] from the clinicians who are living in the real world. Thanks so much!”

### **PROGRAMMING AND PRESENTATIONS**

Communication, collaboration, and the sharing of knowledge and experiences are major focuses of the PRN. In addition to the scheduled PRN focus sessions, educational presentations by practitioner, resident, and student Adult Medicine members have taken place at business meetings during the fall of 2000, 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007.

The Adult Medicine PRN, in conjunction with the Endocrine PRN, was supported by an industry grant to produce a Premeeting Symposium in the fall of 2007 titled, “Inpatient Glycemic Control.”

At the 2009 International Congress on Clinical Pharmacy, the Adult Medicine PRN collaborated with the Ambulatory Care PRN and the Primary Care Special Interest Group of the European Society of Clinical Pharmacy to present a program titled, “Transitional Processes of Care Across Inpatient and Outpatient Settings.”

### **PUBLICATIONS**

Members have served as expert reviewers for ACCP Frontiers Fund Investigator Development Research Awards. They have served on the editorial boards of *Pharmacotherapy* and the *Pharmacotherapy Self-Assessment Program* (PSAP), as well as the editorial boards of many other notable and prestigious journals. Through the PRN and its membership, many important papers and books have been published. Some of the notable published PRN accomplishments appear below.

### **PRN PUBLICATIONS**

- 1999 - Newsletter initiated; first editor was Wanda (Kilzer) Stipek; reinstated biannual publication in 2005
- 2007 - Welcome Packet by Rolee Pathak and Olga Hilas

### **WHITE PAPERS**

- 2006 Paul Dobesh, John Bosso, Suzanne Wortman, Bill Dager, Emilie Karpiuk, Qing Ma, and Barbara

Zarowitz. Critical Pathways: The Role of Pharmacy Today and Tomorrow. *Pharmacotherapy* 2006;26:1358–68.

- 2006 John E. Murphy, Jean M. Nappi, John A. Bosso, Joseph J. Saseen, Brian A. Hemstreet, Mary A. Halloran, et al. American College of Clinical Pharmacy’s Vision of the Future: Postgraduate Pharmacy Residency Training as a Prerequisite for Direct Patient Care Practice. *Pharmacotherapy* 2006;6:722–33.
- 2008 John M. Burke, William A. Miller, Anne P. Spencer, Christopher W. Crank, Laura Adkins, Karen E. Bertch, Dominic P. Ragucci, William E. Smith, Amy W. Valley. Clinical Pharmacist Competencies. *Pharmacotherapy* 2008;82:806–15.
- 2008 Krystal K. Haase, Maureen A. Smythe, Patricia L. Orlando, Beth H. Resman-Targoff, Lisa S. Smith. Contributors: Sheryl J. Herner, S. Dee Melnyk, Nicole M. Paolini, Kalen B. Porter, Phillip T. Rodgers, and Avery L. Spunt. Quality Experiential Education. *Pharmacotherapy* 2008;28:2193–227e. (online at [http://accp.com/docs/positions/whitePapers/Pharm2810\\_ACCP-Haase-ExpEd.Pdf](http://accp.com/docs/positions/whitePapers/Pharm2810_ACCP-Haase-ExpEd.Pdf) and [www.pharmacotherapy.org](http://www.pharmacotherapy.org))
- 2009 American College of Clinical Pharmacy, Melissa M. Blair, Renee T. Freitag, Darcie L. Keller, Tyree H. Kiser, Joel C. Marrs, Melissa Somma McGivney, Rima A. Mohammad, and Elaine L. Twedt. Proposed Revision to the Existing Specialty and Specialist Certification Framework for Pharmacy Practitioners. *Pharmacotherapy* 2009;29:3e–13e. (online at [http://www.pharmacotherapy.org/pdf/free/Pharm2902\\_ACCP-Blair-SpcCrt.pdf](http://www.pharmacotherapy.org/pdf/free/Pharm2902_ACCP-Blair-SpcCrt.pdf))

#### **ACCP POSITION STATEMENTS**

- 2008 Krystal K. Haase, Maureen A. Smythe, Patricia L. Orlando, Beth H. Resman-Targoff, and Lisa S. Smith. Ensuring Quality Experiential Education. *Pharmacotherapy* 2008;28:1548–51.

#### **ACCP AWARDS**

Several members of the Adult Medicine PRN have received awards at the national level for exceptional accomplishments.

- 2005 Frontiers Fund Award Recipient** – Donald Brophy, Pharm.D., FCCP, BCPS. Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA. “Genetic Polymorphisms and Vascular Access Thrombosis”
- 2008 ACCP Clinical Practice Award** – William Dager, Pharm.D., FCCP, FASHP, University of California, Davis

PRN-sponsored awards were initiated in 2006. The recipients of these awards include:

- 2008 New Investigator Award** – Kristin A. Tuiskula, Pharm.D. “Timing to Reversal of INR with Vitamin K at an Urban Teaching Hospital” – Presented at the Adult Medicine PRN Networking and Business Meeting, Phoenix, AZ, April 2008

**2008 New Investigator Award** – Shazia Raheem, Pharm.D. “Cost Analysis of Direct Thrombin Inhibitor Use in Heparin Induced Thrombocytopenia at a Single Institution” – Presented at the Adult Medicine PRN Networking and Business Meeting, Louisville, KY, October 2008

**2009 New Investigator Award** – T. Michael Farley, Pharm.D. “Characterization of a 24-Hour Pharmacist Managed Direct Thrombin Inhibitor (DTI) Program” – Presented at the Adult Medicine PRN Networking and Business Meeting, Orlando, FL, April 2009

### **FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF PRN**

In addition to the awards initiated by the PRN, the membership has played an active role in promoting the goals of the Frontiers Fund and student initiatives by contributing to both since their inception. An annual stipend is distributed to Student Travel Awards, and the membership has continued to increase its donation to ACCP’s research arm since 2003.

### **ADULT MEDICINE PRN GOALS AND INITIATIVES**

As the PRN and its members look to the future, many goals are envisioned, which encompass the core values of ACCP: education, service, and research. The Adult Medicine PRN presents the following initiatives:

#### Education

- Maintain responsibility/commitment to teach colleagues and future colleagues.
- Provide staff development for expanded pharmacy services.
- Establish/expand pharmacy residencies and fellowships in Adult Medicine.
- Serve as preceptors for pharmacy fellows/residents/students to foster qualified practitioners and help shape the future of clinical pharmacy.
- Participate in programs developed by ACCP to sponsor student membership in ACCP (to build interest), mentor pharmacy students, and discuss career paths with them to help inspire pharmacy graduates to incorporate clinical pharmacy in their practices.
- Support mini-sabbaticals for members in areas of Adult Medicine practice.
- Build partnerships between colleges of pharmacy and health systems to cultivate qualified practitioners, educators, and researchers who will develop clinical pharmacy programs.
- Vision 2020: a residency should be required for all pharmacy graduates providing direct patient care

#### Service to patients and health systems

- Support the structure of a clinical pharmacist on every health care team and collaborative practice to optimize patient care.
- Encourage documentation of services provided.
- Develop and participate in monitoring and education programs required by the Joint Commission.
- Provide opportunities through the e-mail list to share clinical expertise and experience (as well as through archives, newsletter, and networking).
- Encourage members of this PRN to advocate legislation to increase reimbursement for cognitive services (and other programs to increase the recognition of pharmacists as health care providers).
- Develop Adult Medicine PRN “Service Awards” to recognize accomplishments of colleagues with unique contributions to the practice of Adult Medicine.
- Foster improved collaboration between health system and community-based pharmacists to enhance the continuity of pharmaceutical care.

- Support the development of clinical pharmacy services in nonteaching hospitals (e.g., community and rural hospitals).

#### Research

- Support outcomes research needed to justify clinical services, such as demonstration of cost-benefit of services and improved outcomes (safety and efficacy).
- Fund member research interests (PRN-sponsored grant programs [e.g., New Investigator Development Grant]).
- Foster research among trainees through research travel awards for students/residents/fellows.
- Allocate funds to the Frontiers Fund to advance knowledge through research.
- Conduct poster walk-rounds to foster interest in the work of colleagues.

#### CONCLUSION

The Adult Medicine PRN has grown from a tiny group of 10 adult medicine practitioners in 1999 to a thriving membership of more than 750 in 2009. Over the years, the activities of this PRN have included establishing a biannual newsletter, publishing white papers, and collaborating with other PRNs to create timely programming to advance clinical practice. Members of the Adult Medicine PRN are very active within the PRN and in ACCP, with many holding leadership roles within the PRN and the College. This PRN maintains a commitment to the practice of evidence-based medicine and fosters leadership within the PRN and ACCP by promoting active involvement in scholarly activities, development and presentation of research, and educational opportunities.

The PRN remains committed to research, and it has contributed to the Frontiers Fund since 2003. In the same vein, the PRN has established a research award to support residents and fellows in their current research and give them an opportunity to share their research with the PRN at Annual or Spring ACCP Meetings. The PRN continues to support ACCP's mission to increase student involvement and have College of Pharmacy and StuNet liaisons.

This 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ACCP provides us with an opportunity to reevaluate where we have been and determine the direction of our future.