



NAMS NEWS

Abstract Deadline Nears

NAMS invites researchers to submit their abstracts for consideration by the 2004 Abstract Review Committee. This year, abstracts will be judged within four categories: basic science, clinical, epidemiologic, and education. Use the online submission form within the NAMS Web site. The deadline is **April 15**.

Plan to Attend 2004 Annual Meeting

The 2004 NAMS Annual Meeting will be convened in Washington, DC, from October 6 through October 9. J. Chris Gallagher, MD, NAMS Board member and the Chair of this year's Scientific Committee, promises the latest research findings, plus ways to apply the research to clinical practice. The meeting's theme reflects an issue that is more important today than

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Plan Ahead

15th NAMS Annual Meeting

October 6–9, 2004
Washington, DC

16th NAMS Annual Meeting

September 28–October 1, 2005
San Diego, CA

ever before: “Individualized Care at Menopause.”

Plan now to attend what is widely considered the best scientific meeting in women's health.

Arrive prior to the opening session, scheduled for Wednesday, October 6, at 5:30 p.m. Registration materials will soon be available.

Come Early to Attend the Quick Review Course

The popular half-day CME course, “Menopause Basics”, will again be offered prior to the Annual Meeting, giving attendees a concise, yet comprehensive, overview. Separate registration is required for this course, which will be held on Wednesday morning, October 6 (8 a.m.–noon). Registration materials will be available soon.

New Educational Materials Well Accepted

NAMS offers an unprecedented array of professional and consumer education materials. Let NAMS help you in your practice with the following:

- The *Menopause Core Curriculum Study Guide* (10/02) provides 254 pages of practical tips for all providers.
- Use the Menopause Health Questionnaire (4/03) when a new patient presents to your office.
- The booklet *How to Develop a Menopause Discussion Group* (2/02) is a valuable resource to those wanting to

reach out to the community.

- New Position Statements on hormone therapy (11/03) and hot flashes (1/04) provide practical advice on timely clinical topics.

The NAMS consumer materials are widely regarded as accurate and unbiased. Preview them on the NAMS Web site, then place your order.

- The *Menopause Guidebook* (5/03), available in Spanish and in braille, and the *Early Menopause Guidebook* (9/03) are the leading consumer resources.
- The Suggested Reading List is perfect for those women wanting to read more.
- The MenoNote series of one-page fact sheets is also helpful.
- The new, fun-to-read e-newsletter, *Menopause Flashes*, is e-mailed monthly to all who subscribe—and it's totally free. Join the thousands who have signed up at www.menopause.org/newsletter.

Preview all these pieces on the NAMS Web site, then order your supply. You can place your order through the secure site, or mail/fax your order.

Important NAMS Dates

2004 Abstracts

Submission Deadline, April 15

Spring Competency Exam

May 15 (Late Application
Deadline, April 9)

2004 Annual Meeting

October 6 (5:30 PM) to October
9 (2:30 PM)

Menopause Basics Course

October 6 (8 AM-Noon)

Fall Competency Exam

October 6 (2:30-4:30 PM)
(Application Deadline, July 28)

Join Hundreds Who Have Become Credentialed Menopause Practitioners

Many physicians who have earned this credential indicate that it helps distinguish them in their community as having special competency in the field. Others simply wanted to determine if they had the knowledge that NAMS believes to be that required to earn the credential. Whatever the reason, hundreds of physicians and other healthcare providers now have this distinguished credential—a remarkable response after only a few test dates.

Obtain all the details through the 2004 Candidate Handbook, posted on the NAMS Web site. The next exam is May 15, and is being held in multiple locations. By paying a late fee, applications can be postmarked as late as **April 9**. After that, the next exam is **October 6**—in advance of the NAMS Annual Meeting in Washington, DC.

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The Women's Life Center (continued from page 29)

we saw more than 120 new patients for consultations. Additionally, we have had more than 30 OB/GYN residents, more than 50 internal medicine residents, and many family practice residents, students, and nurse practitioners rotate through our Center. This gives us an excellent opportunity to teach our OB/GYN residents about important topics related to primary care that are commonly encountered in menopausal women. It also gives us a chance to teach women's health topics to internal medicine and family practice residents.

The Women's Life Center draws not only on the strengths of our existing practice, but also from the multiple ancillary services of the hospital, including radiology for DEXA scans and other specialty consultants.

Although we continue to grow, learn and adapt, we are very excited about the progress we have made to date. We hope to continue serving the needs of our patients as well as those we are educating. Our goals for the immediate future are as follows: First, to devise a consultation form that will summarize our findings and recommendations to those requesting the consult; second, to expand our data collection system to track our findings and provide valuable information to this growing educational field.

Despite being small in size and limited by budgetary constraints, we demonstrate what a little ingenuity and innovation can do to enhance an existing practice. As the population of menopausal women continues to expand, we believe centers like ours will become more and more important for patient care as well as the education of future healthcare providers (Table 5, page 29). ■

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Health Services, and Director of the Women's Life Center, Hartford, CT. The Women's Life Center received grant funding from Wyeth Pharmaceuticals. Dr. Schnatz reports no other affiliations that would affect the content of this article.

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