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# Advanced Transplant Providers *e-Newsletter*

*The art and science of the transplantation community*



## **ASTS Advanced Transplant Providers Committee Launches ATP e-Newsletter!**

*December 2011 Issue*

***Welcome to the first issue of the Advanced Transplant Provider (ATP) e-Newsletter brought to you by the ASTS Advanced Transplant Provider Committee!***

Dear Advanced Transplant Providers,

Your membership to the ASTS is important to us. As an added benefit, ASTS advanced transplant provider members will receive this bi-monthly e-newsletter. Inside each issue will be the latest news and information from the ATP community as well as keeping you up-to-date on the Committee's work and other activities.

Before we share the Committee's new and exciting initiatives... did you know that that prior to 2008, there was no specialty organization in transplantation that supported physician extenders? Multiple providers were scattered amongst several different organizations and facilities. Nine providers came together and formed the ATP Committee under the guidance of ASTS. Currently, over 1,700 advanced practice professionals have identified transplantation as their specialty with a certification board. Over the past two years, the ASTS growth rate for new membership has increased from 31 surgical associate members and today boasts 352 members! We are a rapidly growing community!



To provide support and resources for this growth, the ATP Committee was formed in 2008 with its mission to decrease the geographical barriers between providers and allow for a close, strong, supportive community to exist and to:

- Encourage and support clinicians in clinical practice by establishing a venue for communication among clinicians at this level
- Develop educational programs and resources for physician extenders to advance the practice and science of transplantation both for newcomers and experienced APN/PAs in transplantation, and
- Develop a standard for training and curriculum in peri-operative care

**New and Exciting Initiatives!**

Today, the Committee continues to develop programs and practices that support advanced practice clinicians. We are working on several initiatives, one of which is the launch of an exciting new program for ATP professionals - the [ATP Mentorship Program](#)! This unique mentoring program is open to clinicians entering the field of transplantation and offers the benefit of peer support from experienced providers in the field of transplantation. This program offers a wealth of resources provide a new member of the community the support and framework to succeed in this very demanding and passionate field. Future plans include linking the mentorship program to the ASTS Academic Universe which will make a significant difference in the orientation and learning curve of the ATP entering the field.



To further enhance the mentorship program, an educational webinar is also in development and will serve as a teaching and guiding tool for the mentoring.

The Committee also established the first annual ASTS Advanced Transplant Provider Award in 2010. This award recognizes individuals whose time and efforts are dedicated to advancing clinical practice through translation of scientific information, development of standards and clinical mentoring of the Advanced Transplant Provider and who consistently promote evidence based patient driven excellence.

#### **What's **HOT** on the plate?**

- Mentoring 101, a new program that will encourage mentorship in transplant surgery. If you would like to be a mentor, please complete the application at [www.ASTS.org](http://www.ASTS.org)
- The ATP Committee is looking for any Master or Doctoral thesis or projects related to transplantation. If you have a thesis or project that you would like to have considered to show case in the ATP e-Newsletter, or
- Any recent interesting articles or up coming projects on transplantation that you would like to feature in this newsletter, please forward it to us.

To date, the ATP Committee has accomplished several initiatives and continues to work to achieve its [mission](#) - for details of the Committee's accomplishments and future goals, please go to [www.ASTS.org](http://www.ASTS.org).

We look forward to a continued dialogue with you! If you would like to contribute to the ATP e-Newsletter, the Committee welcomes your suggestions, comments and interests. We want to hear from you!

On behalf of the ATP Committee, we wish you and yours a happy and safe Holiday Season!

Sincerely,

*Deborah Ann Hoch, ACNP-BC*

Deborah Ann Hoch, CCRN, ACNP-BC, DNP  
Chair, ASTS Advanced Transplant Provider Committee

**Meet your ATP Committee!** [Click here](#) to view committee bios.

Chair:

Deborah Ann Hoch CCRN, ACNP-BC, DNP

Co - Chair:

Mark Burns, FNP, ACNP

Rebecca Duke, NP

Tracy Evans-Walker, RN, MSN, CNP, CCTC

Barry Friedman, RN, BSN, MBA

Gwen McNatt, FNP

Denise S. Morin, MSN, RN, CCTC

Georgeine Smith MS, MHS, PA-C

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Join us in 2012!**

ASTS 12th Annual State of the Art Winter Symposium, in conjunction with the NATCO Symposium  
for Advanced Transplant Professionals, **January 12 - 15, Miami**

AHPBA Annual Meeting, an Allied Health Care Symposium, **March 7, Miami**

American Transplant Congress, **June 2 - June 6, Boston**

NATCO's 37th Annual Meeting, **August 12-15, Washington, DC**