

Margaret S. Wacker PhD RN
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Employment

President Wacker and Associates Legal Nurse Consulting

2002 - Present

Adjunct Instructor University of Central Florida

2002 - Present

Director Lake Sumter Community College Nursing Program

2004 - Present

Clinical Consultant Pain Management Rhode Island Hospital

1996 - 2001

Responsibilities:

- Conduct pain consults for the adult in-patient hospital
- Procure unrestricted educational grants to support all interdisciplinary educational programs
- Collaborate with the departments of Anesthesia, Pharmacy, Medicine, Surgery and Nursing in the development of pain management policies
- Create and develop all educational programs
- Collaborate in the teaching of these programs
- Actively participate in the work of the hospital pain committee
- Identify specific areas of need and develop approaches to resolve them
- Provide a resource role to hospital staff

Clinical Specialist Palliative Care Rhode Island Hospital

1994-1996

Responsibilities:

- Conduct in-patient and at-home consultations in collaboration with a physician
- Develop all interdisciplinary educational programs
- Procure funding to support educational efforts
- Provide a resource role to hospital and hospice staff in and outside of the hospital
- Present an annual Southern New England Palliative Care Conference

Program Director Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing

Yale University School of Nursing

1993-1994

Responsibilities:

- Oversee the academic and clinical adult psychiatric-mental health program
- Conduct a major curriculum revision
- Design and complete a psychiatric faculty enrichment program
- Teach a graduate and core graduate clinical course

Assistant Professor of Nursing

University of Rhode Island

1988-1993

Responsibilities:

- Taught core clinical and research courses
- Designed and operated the first biofeedback lab in a college of nursing
- Published the first stage of my research on alpha brainwave states
- Conducted the second stage research in the university laboratory
- Taught a graduate research course

Psychotherapist, Private Practice

Huntington, New York

1971-1991

Responsibilities:

- Individual and family psychotherapy
- Clinical supervision of advanced practice clinicians
- EEG biofeedback therapy

Adjunct Assistant Clinical Professor

University of Rhode Island College of Nursing

1994-1999

Adjunct Associate Clinical Professor

University of Rhode Island College of Nursing

1999-Present

Responsibilities:

- Precept graduate students in various practice areas
- Precept undergraduate seniors in leadership
- Teach family therapy
- Teach palliative care and pain management
- Precept PharmD candidates in pain management

Lecturer in the third-year core clerkship in Surgery

Brown University School of Medicine

1999-Present

Responsibilities:

- Teach pharmacological management of pain

Speaker

Phase Five Communications, Janssen Pharmaceutica Inc.

Pain Management Refined: New Approaches, 2000.

Speaker

Speaker's Bureau, Purdue Pharma L.P.

Pain Management, 2000.

Education

PhD Nursing

New York University
1987

MA Anthropology

State University of New York at Stony Brook
1975

MS Psychiatric Clinical Nurse Specialist

Adelphi University
1971

BS Nursing

New York University
1967

Certifications

- American Nurses Association Board Certification as a Clinical Specialist in Adult Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing through December 31, 2004
- Board Certification as a Legal Nurse Consultant May 2002

Research

- Group Sessions for Mothers of Retardates Pending Institutionalization. Unpublished master's thesis, Adelphi University School of Nursing, 1971.
- Levi Strauss's Hypothesis and One Haitian Curing Ritual. Unpublished master's thesis, State University of New York at Stony Brook, 1975.
- A Relationship between the Alpha State and Perception of Time Passing in a Female College Population. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, New York University, 1987.
- Life Support Opinion Pilot Study, University of Rhode Island, 1990.
- Healthy Lifestyle Pilot Study with Community Mental Health Staff, 1990-1991.
- Biofeedback and Videotape Alpha Brainwave Training: A Concurrent Validity Study with Holistic Implications, University of Rhode Island, 1992.
- House Officer Meperidine Knowledge and Prescribing Practices, 2000.

Research Grants

- Eyes-opened Alpha Biofeedback Training for Self-Regulation of Stress. Principal Investigator. Submitted to the University of Rhode Island Council for Research, 1990. Funded, \$3,000.
- Alpha Wave Training and High Risk Children of Alcoholics. Principal Investigator. Submitted to the Office of Alternative Medicine, National Institutes of Health, 1993. Unfunded.
- The Third Annual Southern New England Palliative Care Conference Grant-R13. Principal Investigator. Submitted to the Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, 1997. Funded, \$10,000.
- Wacker, MS, Glen, VL. Pain Resource Professional Training Program. Unrestricted educational grant from Knoll Pharmaceutica. October 1998-\$10,720; April 1999-\$10,000.

- Wacker, MS, Glen, VL. Pain Resource Professional Training Program. Unrestricted educational grant from Janssen Pharmaceutica. October 1998-\$5,000; April 1999-\$5,000.
- Wacker, MS, Glen, VL. Pain Resource Professional Training Program . Unrestricted educational grant from Roxane Laboratories. April 1999-\$5,000.
- Wacker, MS. Pain Resource Professional Training Program. May, 2000 Unrestricted educational grants from Purdue-\$2,500, from Merck-\$1,500, from Janssen Pharmaceutica Inc.-\$1,500.
- Wacker, MS. Pain Resource Professional Training Program. October, 2000 Unrestricted educational grants from Purdue. \$5,000, from Janssen Pharmaceutica Inc., \$1,000, from Searle \$1,000.
- Wacker, MS. Pain Resource Professional Training Program. May, 2001 Unrestricted educational grants from Janssen Pharmaceutica Inc., \$1000, \$1,000 from Merck, \$1,200 from Purdue.
- Wacker, MS. Attorney General Conference on Pain Assessment and Management May, 2001. Unrestricted educational grants of \$1,400 from Janssen Pharmaceutica, \$1,200 from Purdue and \$1,000 from Merck.
- Wacker, MS. May, 2001. Unrestricted educational grant from Merck for the production of a laminated pain management card. \$700.
- SUCCEED Florida Grant, Nursing. 2005-2007, Workforce educational grant from Florida Department of Education, \$629,500.
- Jobs for Florida's Future, Florida Department of Education. 2005 – 2006, \$186,302.
- Promise of Nursing Grant. 2006-2007, \$25,000
- Booth Foundation. 2006 – 2009, \$3,238,230
- SUCCEED Florida Grant, Nursing. 2008-2009, Workforce educational grant from Florida Department of Education, \$259,018.
- Community Job-Based Training Grant, Nursing. 2005 – 2008, US Department of Labor, \$556,724.

Publications

- Wacker, M. (1974). Analogy: Weapon Against Denial. *American Journal of Nursing* 74, 71-73.
- Wacker, M. (1977). A Family Psychotherapy Practice. In A.D. Jacox, & C. Norris (Eds.), *Organizing for independent nursing practice* (pp. 253-2570. New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts.
- Wacker, M. (1996). Alpha Brainwave Training and Perception of Time Passing: Preliminary Findings. *Biofeedback and Self-Regulation* 21(4)303-309.
- Wacker, M., Glen, V. (2001). Pain Resource Professional Training Program: A Three Day Multidisciplinary Program for Health Care Professionals. In Revision.
- Wacker, M., Pawasauskas, J. (2002). Pain Education: A Practical Approach. *The Journal of Continuing Education in Nursing*. 33(4) 187-189.
- Wacker, M. (2,000). Case Study of a Woman with Advanced Cancer At The Head Of The Pancreas. Sigma Theta Tau International Online Continuing Education Program. www.nursingsociety.org On Line 2002. Revised 2003.
- Wacker, M., Moniz, C. (2001). Meperidine: Second Line Agent with First Line Prescribing Practices. *Medicine and Health\rhode Island* 84(1)11-14.
- Wacker, M. (2001). Improving End of Life Care Pain Management. Executive Summary Dying with Dignity. The Rhode Island End of Life Conference Series Report.
- Wacker, M. (2003). Right Drug, Wrong Drug-Know the Difference. *On Point Legal Nurse Consultant Newsletter*.
- Wacker, M. (2004). Simple Hygiene Errors Can Have Disastrous Results. *The Edge Legal Nurse Consultant Newsletter*.

- Wacker, M. (2008). Patient Controlled Analgesia. On Point Legal Nurse Consultant Newsletter. In press.
- Wacker, M. (2008). Associate Editor, Legal Nurse Consulting: Principles and Practice, 3rd Edition.
- Wacker, M. (2008, May/June). Patient Controlled Pain Medicine. The Medical – Legal News.
- Wacker, M. (2010). Associate Editor. Legal Nurse Consulting Principles, 3rd Edition, CRC Press.

Presentations

- Child Therapy within a Family Therapy Framework. (Brief Presentation) American Family Therapy Association Annual Meeting. San Diego, Ca. June, 1985.
- Working With a Family Possessed by the Devil. (Brief Presentation) American Family Therapy Association Annual Meeting. Washington, DC. June, 1986.
- Differentiation of Self/Differentiated and Undifferentiated Families. Maternal Child Health Coordinators, Rhode Island Department of Health. June, 1990.
- Crystals, Auras, Chakras and Energy Fields. University of Rhode Island, Narragansett Bay Classroom. November, 1991.
- New Age Treatment Modalities. (Five 2-minute radio broadcasts). University of Rhode Island and Brown University Healthwatch Program. Fall, 1991.
- Holistic Alternatives. South County Hospital Nursing Staff In-service Program. April, 1992.
- Women's Consciousness and Health. Rhode Island State Nurses Association. May, 1992.
- Holistic Approaches to Pain Management. Rhode Island Cancer Pain Initiative. American Cancer Society. Providence, R.I. February, 1994.
- Holistic Nursing Intervention. Grand Rounds, Connecticut Mental Health Center, New Haven, Ct. March, 1994.
- Holistic Pain Interventions. The First Southern New England Palliative Care Conference, Rhode Island Hospital. April, 1995.
- Palliative Care Service, a Nurse-Driven Consulting Service. The Eleventh Annual International Hospice Institute Symposium. Vancouver, British Columbia. July, 1995.
- Holistic/Adjuvant Interventions in Pain Management. Valley Hospice, Slater Health Center, Pawtucket, R.I. September, 1995.
- Alternatives in Pain Management. Burn Care: A nuts and Bolts Approach. Burn Care Conference, Rhode Island Hospital. October, 1995.
- Holistic Pain Interventions. The Second Southern New England Palliative Care Conference, Rhode Island Hospital. April, 1996.
- The Role of the In-Patient Palliative Care Service in the Treatment of AIDS patients. Co-authored A. Fisher, Vohr, F & Wacker, M. International AIDS Conference, Vancouver, British Columbia. July, 1996.
- Palliative Care Concepts, Quality of Life Issues for the Patient with a Brain Tumor. The Third Annual Anne Martel Leveille Neuroscience Nursing Science Seminar, Rhode Island Hospital. October, 1996.
- Palliative Care Issues across the Continuum of Nursing Practice. Rhode Island Nurses Association. October, 1996
- Palliative Care: Issues in Caring for Terminally Ill Patients. Pastoral Care Week Breakfast Conference. October, 1996.
- The Mind/Body Connection. Diabetes Workshop, Rhode Island Hospital. November, 1996.
- Interdisciplinary Team Model. The Third Annual Southern New England Palliative Care Conference. Providence, R.I. May, 1997.

- Alternative Therapies. Horizons Nursing Conference sponsored by Region I Members of the American Association of Critical Care Nurses, Boston, MA, April, 1998.
- Psychosocial Issues in Pain Management. Annual Graubart-Irving Lecture sponsored by The Arthritis Foundation, Southern New England Chapter. Providence, R.I. September, 1998.
- Development of Pain Education Materials for Health Care Professionals and Patients. Poster Presentation at the 33rd ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada. December, 1998.
- Development of the Pain Resource Professional Training Program (PRP). Poster Presentation at the American Society of Pain Management Nurses (ASPMN) Annual Meeting. April, 1999.
- Chronic Pain. Pharmaceutical Pearls, Nurse Practitioner Council Lecture. March, 1999.
- Traditional and Complementary Therapies for Chronic Disease. New England Hemophilia Center Northeast Regional Conference. May, 1999.
- Theoretical Basis for Alternative Therapies in Cancer Pain Management. Rhode Island Cancer Pain Initiative. Warwick, R.I. June, 1999.
- Pain Assessment, Ethical, Family and Cultural Issues in Pain Management, Non-Pharmacological Methods in Pain Management. (Three separate presentations at each biannual conference). Pain Resource Professional Training Program, Providence, R.I. 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001.
- Pain Management of the Medical Patient (Part I). Brown University Department of Medicine Noon Conference. July, 1999.
- Pain Management of the Medical Patient (Part II). Brown University Department of Medicine Noon Conference. August, 1999.
- Nuts and Bolts of Pain Management (Part I). Brown University Department of Surgery Grand Rounds. January, 2000.
- Nuts and Bolts of Pain Management (Part II). Brown University Department of Surgery Grand Rounds. February, 2000.
- Surgical Case Presentation. Brown University Department of Surgery. February, 2,000.
- Acute Postoperative and Procedural Pain Management. Brown University Department of Surgery. March, 2000.
- Pharmacological Pain Management. Lecture-Seminar Series for the Third Year Core Clerkship in Surgery. Brown University Department of Surgery:
 - March, 2000
 - May, 2000
 - November, 2000
 - February, 2001
 - May, 2001
- Pain Management of the Orthopedic Patient. Brown University Department of Orthopedics. May, 2000.
- Pain Assessment and Management in the Elderly Population. Rhode Island Attorney General Conference. April, 2001.
- Pain Assessment and Management. Lake Sumter Community College, Leesburg, Florida. February, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005 March, 2003, 2004, 2005.
- Pain Assessment and Management Florida Hospital-Waterman, Eustis, Florida. July, 2002
- Overview in Pain Management People's Medical School. November, 2002.
- Painless Approaches to Consulting on Unrelieved Pain Issues. National Association of Certified Legal Nurse Consultants, New Orleans. March, 2005.
- Psychosocial Factors and Pain Assessment. American Society of Pain Management Nurses, New Mexico April-May, 2005.

- Is it Soup Yet? Neurophysiology of Pain. National Student Nurses Conference, Fall 2007.
- Under-management of Pain in the Elderly. American Association of Legal Nurse Consultants National Education Conference, 2008.
- Trends in Nursing Education & Practice. Leadership Lake County, March 2013.

Professional Activities

- American Nurses Association Liaison to the Joint Commission on Inter-Professional Affairs. Washington, DC. 1979-1981.
- Selected Participant, Faculty Internship Program. Clinical Center of the National Institutes of Health. August, 1993.
- American Nurses Association selectee for participation in the Core Competencies for Psychopharmacology. Psychiatric-Mental Health Working Conference. ANA National Conference of Experts. March, 1993.
- Selected participant Pain Management Project: Management of Pain in Sickle Cell Disease. New England Regional Genetics Group. October, 1994.
- Site reviewer. American Pain Society Clinical Practice Guideline for the Management of Acute and Chronic Pain in Sickle Cell Disease. August, 1999.
- Conference participant Dying with Dignity The Rhode Island End of Life Conference April 2001.
- American Society for Pain Management Nurses Government Policy Committee 2004-2007.
- Florida Pain Initiative Conference Committee 2006-present.
- Florida Summit on Nurse Education – Advisory Board Member (2007)
- Florida Summit on Health Sciences Education – Advisory Board Member (2008)

Memberships & Recognitions

- Innovation of the Year Award (2011-2012), League for Innovation in the Community College
- Lake County Community Service Education Award (2013)
- American Nurses Association
- Florida State Nurses Association
- Sigma Theta Tau, Delta Mu
- The American Society of Pain Management Nurses
- National Association of Legal Nurse Consultants