



Conference Wrap-Up

APRIL 26–27, 2003 • BETHESDA, MARYLAND

Care Summit Helps to Define Successful Future for PH Resource Network

sum•mit (sum' it) a conference or meeting of high-level leaders usually called to shape a program of action

By gathering allied health professionals involved in the care of people with pulmonary hypertension, the **Care Summit** was not intended to end with the last session but to be the first step toward shaping a program of action. The first of its kind “mini conference” provided an opportunity for allied health professionals to network, exchange ideas and learn more about the care and treatment of people with PH.

Speakers, as well as participants, came from all over the United States to share in this inaugural event. Dr. Bruce Brundage, President of the Board of Trustees for the Pulmonary Hypertension Association traveled from Bend, Oregon to deliver the “State of The Union” address to kick off the conference. Dr. Brundage provided an up to the minute report on the who, what and where of the PH Association and updates on treatments and trials.

Dr. Greg Elliott presented a session on the Genomics of PH and Dr. Vallerie McLaughlin delivered a comprehensive session on the diagnosis and treatment of PAH. Dr. McLaughlin also presented a session on unusual case types for Drs Brundage and Elliott to assess and diagnose.

The day-and-a-half Care Summit provided four general



PHA Staff welcomes conference goers. L to R: Don Clark, Karri Boyer, and Executive Director, Rino Aldrighetti.

sessions, eight breakout sessions and six round table discussions on topics ranging from Genomics of PH to Vascular Access Selection and Management. Participants were provided with Stress Management tools, tips for handling Medicare Reimbursement issues and an update on lobbying efforts and other awareness activities on “the hill” in Washington, DC. An after-dinner program provided an opportunity to break down barriers and build relationships within the community.

Continuing Education Units were offered to any nurse participant with a maximum of 8 contact hours available for credit. A Care Summit portfolio was provided to all participants and contained the presentation slides of each session, making note-taking less cumbersome.

Conference Sessions (*see inside for highlights*)

General Sessions:

- *State of the Union: Future Challenges for PH*
- *Relief of Suffering: The Noble Mandate*
- *Caring For Those Who Care*
- *Pharmacological Perspectives Related to PH*
- *HIPAA and Legal Issues in Healthcare Today*

Breakout Sessions:

- *PAH: Diagnosis and Treatment*
- *Establishing and Expanding a PH Program*
- *Conducting a Clinical Research Study*
- *Case Studies: The Secondary Diagnosis Patient*

- *Reimbursement Perspectives of the BioTech Pipeline*
- *Vascular Access: Selection & Management*
- *The Genomics of PH*
- *Care of the Pediatric Patient with PAH*

Round Table Discussions

- *Stress Management*
- *End of Life Issues*
- *Medicare Reimbursement Issues*
- *Psychosocial Issues of Chronically Ill Patients*
- *Pharmacological Interventions & the PH Patient*
- *Washington Update: Establishing a Presence*

2003 Care Summit Faculty

The PH Resource Network and the Pulmonary Hypertension Association would like to thank the faculty members for making the 2003 Care Summit a success.

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