Every year Burn Center clinicians (doctors, nurses, therapists, dieticians, psychologists), researchers, firefighters, and burn survivors from around the world gather to share important burn care and injury prevention information and research findings. The Annual Meeting of the American Burn Association (ABA) will be held in Boston, Massachusetts during the week of March 21-24, 2017.

Research is the focus of the Northwest Regional Burn Model System (NWRBMS) grant and a central mission of the UW Medicine Regional Burn Center. The list below provides a snapshot of our upcoming ABA educational efforts:

- Samuel Mandell MPH, MD, FACS – Effect of a neuropathic pain and itch protocol on gabapentin use and patient outcomes
- Shelley Wiechman PhD, ABPP – Rates and predictors of depression at 5 and 10-years post-burn injury
- Gretchen Carrougher MN, RN – Impact of returning to work on early recovery for adult burn survivors; From competencies to certification: recognizing specialty practice of burn nurses and therapists
- Shari Honari BSN, RN – Burn photo documentation survey of ABA members
- Cameron Kneib BS – Effects of early gabapentin initiation on chronic pain & itch in burn patients
- Stephen Sibbett BSc – Race and ethnicity influence burn survivor perception of recovery
- Tara Lerew BSN, RN – Staff and patient experience of daily burn wound rounds via remote videoconferencing
- Andrea Dai BS – Burn patients’ perception of their care: what can we learn from post-discharge satisfaction surveys?
- Maryam Soltani MEd – Effectiveness of virtual reality during active range of motion with burn patients
- Taylor Powell RN – Nursing understanding and perceptions of delirium: assessing current knowledge, attitudes and beliefs in a burn ICU (selected as 1 of the Top 6 abstracts)
- Beth Costa OT– Comprehensive burn therapy: From ICU through rehabilitation
- Nicole Gibran MD, FACS – The nuts and bolts of ABA burn center verification
- Tam Pham MD, FACS – ‘Smaller burns’: Keep at the community hospital or transfer to a burn center?

If you would like to receive a copy of our newsletter, email us at NWRBMS@uw.edu and request either an email or paper copy. Please include the appropriate email or postal address with your request.
Burn Center Retreat – Planning for the Future

In a renewed commitment to excellence, UW Burn Team members, burn survivors and family members gathered in September to prioritize issues related to the Burn Center healthcare delivery systems. This effort launched our initiative to improve communication, standardize care and improve the patient and family experiences. Five groups of staff and faculty have been meeting to develop care pathways that will eventually be used from admission through discharge. Areas of focus in this 1st phase include Pain, Agitation and Delirium; Wound Care; Resuscitation; Psychosocial Issues; and Mobility.

Over 75 retreat participants brainstormed and discussed new ideas. Key concepts were identified to provide greater understanding of current barriers or issues that stand in the way of better care within each of the five broad domains.

These working groups will report on pathway development in April 2017 in anticipation of testing and utilization of the new care pathways in May 2017 by Burn Center staff.

Peer Support for Burn Survivors

The Phoenix Society designed the Survivors Offering Assistance in Recovery (SOAR) program to provide training to burn survivors and their family members who wish to help others whose lives have been touched by a burn injury. Peer support assists individuals in adapting to a burn injury through sharing similar experiences. SOAR is a hospital-based program intended to make it easier for burn centers to work with volunteers to provide peer support to patients and family members.

The UW Burn Center has over 15 SOAR volunteers who reside across our Pacific Northwest region. Each of these individuals is ready to meet or have a phone conversation with anyone who wants peer support. There is no cost to this program. For more information, contact Dr. Shelley Wiechman (UW Psychologist) at 206-744-4439. You can also meet SOAR volunteers at the monthly burn support group that meets at the Tukwila Fire Station on the 3rd Sunday of every month from 5-6:30pm.

Visit our website at http://burnrehab.washington.edu/

- Over 480,000 people receive medical treatment annually for a burn injury in the U.S.
- Some 40,000 people are admitted to hospitals for their burn with 60% (30,000) being cared for at a burn center.
- The UW Medicine Regional Burn Center cares for 700-900 people annually – 1/3 of these are children.