
NOVEMBER, 2019

MNRS Palliative & End of Life Care RIG

E-Newsletter



Awards

This is a reminder that **RIG award nominations are now open!**

Nominate yourself or a colleague for one of our awards! All **nominations are due by 12/5/2019**. If you have any questions, please email Dr. Rebecca Lehto (RIG Chair) at lehtor@msu.edu.

This year we are offering the following awards:

- Distinguished Researcher
- Mid-Career Researcher
- New Investigator
- Dissertation
- DNP project
- Research Publication

RIG Member Spotlight

Dr. Christine “Chris” Fortney

November’s RIG member profile is Dr. Christine “Chris” Fortney, recipient of the 2019 New Investigator awards from both the Palliative and End of Life Care RIG and the Symptom Science RIG. Dr. Fortney has been a member of MNRS since 2012 and has served MNRS as a member of the Communications and Engagement Committee, an abstract reviewer, as Chair of the Palliative and EOL Care RIG, and currently as Chair-elect of the Symptom Science RIG. Dr. Fortney will be on the forthcoming ballot as one of the candidates for Secretary of MNRS.



Dr. Fortney is an Assistant Professor in the College of Nursing at The Ohio State University (OSU) and a nurse scientist at Nationwide Children’s Hospital (NCH). Dr. Fortney has two Bachelor’s degrees from OSU; one in Journalism and one in nursing. She then went on to complete a Master’s degree in nursing with neonatal specialization and a PhD in Nursing, also from OSU. As a post-doctoral fellow, she completed the Patient Centered-Pediatric Research Program (PC-PRoP) in the Center for Biobehavioral Health at NCH and then joined the faculty at OSU College of Nursing in 2015. From an F31 awarded as a doctoral student, to post-doctoral intramural funding, to a K23 as a junior faculty member,

Dr. Fortney has built a program of research based on the study of the experiences of critically-ill infants in the NICU and their families. Through the use of descriptive data, behavioral observations, and qualitative interviews, she has highlighted the trajectories of symptoms and suffering, as well as how perceptions of symptoms and suffering influence decision-making and changes in goals of care for both infants and their parents. She has also highlighted challenges to the identification and management of symptoms in critically-ill infants in the NICU, developed a framework to evaluate the quality of neonatal death, and published the first manuscript to illuminate patient-reported symptom data in this population.

- RIG Leadership Team