
DECEMBER, 2019

MNRS Palliative & End of Life Care RIG

E-Newsletter



RIG Survey

Please do not forget to complete our RIG membership survey. If you have not done so, please take a few minutes to complete the survey using the following link:

https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5BGPQybpoireSmF

The survey will remain open until **January 6, 2020**. Findings will provide the leadership team with essential information about our RIG membership including perceptions relative to MNRS conference planning, research interests, and ideas for activities.

MNRS Voting

By now all of you should have received emails instructing you to vote for the MNRS candidates, due **January 10, 2020**. One of our members, Dr. Christine Fortney is running for the secretary position.

RIG Awards

We had a strong turnout for our RIG call for awards. Notifications of award recipients will go out after January 10, 2020.

RIG Member Spotlight

Dr. Gwen Wyatt

December's RIG member profile is Dr. Gwen Wyatt, PhD, RN, FAAN. Dr. Wyatt's research focuses on reducing symptoms and improving the quality of life of patients with cancer, and, more recently, their informal caregivers. She has served as a principal Investigator on nine completed studies that focused on interventions, including intervention design, intervention fidelity, intervention outcomes, safety, feasibility, and efficacy.



Her specific research interest areas include end of life care, integrative therapies and the economics of incorporating integrative therapies into mainstream health care. Her most current research study focuses on improving symptom management among cancer patients using complementary therapies. Specific therapies in Dr Wyatt's research have evaluated acupressure, reflexology, and meditative practices. Her contributions to nursing practice have been demonstrated by addressing the shift in care from hospital to clinic to home. She has developed nursing interventions for symptom management in the home by the patient and their designated caregivers. Findings from her work on supportive cancer care have been consistently disseminated nationally and internationally through publications and presentations. Dr. Wyatt was recently honored as the Brandon Schools Distinguished Alumni and was added to their Wall of Fame for Distinguished Achievement in Nursing, Education, and Research in Ortonville, MI. She will also be attending this year's 44th annual conference as a symposium special feature for the Symptom Science RIG on the methodology used in her current R01 grant from NCI. It is on the Sequential Multiple Assignment Randomized Trial (SMART) design. She will be inducted as a Fellow in the American Psychosocial Oncology Society in 2020 as well as will receive the Oncology Nursing Society's distinguished researcher award in May 2020.

- RIG Leadership Team