



April 2010

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Update from the Wisconsin Sleep Society

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FROM THE WSS PRESIDENT

Hello fellow sleep gurus! Macbeth reminds us (Shakespeare) that sleep knits up the raveled sleeve of care. The death of each day's life and not to end sorely we are told that sleep is the chief nourisher in life's feast. Feast we will! When we awake? Ponder joining a list of fabulous nominations for the WSS board of directors and/or officers. We welcome all that love sleep as much as the current officers and BOD. Time commitment is minimal. Conference calls monthly with two face-to-face meetings a year. If we can get more help, activities will ramp up. For right now I can report that you will lose no sleep being on the executive end of the WSS. You will feast! So join in our Feasting! Tell us you want to be nominated. We are looking for YOU!

Respectfully,
Pete Weber, President WSS

WISCONSIN SLEEP TECH LICENSURE

Rumors periodically fly around regarding several items of interest to sleep techs. Will sleep techs in Wisconsin have to become licensed? Or become respiratory therapists to keep their jobs? Or be required to be registered through the BPRT to keep their jobs?

All are valid questions and sleep techs should be keeping an eye on these issues. Some states do require licensure for sleep techs.

Several states have made moves toward requiring sleep techs to become respiratory therapists, citing the use of CPAP as a skill only RTs should perform. Did you know Emergency Medical Technicians in Wisconsin are licensed to use CPAP on ambulance calls?

Requiring all sleep techs to be registered through BRPT can also be part of a state licensure requirement.

At this time, Wisconsin has no language regarding the practice of sleep technicians. Who should be involved in the writing of this legislation? Should we even have licensure of sleep techs in Wisconsin? BLOG your thoughts on this subject by going on our blog link on www.wisleep.org.

If the subject of Sleep Tech State Licensure is of interest to you (for or against), please consider joining the WSS Legislative Committee. Email us at info@wisleep.org with questions or to join this exciting committee.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Membership renewal can be done by going to www.wisleep.org and picking the membership page. Members will receive a discount to several upcoming events. And, members can earn 3 CEUs for FREE by attending the Aug 5, 2010 membership meeting and education event being held at Aspirus hospital in Wausau. Register by emailing info@wisleep.org. Space is limited for this event. Details and a flyer are available on the website.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The board met via conference call on April 21. The bylaws were updated and a link to them will be put on the wisleep.org web page. The biggest change was going from a President-Elect to a Vice-President position. This will make the position less of a time commitment.

The board also discussed the difficulty of getting members engaged in the society. We need committee members and also a few people to run for board positions in November. Please email Pete Weber at pweber@wisleep.org if you have any interest in getting more involved. Most of the work is by conference call and if everyone would help a little, we could make some great strides in sleep medicine in Wisconsin.

