

The Cutting Edge

Central Oklahoma AORN
www.aornok.org

February 2003
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President's Message

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Special points of interest:

Coming in March!

- * Watch for OHA approved policy for SURGICAL SITE VERIFICATION

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY TO EACH AND EVERY ONE!

AORN is committed to promoting identification of the correct surgical site. Using the following risk-prevention strategies when developing policies and procedures will reduce the risk of error. As patient advocates, perioperative RNs should communicate with all members of the surgical team to verify the correct surgical site. Individual facility policy should clearly delineate the role and responsibility of the physician and other team members in marking and verifying the surgical site. You all must play an active part in this endeavor. Risk-Reduction Strategies include:

- * Involve the pt. and/or family members in identifying the correct site
- * Use a specified, clear, unambiguous, indelible, hypoallergenic, latex-free method for marking only the correct surgical site
- * Specify in individual fa-

cility policy and procedure who, when, and by whom the site is to be marked.

- * Use a verification checklist immediately before surgery including, verbal communication w/pt and/or family member, medical record review, including face sheet, History & Physical, and preoperative assessment, review of the informed consent and all available imaging studies, direct observation of the marked site, verbal verification of the correct site w/each member of the surgical team, a "time-out" by the team immediately before the incision or start of the procedure for final confirmation of the site, and quality control initiatives to monitor compliance w/procedures.
- * Establish a process to address and clearly resolve any discrepancies noted during the verifica-

tion process prior to beginning the procedures.

A number of your colleague leaders have been working on the local level to identify/develop meaningful and realistic strategies to support this national initiative. Everyone must play a conscientious part in order to provide safe care.

June Ricards



February Meeting

AORN National President Elect

Betty Schultz

“Leaders Stepping Forward”

Integrus Baptist Medical Center

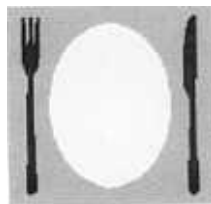
Auditorium, Building D

Monday, February 17, 2003

7:00 pm



Meal to be provided...



Meal to be provided by Ethicon. (Coordinated by Jennifer J. Weir and Janet Lewis)

Please plan to come early to enjoy some sustenance!

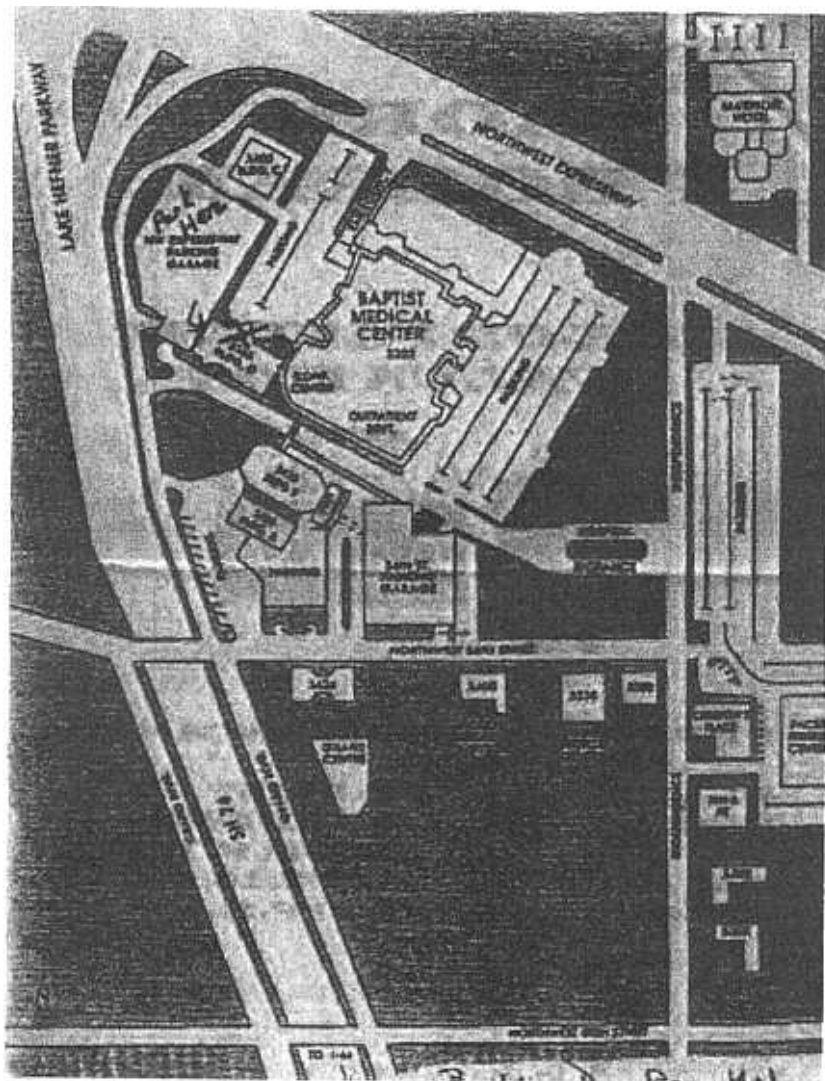
Table seating will be provided as food is not permitted in the auditorium.

Join us @ 5:30 pm.

See you there.

Baptist Medical Center

Northwest Expressway and Hefner Parkway



Meeting room is in Building 'D', Level 'C'

Watch for signs....

[AornOK homepage](#)