



What the AACN Provides You

Representation

...of the interests of *all* neuropsychologists

The AACN has a diverse membership base, so it is no surprise that the AACN Board of Directors reflects diverse professional interests. What may surprise you is how important AACN members are in representing your interests in other organizations. As of 2011, AACN members comprise the current, immediate past, and incoming presidents of APA's Division 40, INS, and NAN.

...including those who work with children.

Despite claims to the contrary, neuropsychologists who work with children are well represented within the leadership of the AACN. As of 2011, half of the Board members worked clinically with children. Your interests are also well-represented in the board-certification process, into which the AACN has an advisory role. Neuropsychology training with children is well-regarded during the ABPP/ABCN credential review, and applicants can freely submit child or adult cases as practice samples and select child or adult cases to discuss during the oral examination.

Professional Advocacy

The field's greatest challenges come from forces outside of neuropsychology. The AACN has been a strong advocate. For example, the AACN Board of Directors has advocated on behalf of the profession with representatives from an international health management company that influences compensation for clinical services. This advocacy has yielded a better understanding of that company's processes, an increased availability of qualified neuropsychologists to guide the company's decisions, and a better understanding of steps the field can take to ensure its success, followed by tangible action (see the Stability and Innovation section).

On the regulatory front, when the US Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) recently called a meeting to review the protections for test data provided under HIPAA, two AACN Board Members were there. And when you receive "Action Alerts" about impending legislative actions into which you can provide input, look at who is giving you the "heads up". The odds are that the alert has come from an AACN member.

Training

The Association of Postdoctoral Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology (APPCN) is comprised primarily of programs directed by AACN members, and includes prominent pediatric facilities throughout the US and in Canada. Together, the APPCN has fostered the development of advanced postdoctoral training programs and helped to reduce chaos via an inclusive match program.

Support

...for those seeking board certification

The AACN has multiple study support resources, including a free on-line study guide, a guidebook sold through the Oxford-AACN book series, a study support network (Be Ready for ABPP in Neuropsychology or *BRAIN*), and a mentorship program. The director of the mentorship program, 3 of the 4 book authors, and a sizable portion of the leadership and membership of BRAIN work with children, just like you do.

Scholarship

The AACN includes many of your most respected colleagues, who share their knowledge with you.

The AACN annual conference and on-line Continuing Education (CE) series offer ~20 hours a year of APA-approved CE credits that are *specific to working with children*. Moreover, many of the field's leading books and journals are authored, co-authored or edited by AACN members. For example:

- *Neuropsychological Evaluation of the Child* (Baron)
- *Pediatric Neuropsychology* (Yeates, Ris, Taylor & Pennington)
- *Pediatric Neuropsychological Intervention* (Hunter & Donders)
- *Developmental Neuropsychology* (Spreeen, Risser & Edgell)
- *Pediatric Traumatic Brain Injury: New Frontiers in Clinical and Translational Research* (Anderson & Yeates)
- *Syndrome of Nonverbal Learning Disabilities* (Rourke)
- *Learning Disabilities: From Identification to Intervention* (Fletcher, Lyon, Fuchs, & Barnes)
- *Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder: A Handbook for Diagnosis and Treatment* (Barkley)
- *Casebook of Clinical Neuropsychology* (Morgan, Baron, & Ricker)
- The journal *Child Neuropsychology* (Editor-In-Chief: Westerveld, Associate Editor: Donders)

Balance of Stability with Innovation

As the oldest, largest, and fastest-growing group of credentialed neuropsychologists, the AACN is in an ideal position to respond to the challenges of the field with innovative and sustained solutions.

For example, in response to insurance company pressures to empirically document the field's health care benefits, the AACN Foundation recently began awarding grants to investigators conducting neuropsychological outcome research. Also, the AACN is in the process of bringing a prominent child clinical neuropsychology journal under the AACN fold at a discounted price for members.

The challenges of the future can not be known for certain, but you can be certain that the AACN will be there, and will have been watching the horizon to help keep the field—and you—prepared.