



Stepping



Forward

## SGNA Healthcare Policy Committee

Katherine Vinci, RNC CGRN, SGNA Healthcare Policy Member  
Ellen Antognioni, MSN RN CGRN, SGNA Healthcare Policy Committee Chair



### SGNA Healthcare Policy Committee 2014 – 2015

Ellen Antognioni, MSN RN CGRN,  
Committee Chair

Laura Hart, BSN RN CGRN  
Pam Joel, BSN RN CGRN  
Marilyn Schaffner, PhD RN CGRN  
Kathy Vinci, RNC CGRN  
Karen Zervopoulos, RN CFER  
Conrad Worrell, RN CGRN CSN, Board Liaison

## Priority Partner Organizations



SGNA Shares the NCCRT's goal of reaching 80% screened for Colorectal Cancer by 2018.

Last year during *GI Nurse and Associate's Week*, SGNA dedicated a day to writing to legislators, promoting the '80% BY 2018' campaign.

SGNA participates in the *Blue Star States* campaign, a grassroots effort to ensure every state declares March *Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month*.



ASGE collaborates with SGNA in lending use of their CapWiz e-Advocacy tool. SGNA members generate hundreds of letters to their legislators via CapWiz. **CapWiz is accessible to anyone on SGNA's website.** Legislative liaisons pass on upcoming events, resources, and key legislative initiatives to SGNA regional members.



SGNA encourages its committee members and legislative liaisons to attend the **Digestive Disease National Coalition's Healthcare Policy Forum** by offering scholarships to cover costs. At this annual event patients, health care providers, industry representatives, lawmakers and their legislative staff meet for two days of educational programs, legislative updates and advocacy training.



Each year SGNA sends a representative of the Healthcare Policy Committee to attend **Dialogue for Action**. This event emphasizes **evidence-based cancer screening** according to guidelines.

Participants are encouraged to **take the dialogue back to their communities and workplaces** to promote appropriate screening.

For more information on SGNA Legislative Initiatives go to the SGNA website [www.sgna.org](http://www.sgna.org).



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### Healthcare Policy Committee Background

SGNA's Healthcare Policy committee was established in 2012, as part of the 2012-2014 strategic plan. The SGNA Board of Directors identified influencing policy as a key goal based on the organization's mission to advance the science and practice of gastroenterology and endoscopy nursing through education, research, advocacy, and collaboration.

### Purpose/Goals

The purpose of the Healthcare Policy Committee is to support SGNA's efforts to actively influence policy regarding colorectal cancer awareness, infection prevention and sedation administration by working with collaborative partners.

Although the 2014-2016 strategic plan has new goals, goal 2 Quality Care goes well with the committee's purpose. Goal 2 states SGNA will drive the quality of care in areas of infection prevention, sedation and changes to the health care system related to quality issues and reimbursement.

### Objectives

SGNA Healthcare Policy Committee's objectives are to promote awareness, coordinate efforts with partner organizations, and participate in educational events supporting colorectal cancer awareness, infection prevention and sedation administration. Another objective is involving SGNA membership in grassroots efforts. All our regions have a regional legislative liaison.

### Priority Partner Organizations

The Healthcare Policy Committee is involved with several partner organizations but four are our priority.

**ASGE**- American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

**NCCRT**- National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable

**DDNC**- Digestive Disease National Coalition

**Prevent Cancer Foundation**- Dialogue for Action

### Conclusion

Over the last three years engaging our members at the regional level has been our most powerful tools to influence policy regarding colorectal cancer awareness, infection prevention and sedation administration.

### Response Letter from Legislator

