

2018 Education report

Over this past year, the education committee has focused on increasing education and awareness about LAS and providing education to health care providers on lymphedema. There have been a number of education projects and initiatives completed this past year including:

1. Lymphedema Poster Board

The LAS education poster board with information about lymphedema, LAS and the CLF has been used for various educational opportunities with health care professionals and community. We will plan to utilize the board at the upcoming Symposium at the LAS table and hope to bring exposure to the poster board amongst the health care providers and patients that are attending that hopefully will lead to more opportunities to utilize the board for education purposes in the future. Thanks again to Lori Verishagen for helping us design the poster.

2. Lymphedema Poster Distribution

A poster with lymphedema and LAS information is still available to distribute to local doctor offices, hospital departments, public and private lymphedema therapist clinics and various community locations. Copies of the poster will be made available at this year's symposium for members to take and help us distribute in their local communities. Members can also contact LAS by email to request additional copies. Thanks again to Lori Verishagen for helping us design the poster.

3. Intro to Lymphedema Presentation For Website

LAS has asked the CLF medical advisory committee to review and edit the current Intro to Lymphedema Telehealth presentation offered by the public CDT therapists through the health regions. Through collaboration with the CLF and the therapists involved in making the presentation, LAS hopes to offer this presentation on the LAS website to help educate patients, health providers and the public. At present, this project still needs to be reviewed by the CLF medical advisory committee, as it was tabled due to the National conference last year. CLF will be attending this year's Symposium and we hope this project can be completed this fall.

4. Health Provider Education

Presentations have been provided to various health care providers in Regina including:

- An Overview of Lymphedema and Lipedema Services in Saskatchewan to family medicine residents and to the surgical OR unit that includes surgeons, nursing and anesthesiologists.

- Presentations are now scheduled for the Physiatrist group across Saskatchewan and the Family Medicine Unit.

- We are planning a special physician session at this year's Symposium with some of the key note presenters to provide an overview of prevalence, diagnosis, assessment and management of lymphedema and lipedema.

Discussions and meetings have been held with plastic surgeons, cardiovascular specialists, general/bariatric surgeons, physiatrists and family medicine to invite physicians to this.

We would like to continue to look for opportunities to provide education to health providers across the province. Please contact LAS by email if you are interested.

5. 2018 LAS Lymphedema and Lymphedema Symposium

I am excited to announce this year's LAS Lymphedema and Lipedema Education Symposium will be taking place in Regina, SK on September 6th and 7th at the Double Tree Inn By Hilton. We have an exciting line-up of presenters including Dr. S. Rockson, Dr. J. Granzow, Dr. D. Keast, Anna Kennedy (Canadian lymphedema Framework), local speakers and workshops by Lymphedema Depot, Jobst, Vaillancourt Circaid and Paradigm Medical (Lymphapress). The event will feature both patient and health provider sessions and a trade show. This event will provide much needed and valuable education on both lymphedema and lipedema here in Saskatchewan so please consider attending and encourage your health providers to attend as well. Registration will begin in 2 weeks and registration info will be listed here and on the LAS website. I will be making regular posts regarding the speakers and the workshops on the LAS Facebook page being offered soon!

2018-2019 Educations Projects:

This education committee looks forward to continuing to work on these initiatives in the upcoming year as well as some additional projects including:

-A Certified Lymphedema Therapist section on the website for CLF therapists is now on website and a draft of Lymphedema training schools, LANA certification, vendor inservices and local educational opportunities is almost complete to add.

Submitted by Tracy Gardikiotis