

ISONG Poster

Our Vision

ISONG, the International Society of Nurses in Genetics, is a global nursing specialty organization dedicated to fostering the scientific and professional growth of nurses in human genetics and genomics worldwide. The ISONG vision is: caring for people's genetic and genomic health.

Our Mission

To foster the scientific, professional, and personal development of members in the management of genomic information.

Our Goals

- Provide a forum for education and support for nurses providing genetic healthcare
- Promote the integration of the nursing process into the delivery of genetic healthcare services
- Encourage the incorporation of the principles of human genetics into all levels of nursing education
- Promote the development of standards of practice for nurses in human genetics
- Advance nursing research in human genetics
- Provide a forum for dialogue with others

What is a Genetic Nurse?

A genetic nurse is a licensed professional nurse with special education and training in genetics. Genetic nurses help people at risk for or affected by diseases with a genetic component achieve and maintain health. Many common diseases are now known to have a genetic component, including cancer, heart disease, diabetes, and Alzheimers.

Genetic nurses perform risk assessment, analyze the genetic contribution to disease risk and discuss the impact of risk on health care management for individuals and families. They also provide genetic education, provide nursing care to patients and families and conduct research in genetics.

Nurses In Genetics Work With Patients And Their Families In Many Settings

- specialty clinics where gene-based diagnoses and therapies are offered
- prenatal and reproductive technology centers
- cancer centers
- primary health care settings
- pediatric clinics
- industrial health
- school health
- research centers
- biotech and insurance industries

Special Interest Group

Metabolic SIG

The mission of the ISONG metabolic special interest group is to set standards, to offer leadership and to showcase expert nursing practice, by communication and collaboration among those nurses involved in the diagnosis, treatment and care of persons with genetically inherited metabolic diseases. Duke University School of Nursing is sponsoring the meeting of the Metabolic SIG at the ISONG Conference in Philadelphia in 2012.

Pediatric SIG

The Pediatric SIG aims to become a forum to identify and address an array of genetic issues impacting child health. It offers connection with our pediatric nurse colleagues within ISONG for information sharing, brainstorming, education and research. In 2012, this re-energized committee will meet at the ISONG Conference in Philadelphia to review the mission statement, and determine goals and objectives for the next 5 years.

Oncology SIG

The Oncology SIG is currently under development. The first meeting will be held at the annual conference and goals and objectives of the SIG will be discussed and determined.

Prenatal Screening SIG

This new special interest group is currently under development. The first meeting will be held at the annual conference and goals and objectives of the SIG will be discussed and determined.

Position Statements

Newborn Screening: The Role of the Nurse
(Approved September 2012)

Informed Decision-Making: The Role of Nursing
(Approved August 2011)

Access to Genomic Healthcare: The Role of the Nurse
(Approved April 2010)

Privacy and Confidentiality of Genetic Information: The Role of the Nurse
(Approved April 2010)

Genetic Counseling for Vulnerable Populations: The Role of the Nurse
(Approved January 2010)

ISONG Direct-to-Consumer Marketing of Genetic Tests
(Approved September 2009)

Provision of Quality Genetic Services and Care: Building a Multidisciplinary, Collaborative Approach among Genetic Nurses and Genetic Counselors
(Approved November 2006)