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## THE 4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL LINDA MORGANTE MS NURSE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

FEBRUARY 8, 2012

Dear Nurse:

We are pleased to announce a call for applications for the **4<sup>th</sup> Annual Linda Morgante Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Nurse Leadership Program**, an intensive, two-day course that focuses on contemporary topics in MS led by faculty who are thought leaders in MS nursing. The program will be held Monday through Wednesday, May 28-30, 2012, immediately preceding the CMSC Annual Meeting in San Diego, California.

The program offers two educational tracks, depending on participants' experience and education. Track 1 is for early-career nurses new to the field of MS, while Track 2 is for advanced-career nurses. Each track includes 20 participants, with all participants attending a joint educational session on the first day and final day of the program. All early-career or advanced-career nurses who have a special interest in MS are encouraged to apply.

### ACCREDITATION STATEMENT

Annenberg Center for Health Sciences is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

### CREDIT DESIGNATION

A maximum of **10.25** contact hours may be earned for successful completion of this activity.

The following expenses will be covered for nurses accepted into the program:

- ◇ Reception on Monday evening (May 28)
- ◇ Two-day educational program on Tuesday and Wednesday (May 29 and 30)
- ◇ Dinner on Tuesday evening at a local restaurant (May 29)
- ◇ Meals during program days

There is no charge for this activity. Certificates will be emailed to participants 4-6 weeks after the program. Additionally, a reduced registration fee of \$300 for the 2012 Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers (CMSC) Annual Meeting (May 30-June 2) will be offered to participants of the Linda Morgante Program. You will be responsible for the \$300 registration fee, should you choose to participate.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Linda Morgante MS Nurse Leadership Program is co-sponsored by the Academy for Continued Healthcare Learning (ACHL) and the Annenberg Center. The program is supported through an educational grant from Acorda Therapeutics, Inc.

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To apply for the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Linda Morgante MS Nurse Leadership Program you must be:

- ◇ A nurse with a special interest in MS
- ◇ Practicing in the United States
- ◇ If you attended the program in 2009, 2010, or 2011, you are not eligible to apply in 2012

*Please Note: You must be able to stay for the entire program. Participants in the Nurse Leadership Program will not be able to take the MS certification exam on Wednesday morning.*

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### HOW TO APPLY

To be considered complete, an application must include the following documents:

1. The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Linda Morgante MS Nurse Leadership Program Application (enclosed)
2. A personal statement describing your interest and experience in MS and how participation in this program will help you achieve your career objectives (1 page maximum)
3. Curriculum Vitae

Please submit all three documents to Michelle Forcier, ACHL Program Coordinator, via fax at **877.872.2544**, or [mforcier@achlcme.org](mailto:mforcier@achlcme.org). Applications will not be considered complete unless all documents are received at the same time.

### DEADLINE

The deadline for submission is **MARCH 9, 2012**. Applications received after this date will only be considered if space permits.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Katie Hacias, Associate Program Director, 877.444.8435 x.159, or [khacias@achlcme.org](mailto:khacias@achlcme.org).

Sincerely,



Amy Perrin Ross, APN, MSN, CNRN, MSCN  
Co-chair



Colleen Harris, NP, MN, MSCN  
Co-chair

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### WHAT OUR FACULTY SAY ABOUT THE LINDA MORGANTE MS NURSE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM:

*“Caring for people with MS and their families requires a special skill set. This program is a great opportunity for new nurses in the field of MS and more experienced nurses to gain up to date information about MS from expert nurses. The program also provides an opportunity for those who attend to interact with others and begin to develop a supportive network.”*

—Marie Namey, RN, MSN, MSCN

*“It’s a wonderful opportunity for nurses at all education levels to increase their knowledge of MS and collaborate with colleagues from around the country. The program’s content is comprehensive and includes discussions of all aspects of the disease process. The program prepares participants to care for patients with MS, and increases their ability to improve their patients’ lives and offer hope for the future.”*

—Constance Easterling, RN, MSN,  
ARNP, MSCN

*“As MS management becomes more complex, patients and their families need professionals to explain the disease and answer their questions. Nurses are playing a larger role in becoming that resource for them. Our knowledge must be as current as possible, to help our patients learn about MS and make informed decisions. They are counting on us.”*

—Patricia Kennedy, RN, CNP, MSCN

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### HERE ARE TESTIMONIALS FROM PAST PARTICIPANTS:

- ◇ Outstanding! I have been an RN and then NP since 1975; this ranks as one of the 3 best conferences I’ve ever attended.
- ◇ I thought this was an extremely helpful and useful educational experience. I was very impressed with the content, and the quality of the faculty. I very much appreciate the opportunity to participate in this activity.
- ◇ I have thoroughly enjoyed this conference. Thank you so much for allowing me this opportunity. I will be using a lot of this information in the practice where I work. This was one of the most beneficial, warm, educational meetings I have attended in 14 years. A job well done with great benefit.
- ◇ Excellent education. I learned a lot and I’m planning to take the MS certification in November. This was an excellent review.
- ◇ This program was a step above the other educational offerings as it was progressive from beginning to end. It had an increasing scope of knowledge.

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## THE 4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL LINDA MORGANTE MS NURSE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

### OVERVIEW

**The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Linda Morgante Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Nurse Leadership Program** is an intensive, two-day course on contemporary topics in MS led by faculty who are thought leaders in MS nursing. The program includes didactic lectures, case presentations, Q&A sessions, and opportunities to interact with faculty. The program will take place immediately prior to the Annual Meeting of the Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers (CMSC).

The program offers two educational tracks, depending on a participants' education and experience: Track 1 is for early-career nurses new to the field of MS; Track 2 is for advanced-career MS nurses. Each Track includes 20 participants, with all participants attending a joint educational session on the first and final day of the program.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this activity, participants will be able to:

- ◇ Examine the pathophysiology of MS immunology and recognize the scientific factors that may have implications for patient quality of life
- ◇ Adopt evidence-based diagnostic and assessment approaches for evaluating disease activity and related symptomatology in patients with MS
- ◇ Discuss the goals of MS treatment with patients to encourage adherence to treatment and improve outcomes

### AGENDA

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

MONDAY, MAY 28 – WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 2012

MONDAY, MAY 28		
6:30 PM	Registration Welcome Reception	
TUESDAY, MAY 29		
7:30 AM	Breakfast	
MORNING COMBINED TRACK		
8:00 AM	Welcome and Introductions	Amy Perrin Ross, APN, MSN, CNRN, MSCN Colleen Harris, NP, MN, MSCN
8:15 AM	MS Disease Overview	Aliza Ben-Zacharia, MSN, ANP
9:00 AM	Case Study Discussion	Aliza Ben-Zacharia, MSN, ANP
9:30 AM	Morning Break	

(continued)

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TRACK 1: EARLY-CAREER TRACK

9:45 AM	MS Basics–Diagnosis	Cheryl Blaschuk, FNP, MSCN
10:30 AM	MS Diagnosis Case Study Discussion	Cheryl Blaschuk, FNP, MSCN
11:00 AM	MS Basics–Treatment	Beverly Layton, RN, BSN, CCRC, MSCN
11:45 AM	MS Treatment Case Study Discussion	Beverly Layton, RN, BSN, CCRC, MSCN
12:15 PM	Lunch	
1:15 PM	MS Basics–Symptom Management	Marie Namey, RN, MSN, MSCN
2:15 PM	Symptom Management Case Study Discussion	Marie Namey, RN, MSN, MSCN
2:45 PM	Afternoon Break	

TUESDAY, MAY 29 (CONT)

TRACK 2: ADVANCED-CAREER TRACK

9:45 AM	Advanced Topics in MS Diagnosis	Lynn McEwan, RN(EC), MScN, APN, NP, CNNc, MSCN
10:30 AM	MS Diagnosis Case Study Discussion	Lynn McEwan, RN(EC), MScN, APN, NP, CNNc, MSCN
11:00 AM	Advanced Topics in MS Treatment	Mary Kay Fink, RN, MSN, APN, MSCN
11:45 AM	MS Treatment Case Study Discussion	Mary Kay Fink, RN, MSN, APN, MSCN
12:15 PM	Lunch	
1:15 PM	Advanced Symptom Management	Mary Kay Fink, RN, MSN, APN, MSCN
2:15 PM	Symptom Management Case Study Discussion	Mary Kay Fink, RN, MSN, APN, MSCN
2:45 PM	Afternoon Break	

AFTERNOON COMBINED TRACK

3:00 PM	Current Controversies in Treatment	Marie Namey, RN, MSN, MSCN
3:45 PM - 4:30 PM	Discussing Diagnosis and Treatment Goals With Patients	Constance Easterling, RN, MSN, ARNP, MSCN
6:30 PM	Dinner	Local Restaurant TBD

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30

COMBINED TRACK

7:30 AM	Breakfast and the Evolving Role of the Nurse in MS Care	June Halper, MSCN, ANP, FAAN
8:00 AM	Day 1 Review	Amy Perrin Ross, APN, MSN, CNRN, MSCN, Colleen Harris, NP, MN, MSCN
8:15 AM	Providing Comprehensive MS Care: Improving Quality of Life	Lynn McEwan, RN(EC), MScN, APN, NP, CNNc, MSCN
9:00 AM	Morning Break	
9:15 AM	Cognitive and Psychological Effects of MS	Patricia Kennedy, RN, CNP, MSCN
10:15 AM	The Spectrum of MS	Constance Easterling, RN, MSN, ARNP, MSCN
10:45 AM	MS Spectrum Case Study Discussion	Constance Easterling, RN, MSN, ARNP, MSCN
11:00 AM - 11:30 AM	Faculty Panel Discussion	

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THE 4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL LINDA MORGANTE MS NURSE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

APPLICATION

**Step 1 Review the eligibility criteria**

To apply for the program you must be:

- ◇ A nurse with a special interest in multiple sclerosis (MS)
- ◇ Practicing in the United States
- ◇ If you attended the program in 2009, 2010, or 2011, you are not eligible to apply in 2012

*Please Note:* You must be able to stay for the entire program. Participants in the Nurse Leadership Program will not be able to take the MS certification exam on Wednesday morning.

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**Step 2 Complete the following information**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
FIRST LAST INITIAL

Degree(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Area(s) of specialty \_\_\_\_\_

Did you apply to the program in 2009, 2010, and/or 2011?  Yes  No

Did you attend the program in 2009, 2010 or 2011?  Yes  No

Name of your current institution, school, or workplace \_\_\_\_\_

I am a:  Student  Nurse in practice  Other \_\_\_\_\_  
PLEASE INDICATE

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact (please include name, relationship, and phone number)

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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**Step 3 Include a personal statement (1 page maximum)**

- ◇ Describe your interest and/or experience in MS
- ◇ State your career objectives
- ◇ Explain how participation in this program will help you achieve your career objectives. If your specialty is not MS, explain your motivation for applying for this program.

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**Step 4 Include a copy of your current CV**

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**Step 5 Submit your application by MARCH 9, 2012**

**Send your application, personal statement, and CV to:**

**Michelle Forcier via fax at 877.872.2544 or [mforcier@achlcme.org](mailto:mforcier@achlcme.org).**

If you have any questions, please contact Michelle at 877.444.8435 x.118 or [mforcier@achlcme.org](mailto:mforcier@achlcme.org)