

From Around the Network

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SmartPulse

New Products

SmartPulse, from SeQual Technologies Inc., is a fingertip oximeter that provides fast, accurate readings of blood oxygen saturation on a full multicolor LED display. The oximeter comes with a four-year warranty. www.sequal.com

Swift™ LT for Her. Especially designed for women, ResMed's Swift has very small nasal pillows to fit petite noses. The mask frame width is also smaller to match women's faces. www.resmed.com



Swift™ LT for Her by ResMed

Veterans with ALS Gain US Benefits.

The federal government will provide disability pay, lifetime health care and death benefits for all veterans with ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease). The Department of Veterans Affairs said the disease was linked to military service. All veterans with the illness will be eligible, regardless of when or where they served. The decision is based on studies suggesting that veterans are more likely to develop the disease, though none could explain why. Theories on why veterans may be having an increased risk of ALS include psychological or physical stress, vaccinations, exposure to electromagnetic fields or to toxic agents used in the Gulf wars. www.va.gov

National Resource Directory for Veterans

The US Department of Defense has launched the *National Resource Directory* (www.nationalresourcedirectory.org), a collaborative effort between the departments of Defense, Labor and Veterans Affairs. The directory is a web-based network of care that includes resources for wounded, ill and injured service members, veterans, their families, families of the fallen, and those who support them.



Take Charge, Not Chances, the IVUN project funded by the Dana and Christopher Reeve Foundation, has been translated into Spanish courtesy of Dr. Martha Castilleja, Medical Editor and Translator, Miami, Florida, (BIOMEDICApres@fastmail.fm).

The four documents – Home Ventilator User's Emergency Preparation Checklist, Caregiver's Emergency Preparation Checklist, Patient's Vital Information for Medical Staff, Treating Neuro-muscular Patients Who Use Home Ventilation: Critical Issues – are on IVUN's website at www.ventusers.org/vume/.

Cardiac Involvement in CCHS

Mary Vanderlaan, Director and Founder of the CCHS Family Network advises, "In 2008 we alerted all CCHS families to the association of various mutation levels with the risk of sudden death due to long cardiac pauses and urged all patients to routinely use Holter monitoring to watch for these intermittent pauses. If pauses of three seconds or more are observed in the CCHS patient, cardiac pacing is recommended by CCHS experts." www.cchsnetwork.org

Ventilator-Assisted Children's Center (VACC) Camp

April 4-10, 2009, Miami, Florida. Contact Bela Florentin, VACC, Miami Children's Hospital, 305-662-8222, bela.florentin@mch.com, www.vaccamp.com ▲