



Happy Nurses Week - 2011

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The Learning Connection – For Nursing

Nurses Week is that one week each year that we pause and reflect on our past---where we have been and our wonderful heritage. We also have our eyes on the future—where we are going and what great opportunities lay ahead. We know that to achieve our vision and to commit to our Journey to Excellence takes hard work and dedication amidst setbacks and discouragement.

We chose Florence Nightingale as our nursing theorist for many reasons. One is that during her time in the Crimean War—which is recorded as her “defining moment”—she brought about changes that improved patient outcomes under very difficult and adversarial conditions. She changed sanitation which decreased wound infections; she improved nutrition which led to healing and she used statistics and data to bring about social change.

Florence did not find a warm welcome when she arrived in Scutari during the war. Quite the contrary, the physicians and military officers suggested she and her nurses return to their home land. Florence and her 38 nurses stayed and ended up decreasing the mortality rate from 60% to 2%.

When we get discouraged, Florence Nightingale’s strong spirit and desire for excellence serves as a wonderful model for all of us. We know that we can and always will be striving for a level of excellence that may seem to be a bit beyond our reach. I know that we will continue to climb that ladder to reach that elusive point of excellence, never faltering and never giving up.

Now I need your help. From May 2nd through May 22nd we will be asking you to complete a survey known as the RN Survey/PES—Practice Environment Scale. This is for direct care nurses only. Participation is voluntary and anonymous. This will be our second year to take this survey which is part of the NDNQI—National Database of Nursing Quality Indicators. It will give us great information on the work climate of each participating unit in the hospitals and tell us what areas we need to improve.

This past year we have worked in improving many things for both our patients and our staff. Some examples include: new mattresses for 7th floor; new cordless WOW’s on 3 nursing units; Tim Porter O’Grady—national speaker for staff & management; certification pay increased from \$0.75 to \$1.25/hour; the CAP (Clinical Advancement Program) was rolled out with 13 nurses achieving a level in the first year; the new glucometers were selected based on staff feedback; The Joint Commission praised many of our nursing units—4th was praised on their care of the elderly; unit based skin experts led to a decrease in pressure ulcers; SBARQ changes based on nurses requests; and many more.

I ask that you take the 15—20 minutes and complete the PES survey.

The unyielding commitment of our nurses touches the lives of people all year long. Our Nursing Annual Report will show just how **Extraordinary** you all are. To all of you who are leading the way—Happy Nurses’ Week.

Kate McCord, MSN, RN, NEA-BC, Chief Nursing Officer

The NDNQI RN Survey is here!

The Nursing Councils and Magnet Champions are encouraging all RN's to participate in this survey. We are required by the state to complete the Practice Environment Scale every **two** years. The online survey takes about 15-20 minutes, is voluntary and anonymous – and most importantly provides us all a look at our strengths and areas to improve. Please share your feedback and help make a difference for nursing! Managers have the online link and access code and are emailing it to all eligible nurses! The link is also available on My Virtual Workplace!

Clinical Advancement Program (CAP) Peer Review Board (Cassie Tumanis, RN, CEN, PCCN, Chair)

Please congratulate the following applicants for demonstrating their expertise, commitment to professional development, organization goals and the profession of nursing. These nurses earned CAP Awards for 2010!



Gina Wamble
BSN, RN
PH OPS



Alese Bagby
BSN, RN, CEN, CPEN
SFMC ED



Sara Vigen
RN, ONC
PH 11



Carolyn Cusic
BSN, RN, ONC
PH 11



Jennifer Graham
BSN, RN
PH OPS/SDS



Vicki Raub
BSN, RN
SF L&D



Cheryl Inlay
RN, CEN, CFRN
PH ED



Nancy Tallyn
RNC –OB
SF L&D



Patricia Morse
BSN, RN, CCRN
PH Critical Care



Nancy Steele
BSN, RNC
SF L&D



Vicki Jack-Blue
BSN, RN, CAPA
SF GI Lab



Jaleh Wuthier
BSN, RN
PH 9



Cassie Tumanis
BSN, RN, CEN, CPEN
PH ED

Moving forward School and Specialty Certification

Certification Achieved: Lori Bird RN, CMSRN (PH 5)

In April these Nurse Researchers interviewed patients about their pain. We are participating in a national research study to improve pain management for hospitalized patients. This project will disseminate and implement evidence-based approaches to measure and improve pain care and outcomes in a sample of 400 hospitals across the United States. This day of data collection is our first step! More to come!

Did you know.....

- Mosby Consult has CE articles? Free!
- Water Pitchers have decreased from 32 oz to 22 oz
- Yellow sox for high fall risk patients are getting attention – and hopefully reducing falls

We heard you.....

- Bigger alcohol preps are back
- Suture kits have sharper scissors
- The number and length of LEARN modules will decrease
- Nurses Week includes clinical education opportunities
- CAP provided recognition for BSN Education
- SBARQ is quicker, focused

Practice Councils and Nurses voices are making a difference!

PSFHS hosted Tim Porter-O'Grady on 4/15. We were inspired, educated, empowered and reminded we are accountable for our nursing practice. The future of nursing, excellence in patient care and creating a healthy work environment are ours to create!

