

Successful Transitions

News for Nurse Residents



Letter from Evy Olson

Dear nurse resident colleagues:

Spring has sprung, and with the new life in our natural environment we see new life in our nursing profession with the addition of so many new graduate RNs beginning their career. What a glorious time of year and a great time to reflect on the support our Vizient/AACN Nurse Residency Program™ (NRP) brings to these new-to-practice nurses.



We celebrated the arrival of spring at our annual NRP conference in sunny Orlando in March. The 2019 conference was full of energy and sharing of successes with more than 400 attendees. We had our first ever pre-conference session, with a full day immersed in evidence-based practice. Our keynote speaker brought energy and joy to the conference and taught us all to turn POWs to WOWs! We all learned so much about the incredible work being done by program coordinators as well as current and former nurse residents through both podium and poster presentations.

The stories featured in this issue demonstrate how we're learning from each other and our patients, as well as sharing new insights toward how to achieve high-quality, compassionate care. Your commitment to the nursing profession, your patients and your colleagues is palpable in these articles.

I look forward to an exciting year with continued growth in the NRP and the nursing profession. The welcoming of these new nurses brings new ideas and energy to our profession, and I look forward to celebrating our profession with our staff and all the nurses we work with during the upcoming 2019 National Nurses Week.

Gratefully,

Evy Olson, MSN, MBA, RN
Senior Director, Nurse Residency Program

Tick Tock, Tick Tock Says the Critical Clock

Iza Hester, BSN, RN, is an alumna of Nursing Residency Program (NRP) Cohort 4, January 2018 at Sentara Leigh Hospital (SLH) in Norfolk, VA. She exemplifies the nursing pillars not only to her own unit but as well as at the division level. Hester completed Leadership Track 1 on August 2018 and is honored to be named a chairperson of Peer Review Council, co-chair of 2West Partnership Council, and member of Safety and Mortality Committee. In addition, she recently joined the Sentara's recruitment fair as one of the NRP ambassadors held at Sentara Norfolk General Hospital.

In collaboration with her clinical manager, Donna Baybay, BSN, RN, CMSRN, and her NRP group, Iza elevated their NRP evidenced-based research into her BSN capstone project. She has had the privilege to present this concept "Tick Tock, Tick Tock Says the Critical Clock" to different local and national nursing symposiums. This project stresses the importance of administering time-sensitive medications in managing venous thromboembolism. Future recommendations include utilization of current nurses' call bell system and electronic medical record, as well as redesigning the medication order workflow with regard to availability/stocking of these drugs in the unit medications rooms.



Iza initially presented this EBP project at the 2018 Nursing Leadership Symposium in Newport News, VA and obtained first place in the NRP category. She earned first place at the VCU-sponsored Mid-Atlantic Inter-Professional Leadership Conference, and received second place at the Virginia Organization of Nurse Executives and Leaders (VONEL) Conference. With her passion to share this best practice, she was one of the distinguished guest speakers at the Sentara Critical Concepts Conference & Sentara Unit Coordinators Annual Symposium. Inspired by the outcome of the project, Iza is currently writing an article on her EBP project with Stephanie Jackson, DNP, RN, NE-BC, Director of Patient Care Services at Sentara Leigh Hospital.

With her engagement and passion to support the Nurse Residency Program, Iza was honored to share her success to the three NRP cohorts last December of 2018. She takes pride in speaking about her NRP-EBP project to the nurse residency coordinators and NRP alumni from

all over the United States at the 2019 Vizient Nurse Residence Conference. Hester was one of 38 chosen from 253 entries nationwide to be presented at the conference.

With so many opportunities that knock on Iza's door, she could not thank enough the people behind her success. From her NRP group: Cortney Galloway, Joline Cohoon, Kimberly Bradley Redmond, Megan Dawn Armbrister and Samantha Hoover. NRP gurus: Cindy Hurd and Penny Marcum. Mentors: Donna Baybay, Stephanie Jackson, C.J Robison, Kristi Morgan, and Joanne Williams-Reed. Most of, thanks to her husband Stan Hester Jr. and the nursing staff of 2-West SLH who believe in her and support her research project.

Iza believes and inspires us with this quote: "Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice, and most of all, love of what you are doing" by Pele.

Stepping up mid flight to save a life!

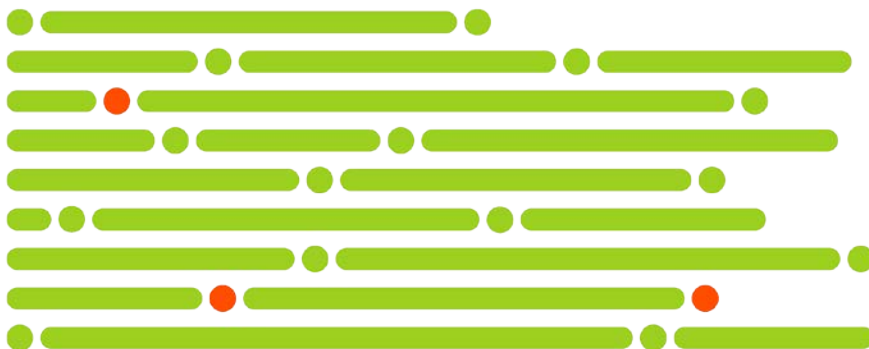


Lindsay Kempf, a nurse from Emory Healthcare, was on a flight from San Diego to Austin when a flight attendant made a request for any medical personnel on board to come to the back of the plane. A female passenger was unconscious, and it was unclear exactly what happened to her. Lindsay offered her assistance as did the VP of a major pharmaceutical company.

For about 45 minutes the patient was unconscious and not responding to anything. The medical ground crew that the flight attendant was working with was considering diverting the plane to the closest airport when our patient woke up. Lindsay stayed with the patient and monitored her all the way to Austin.

The VP went on to write that she was "impressed with Lindsay's compassion for the patient and all of those sitting around her, as well as her level head and willingness to quickly problem solve. She was a great communicator and helped prioritize what to do."

Lindsay is smart, talented and clearly an asset to our nursing profession. She loves her job and loves taking care of patients in your unit. Our organization is very proud of Lindsay and how she managed that situation as a new residency nurse. Kudos to our magnificent, Lindsay Kempf!



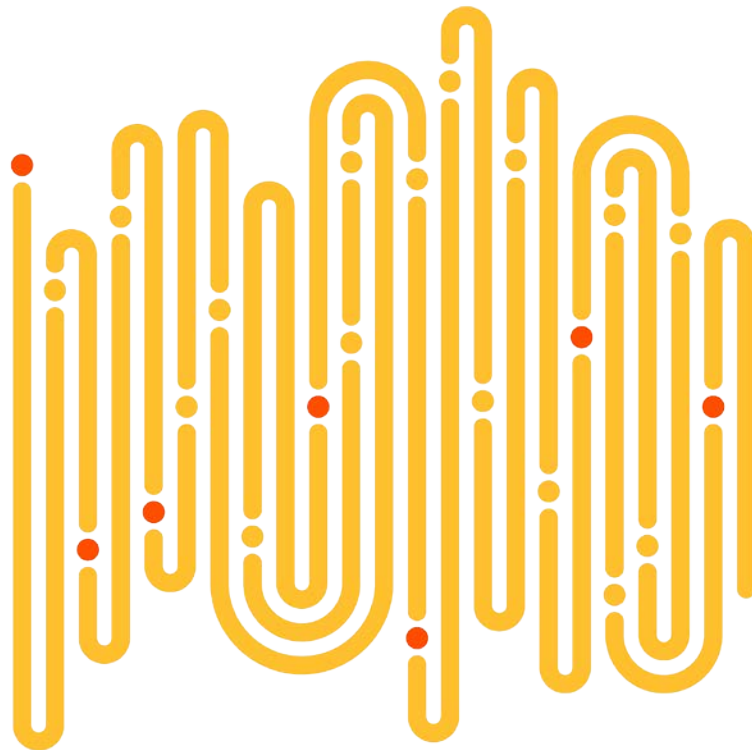
Nurse Residency Program: A Foundation for Our Future Nurse Leaders

University of Illinois Hospital celebrates three of their graduate nurse residents who have been recognized for their talents at an early stage in their career.



- Ulana Kuryluk was promoted to the position of ANIII in the O.R. Her responsibilities are endless in this fast-paced, high stress environment, yet she performs her role with a professional, calm demeanor – truly wise beyond her years.
- Nick Dotson recently assumed the director position on our adolescent psychiatry unit. His depth of knowledge, leadership qualities and great rapport with staff made him the perfect choice for this role.
- John Cesario accepted the role of Clinical Nurse Consultant II on the oncology/stem cell unit. This is a perfect role for John as he leads quality, safety and compliance efforts impacting the professional practice of nursing and patient care.

It is with great pleasure that we highlight these three shining stars who have successfully completed the Nurse Residency Program and exemplify that transition from novice to expert nurse.



Shining stars – growing nurse leaders in the NRP

Stephanie O’Neil was hired as a new graduate in November 2017. To say that Stephanie hit the ground running is an understatement. From day one, she asked astute clinical questions about her patients and requested assistance appropriately. This is witnessed by her critical thinking, research she does on her own and reading about patient diagnoses on her off time. She reviews and learns the policies to the point she knows them as well as our most senior staff and is in constant communication with the unit nurse clinician to explore ways to improve patient care. These efforts promote patient safety in her work through familiarity with NYPH policy and procedure and by deepening her knowledge of the clinical presentation of patients.



Stephanie is a team player, communicating effectively and respectfully. She has received many compliments from colleagues for her cheerful attitude. Patients describe her as empathic, caring, a great listener, and a nurse that takes time to sit and give her undivided attention. One patient said to me, “You should clone her. She is the best, a real honey.”

Stephanie is extremely engaged and serves as unit council secretary. During the NRP, she joined the EBP and Research Council. Her enthusiasm is best exemplified by taking the lead on developing a Cornell IRB study on alarm management and being selected to be Co-Chair of the EBP and Research Council. Stephanie attended several conferences on research including the NYP Research Deep Dive and Research Poster Symposium. She has recently expressed plans to initiate a process improvement project aimed specifically at decreasing the falls rate on her unit.

Stephanie’s energy and enthusiasm spreads hospital-wide. Her appreciation of the NRP was evident in her interactions with her colleagues and the program director. Stephanie was handpicked to be a member of the NRP Advisory Board to represent nurses who have completed this program. She will use her own experiences acquired in the practice setting to assist new nurses transitioning to their new role. Stephanie was a key stakeholder in the NYPH NRP journey to accreditation through the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Practice Transition Accreditation Program (PTAP).

Stephanie’s plans for professional development include specialty certification. Although two years are required before she can sit for certification, Stephanie has already attended a two-day certification review course. Stephanie is a wonderful role model and continuously to strive for excellence!

Featuring future leaders at Emory Healthcare

The dynamic duo

Angela Brooks and Elisabeth Taylor are a part of Emory Healthcare's July 2018 Nurse Residency Program. They are and-prepared nurses who have approached their evidence-based project with such enthusiasm, vigor, and a true desire to impact the lives of not only patients, but their nursing colleagues as well!



Utilizing Emory's NRP Evidence-Based Practice Toolkit that was developed for ADN and BSN nurse residents, Angela and Elisabeth were able to develop an EBI entitled: Keep Calm and Steri On: Introducing the Steri-Cart. These nurse residents realized there was a concern regarding the maintenance of sterility and time efficiency of the nurse in the ambulatory Winship Infusion Center. When caring for oncology patients, necessary patient care supplies were not easily accessible to nurses at the patient's chair-side. This forced nurses to break the sterile field and leave the patient unattended to gather supplies from various locations. To address this concern, they created a waste-level steri-cart, which has allowed nurses to provide a sterile workspace, promote proper body mechanics, and enhance the patient experience through improved time efficiency.

Angela and Elisabeth want the benefits of their project to extend beyond Emory Healthcare, so their poster was submitted and selected as 1 of 12 that were presented at the 2019 Winship Oncology Nursing Symposium at the Stone Mountain Evergreen Conference Center. More than 300 nurses and leaders attended this conference. Many of the attendees discussed implementing Angela and Elisabeth's project in the units and clinics of not only ambulatory settings, but also inpatient hospitals. One attendee from Gwinnett Cancer took pictures to show her respective infusion center and stated, "I love this, and this would be a great addition where I work." Angela and Elisabeth are early in their career, but have already become true change agents in the nursing profession!

Congratulations Miss DAISY!

Ms. Lijofi, a nurse at Emory Healthcare, was nominated for the prestigious DAISY award by one of her patients.

The patient wrote “Nurse Semani exemplifies the kind of professional that patients and families, as well as nurses, physicians and other members of the health care team recognize as an outstanding role model....”

“... Even when we were not scheduled meds or anything else, Semani would stop by and check to make sure everything was going well. Semani’s encouragement was a big help my wife’s emotional attitude. After being in the hospital five times in four months, it can get depressing for both the patient and the family. Semani’s smile and positive attitude helped take the edge off being in the hospital. My wife has told several of her nurses that just a smile is sometimes the best medicine. Semani is a great example to everyone she works with and an asset to the Thoracic ward and Emory University Hospital”.

Senami’s Clinical Nurse Specialist reiterated Senami’s dedication to the profession. She shared, “Senami consistently challenges herself and her other team members in a positive way by seeking opportunities to improve clinical practice and patient care. Recently, she completed her residency EBP project. The goal of her project was to improve communication and collaboration amongst the surgical providers (vascular, pulmonary transplant and thoracic surgery), social workers and nurses by restructuring the unit’s daily TRIADS meeting. During her orientation on the unit, she noticed that there was a lack of collaboration amongst the team. After discussing the project with the unit CNS, she came up with a plan to make improvements. Senami was the only nurse in her cohort who took on this project and although it posed some challenges, she remained persistent. After several weeks of implementing her project, gathering survey and educating the staff and providers, the post data for her project reveals an improvement in collaboration amongst the team. We are very proud of her achievements”.

Emory Healthcare is very proud of Senami. She is an inspiration to all nurse residents.



Residency develops real life superheroes!

Resident alumni Janelle Johnson BSN, RNC-MNN, Karen Policht BSN, RN, and Jowita Szczypka BSN, RN, were called in to assist with an emergent (and unusual for this level of nursery) delivery of premature multiples. It was all hands on deck from the most experienced nurses, neonatologists, respiratory therapists, unit manager, and clinical nurse specialist as well as three remarkable former nurse residents who had been well prepared for a moment such as this. Each of the three resident alumni were able to be the individual baby nurses during the multiples C-section delivery and provided exceptional nursing care. The NRP Coordinator happened to be rounding on the unit at the end of the shift and found all three of the resident alumni at the nursing station taking their first deep breath since the delivery of the babies. The NRP Coordinator saw on their faces such determination, grit, pride, and, most of all, joy in the work they accomplished together with their team.

In debriefing the experience with the resident alumni, they reported feeling like the Vizient/AACN Nurse Residency Program really prepared them in how to successfully lead as clinical nurses in an emergent situation. As they looked back on their experience assisting in the emergency delivery, they found the following to be evident and tangible results of their residency training:

- Higher levels of confidence in themselves to know what to do and how to do it
- Strong collaboration skills and comfortability working alongside the interprofessional team
- Improved ability to critically think through a complex situation and anticipate what might come next
- Hardwired behaviors of teamwork
- Courage to speak up and do the right thing for their patients
- Effective leadership skills in an emergent situation

The emergent birth of premature multiples ended with a positive outcome for all including the resident alumni! They were superheroes in the end and will remember the experience as a defining milestone marking the day they knew, really knew, they had what it takes to be the best Special Care Nursery nurses.

Impacting the influence of nurse leaders

Beginning a new career as a new graduate nurse is difficult, and the stressors are many: performing the job, understanding the roles of others in the organization, and integrating into the work culture of a clinical unit. Many questions arise quickly regarding facility policies, unit practices, and culture/attitudes as the new graduate focuses on developing self-confidence and competence as a professional. Nursing leaders play an important role in supporting the residents' transition from an academic to complex, fast moving practice environment.

The unit nursing director is an extremely important person during new nurse graduates' transition into practice. Directors influence employee engagement, the work environment, the confidence of staff, and whether they see mistakes as opportunities for learning or failures that damage self-worth. A culture of empowerment begins with the leader who communicates to staff how vital their contributions are to the goals of the unit and organization. The attitudes developed by staff nurses are a reflection of the respective leader. Given this high level of director influence, it is important to have a formal, yet structured way for new graduates and their respective director(s) to develop a strong work relationship and productive communication pathways.

Nurse residents in Cohort 17 at University Health System recognized the importance of the nurse leader-staff nurse relationship and asked the question: Will the work ethic perspective of new graduate nurses be affected by a formal introduction to and interaction with their respective unit director?



The nurse residents implemented a formal structure in which nursing directors and new graduates participated in a 1.5 hour luncheon. The study involved residents from three different time periods: beginning-year, mid-year and end of first year. A luncheon was held for each time period and residents were pre-surveyed before the luncheon. Directors introduced themselves and shared information about the director role. They described responsibilities in general and those specific to their unit. Directors then sat with their respective new graduates to allow interaction and candid discussion on extemporaneous topics. The residents were then given a post-survey one month following the luncheon.

The results of this EBPP showed a remarkable 69% rate of increase in the familiarity with the director roles. Comfort in approaching their directors increased post-intervention as did new graduates being more satisfied with the quality of communication with their director. The perception of being "heard" was consistently higher in the often and always categories. As a new employee and a new graduate, individuals can be intimidated by and consequently reluctant to talk with their leader. The residents EBPP results showed that when a structured process is in place for new graduates and leaders to meet and converse in a relaxed setting, quality interactions occur which influences likelihood of future interaction.

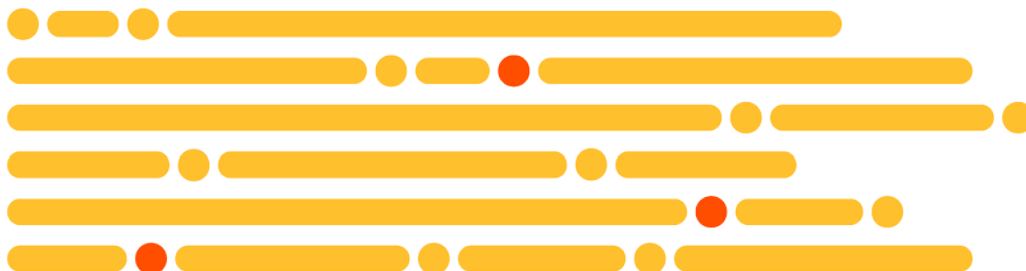
Gaining experience and enhancing patient care

Kate Roesner began her career as a registered nurse at Schneck Medical Center (SMC) through joining SMC's Nurse Residency Program in 2017. Kate and her cohort and unit partners, Kaylee Massey, BSN, RN, and Rohni Lange, BSN, RN, decided to focus the EBPP on addressing gaps in care provided to patients suffering from dementia and delirium in the acute-care setting. The focus of the project was the provision of nurse-driven, non-pharmacological interventions. The project resulted in increased institutional awareness surrounding activities to improve the care and management of dementia and delirium in the acute care setting. The team reported recommendations including use of music of patient's choice and activity bags that contained coloring books, puzzles, and dolls to aid in decreasing patient agitation. Kate was invited to present the group's project at a research and EBP symposium hosted by Schneck Medical Center, AHEC, SEIONE, and IUPUC in November 2018.

As part of an implementation plan, Kate worked with nurses from the hospital's NICHE council to integrate nurse-driven, non-pharmacological interventions into routine nursing practice. Some of the activities that resulted from their efforts included the creation of activity boards for patients and a partnership with the SMC guild to offer coloring books, playing cards, puzzles, and other activity options. Education was provided to staff on correct assessment, available interventions, and safe practice for caring for patients with dementia and delirium. Kate and her NICHE partners will also be monitoring quality outcomes including length of stay, disposition, and fall rates to measure the impact of the project. By implementing her project, Kate hopes to improve the quality of care provided to patients with delirium and dementia and to avoid unnecessary pharmacological treatments.



As a result of this project, Kate discovered a love for both EBP and research. She took initiative to apply for a BRIDG© Scholars position that became available at SMC. This position will provide her with the opportunity to be mentored in the research process by a PhD-prepared nurse researcher and to actively participate in and promote the generation of nursing science within the institution. Kate is a valuable employee of the institution and a shining example of nursing professionalism for her colleagues.



Quality improvement close-up

New York Presbyterian nurse residents stepping up for Magnet



Rockin Rockson

Rockson Bonsu, RN, is a rising star on the spine unit at the Allen Hospital and across the NYP enterprise. Prior to being a new nurse, Rockson was a volunteer at NYP. During his time as a volunteer, he was eager to learn and built a rapport with Leon George, nurse manager on his unit, to obtain guidance in his career. Through Leon's leadership, Rockson was excited about a career in nursing to further advance his knowledge started his journey.

Rockson is eager to get involved! He expressed interest in nursing informatics and volunteered to be the unit champion for the EPIC roll-out. He also asked to join the Nursing Informatics Committee in an effort to ensure nurses have a voice in our NYP Future. His commitment to professional development is a great attribute and speaks to his desire to be his best self.



Rockson asks inquisitive questions on how best to care for his patients and remains open to receiving feedback. His humility is refreshing and speaks to his desire to advocate for his patients through providing safe competent care. He is autonomous and holds himself accountable in the care he provides. As he continues to become comfortable in his role as a RN, he interacts with team members, including spine PAs, NPs, and provider teams to ensure high quality patient and family-centered care.

In the arena of Magnet Recognition Program Model, Rockson is a transformational leader. The moment he was able to work independently, he responded to unit turnover by quickly offering his support. His willingness and the confidence he exuded helped the night team become a cohesive strong team and boosted morale.

Through an example of an act of pure selflessness that helped with our RN engagement, Rockson stepped up during a huge snowstorm that led to the city being gridlocked for a significant number of hours. He was not scheduled to work that day, however, he did not hesitate to come in. With six to eight inches of snow on the ground and no public transportation to get him there, Rockson walked three to four miles to get to the hospital. He demonstrated tremendous support to his team by making this effort to ensure that his colleagues were able to be relieved from their shift, and the patients would remain well cared for with nurses.

Rockson demonstrates considerable respect for his peers and patients. He truly believes every person counts. He has truly been a wonderful addition to the 2RW and the profession of nursing!

Preventing falls and improving care quality for ICU patients

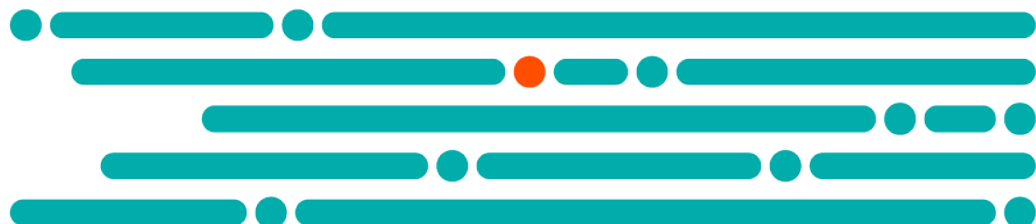
Christopher Otto, BSN, RN, started his journey in health care as a unit clerk and served in that role for 14 years. Eight of those years were at New York Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center. In October of 2017, he joined the Nurse Residency Program as a new graduate nurse in the intensive care unit at NYP Lower Manhattan Hospital. From the moment he joined his cohort, he was engaged and enthusiastic to learn.

Chris was a shining star in nurse residency. Clinically, he was always ready for a challenge. He continues to demonstrate commitment to his professional development by requesting to be placed with the most ill patients and those requiring specific therapies such as continuous renal replacement therapy (CRRT). His professional commitment extends beyond his unit, and he is active in hospital initiatives, serving as chair of the Employee of the Month Committee and participates as a member of the nursing pharmacy committee. Christopher contributes regularly to improvements here at NYP-LMH by initiating his NRP evidence-based practice project on patient falls to improve quality patient outcomes.



Additionally, Christopher demonstrates traits of a transformational leader even as a newly registered nurse. He is dedicated to his team members and strives to ensure that all members of the team understand the purpose of their work. He builds trust and loyalty and is committed to giving back to the nursing profession. One example of how he does this is through sharing his experiences as new nurse with nursing colleagues, students and onboarding nurse residents. His presence throughout the organization deserves to be highlighted and recognized.

In addition to his great work at his hospital, Christopher strives to have a voice externally in the nursing world. He spoke at the Chi Eta Phi Sorority Professional Nursing Organization's regional conference in 2018. His presentation shared his knowledge and focused on Transitions from Nursing Student to Professional Registered Nurse. Recently he further advanced his professional growth opportunities by participating as a panelist at the International Conference for Chi Eta Phi Sorority. He continues to inspire others with his hard work and advancement in nursing. NYP-LMH is so fortunate to have Christopher on the team, he is a true asset!



Cool as a cucumber in a scary situation

From the start of her career at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital (NYPH), Emily Brotmann, BSN, RN, was faced with many challenges that come with an extremely acute unit. During her orientation, in many instances, she jumped right in to assist during psychiatric emergencies. On her first clinical day on the unit, there was a psychiatric emergency which involved a very large male patient who was assaultive towards multiple staff. She immediately asked how she could be of help and assisted by engaging with the other patients in the dayroom. She remained calm and collected - did not seem overwhelmed or frightened by the action occurring during the emergency. In addition, she immediately displayed the skill level of an experienced RN in providing service recovery for those patients that had a difficult time processing the psychiatric emergency. These are just some examples of how she incorporates NYPH Strategic Priorities of Engagement and High Reliability.



Emily has already shaped her practice to incorporate all of the elements of the Professional Practice Model – especially autonomy and evidence-based practice. She made it a priority to master all aspects of the role of the RN on the unit. She took advantage of working with experienced RNs to learn the role of charge nurse, often requesting to be charge for the shift so she could improve her leadership skills. She displayed great organization, leadership and critical thinking skills. During the weeks the clinical nurse manager was on vacation, she was asked to cover in her absence and did a phenomenal job managing the unit.

Another example of displaying behaviors consistent with the NYPH Professional Practice Model is through evidence-based practice. She initiated a performance improvement project entitled Care for the Caregiver. She partnered with the NYPH Westchester Division Wellness coach to create a service for the staff on the unit staff to relax and de-stress

without having to leave the unit. The wellness coach comes to the unit twice a week to offer integrative therapies to help reduce stress.

Emily was also selected to be a Magnet escort during the Magnet site visit. She eagerly prepared by studying the hospital Magnet documents. She shared the information she learned with her peers in efforts to increase engagement and encourage peers to be equally prepared. She incorporates all aspects of the NYPH culture into her practice.

There are many positive words that can describe Emily, including intelligent, compassionate, collaborative and respectful. Overall she is a lovely person who is held in high regard by those her peers and supervisors.



Congrats to the following residents recognized for a good catch!

Nebraska Medicine

Emma Nice is a new graduate nurse of about five months on a very busy medical-surgical unit at a level 1 trauma center. Approximately one week off of orientation she spoke up for safety and caught two separate medication errors. The first error she caught, she prevented the patient from receiving the wrong type of insulin because she appropriately completed her second RN check independently! The second error she caught involved the wrong dose of medication being given to a patient over a 3 day time span. Emma completed her five rights of medication prior to administering the medication, then looked back at past administrations to verify what had been given compared to what was ordered and realized the error. In speaking up for safety, the organization's pharmacy department has made a complete practice change in how this specific medication is ordered for patients! Emma's actions solidifies that speaking up for safety has no limit on years of experience.

Upstate University Medical Center

It was the middle of the night and Emma Northrop, RN, was assigned to take care of "Nick" on 11G, the pediatric hematology-oncology unit. "Nick" was well known to the staff of 11G, and he was often admitted to receive chemotherapy treatments. For this admission, "Nick" required surgery and was placed on the surgical service, which was considered 'off-service' compared to the other patients on the pediatric oncology floor. During her shift, Emma noted that "Nick" was running a temperature of 38.3° Celsius. She paged the surgical resident to notify him of this finding. When a pediatric patient on this floor runs a temperature, the nurses follow Policy PED F-02 "Guidelines for Pediatric Hematology Oncology Patients with Fever". The policy states, "With any new onset of a febrile episode...blood cultures will be drawn." Emma notified the surgical resident of this policy, however the resident did not feel that the patient required blood cultures. Something in Emma didn't feel right and she knew she had to advocate for "Nick."

Emma moved up the chain of command and called the pediatric hematology-oncology attending... in the middle of the night. Fortunately, the attending was more than appreciative of this call, and placed the orders per the policy from home.

Memorial Hermann Greater Heights Hospital

Catherine Baxter is a nurse resident from Memorial Hermann Greater Heights Hospital. She has been a nurse for 10 months and is currently in the System Nurse Residency Program.

Catherine had a good catch during one of her shifts in the O.R. She began to perform her preoperative assessment with the patient, including review of the surgical consent, and noticed it was signed for a total abdominal hysterectomy. Catherine began to ask the patient of her understanding of the surgery and to state what was being performed in her own words. The patient stated she was having a “partial” hysterectomy with keeping the cervix intact. Catherine identified the discrepancy between the surgical consent and what the patient understood. She also realized that the concern needed to be escalated to the surgeon who already obtained consent for the incorrect procedure. The surgeon was immediately notified to come back to the preoperative area to speak with the patient and be made aware of her wishes. The surgeon obtained a new surgical consent to perform a supracervical abdominal hysterectomy, thus allowing the patient to keep her cervix intact. Great catch Catherine!



Stepping up at UPMC Pinnacle

On Saturday, April 13, five current and past nurse residents from UPMC Pinnacle in Harrisburg, PA volunteered for the semi-annual Extreme Nurse Day. The Extreme Nurse Program is a community outreach program sponsored through the health system's Professional Nurse Council with the goal of promoting careers in nursing. This spring, the program welcomed 40 local high school students to participate in a day of hospital tours, hands on skills stations, and interaction with nurses from a variety of units. Highlights of the day include performing wound care on a wounded watermelon, touring the operating room, and taking pictures on the hospital helipad.



Nurse residents contribute in a variety of capacities including being tour guides, station leaders, and simply interacting with the students. They can use this experience to build their professional portfolios and advance on the Career Development Pathway, but the true value is in paying it forward to future generations of nurses.

