

# NPGO BLAST

January 8, 2026

## UVA Nursing Practice Updates

[Click here](#) to read the full updates, and print & post for your practice area!

### Headlines:

Test Zoll Battery Function During Emergency Equipment Checks

ALERT: Shampoo Cap Substitute Product Is Not Fragrance-Free

Patient Safety Moment: Patient Identification

File a Be Safe Event If PCA Key Is Lost or Misplaced

Cardiac Rhythm Interpretation Challenge! **Correctly name that rhythm & enter to win a raffle prize!**

Past editions are available on the [NPGO Practice News](#) website.

## Champion Resources

Champion Resources & Weekly Updates [here](#).

## Clinical Career Ladder

**Reminder:** NPGO Clinical Career Ladder Advancement Preparation classes are held monthly (except December!) and enrollment is available in Workday. [Offerings](#) for 2026 are listed. Please contact [NPGO@uvahealth.org](mailto:NPGO@uvahealth.org) with any questions.

## Nursing Updates

### Join Us Next Week! | NPGO Night Shift Committee Meeting

Mark your calendars! The next **Night Shift Committee meeting** will be held **Friday, January 16, from 0200 – 0300** in the **Medical Center Board Room**. We hope you will join us for updates, discussion, and collaboration on our shared work.

**Night Shifters and Rotators** – Want to know more about our monthly meetings? Click [here](#) to sign up.

[Use this short form](#) to share your recent achievements, such as new certifications, promotions, degrees, and more, so we can celebrate *you* at the meeting!

### Submit a Nomination for the 2026 Nursing Excellence Awards

Nominations for the **Nursing Excellence Awards**, supported by the NPGO Awards & Recognition Committee, are open. Please consider recognizing a deserving colleague by submitting a nomination for one of nine different award categories. The deadline to submit is **Monday, February 16 at 2359**.

- Review the [Nursing Excellence Awards webpage](#) for more information.
- The [Eligibility Grid](#) is a helpful resource to see which award categories are the best fit for a [potential nominee](#).
- Utilize this [flyer](#) to encourage nominations among your team.

Please contact [NPGO@uvahealth.org](mailto:NPGO@uvahealth.org) if you need further assistance.

### Be a Voice for Your Profession! | Upcoming NAI Training Sessions

Nurses are powerful advocates for their patients and profession – become a **Nursing Advocacy Initiative (NAI) nurse ambassador** and join other UVA professional nurses in using your voice and experiences to transform health care! Spring training sessions are open. [Click here](#) for more information and to sign up for a training session.

## Professional Development

### Become a NRP Resident Facilitator

Are you looking for a leadership opportunity in 2026? The Nurse Residency Program (NRP) is seeking Resident Facilitators to coach and support our new Clin 1s in the residency program. Resident Facilitators are experienced nurses who lead small group discussions focused on navigating the clinical environment and UVA Health with nurse residents practicing in similar clinical settings. The groups meet five times during the year-long program, creating an excellent opportunity for coaching, guidance, and support to new nurses.

Interested? [Register in Workday](#) for one of our 2026 NRP Resident Facilitator Workshops held at Northridge on the dates listed below and earn two CEs! For additional questions, please contact [April Laughlin](#), NRP Coordinator.

- Wednesday, January 21, 0900-1100
- Tuesday, March 3, 0900-1100
- Wednesday, July 7, 0900-1100
- Wednesday, November 18, 0900-1100

### 2026 Annual RN Certification Bonus & Certification Info Events

Take two minutes to log into Workday to either **confirm that your active professional board certification** is entered and the expiration date is correct and not expired, or **enter your new professional board certification** and ensure it is approved by your manager. This will ensure that you meet the 2026 Annual RN Certification Bonus deadline, which is **Saturday, February 28, 2026 at 2359**.

- Details and eligibility for the bonus are available [here](#).
- Instructions for updating or adding a professional board certification can be found [here](#).

### Have a question about becoming certified?

Need help getting started? Want to learn more about free review materials, funding, and support? Join us for the next **Virtual Certification Q&A** on **Friday, Jan. 23, 1200-1230** – details [here](#). All are welcome to attend – bring your questions!

### Are you a Certification Champion?

We have two events coming up – we hope you can join us! Find details [here](#).

- **Virtual Certification Champion Networking** | Thursday, Jan. 15, 1500-1600
- **Certification Champion Boot Camp** | Thursday, Feb. 12, 1300-1500

### RN Peer Review | Updated Process and Resources for FY26

The NPGO Professional Development Committee finalized and updated the process and resources for nursing peer review – a professional responsibility and expectation for professional nurses as guided by our national standards and code of ethics. The revisions include changing from two to *one required peer review for all RNs in all roles*, as part of the annual performance appraisal cycle.

Explore the variety of information and resources available on the [Nursing Peer Review website](#), including:

- Peer definitions
- Templates for RNs in non-formal nurse leader positions and for formal nurse leaders
- Skill-building resources for giving and receiving feedback
- Department tracking grids and Workday reports for managers

- Operational Guideline detailing the process and expectation
- And much more!

## Blast Question

What was one specific change this year in the peer review process?

Enter your answer [here](#).

## Recognition

### Congratulations to PICU on Beacon Award Designation!

University Medical Center's **PICU** who earned the ANCC's **Silver Beacon Award for Excellence** for the second year in a row!

This award, provided by the [American Association of Critical-Care Nurses](#), recognizes units that “distinguish themselves by providing high-quality patient care in a healthy work environment.” Units must demonstrate their commitment to excellence through their patient outcomes, their work environment, and the support of their Nursing workforce.

### Certification Celebration!

- **Jessica White**, RN Clinician 4, Emergency Department, obtained her TCRN certification.

**Clara Winfield**, MSN, RN, CAPA, CNL  
Clinician 4 | Outpatient Sgy. Ctr. (OPSC)  
2026 NPGO President

**Megan Mundy**, BSN, RN, CCRN  
Inpatient Charge Nurse | Medical ICU  
2026 NPGO President-elect

Past Thursday Blast editions are available [here](#).