

# NPGO BLAST

January 21, 2026

## UVA Nursing Practice Updates

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

### Headlines:

PCA Security Level Updates: Transition from Codes to Keys - Effective 1/27

PRACTICE CHANGE: Adult HYDRomorphone ICU Infusion vs. PCA

Patient Safety Moment: Patient Identification - ID Armband Practice Check

Cleaning ENFit Enteral Tubes: Product, Resources, & Documentation Standards

This week's 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

### Time is Running Out! | Only 3 Weeks Left to Submit a Nomination for the 2026 Nursing Excellence Awards

Nominations for the **Nursing Excellence Awards**, supported by the NPGO Awards & Recognition Committee, are open! 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**. Email [NPGO@uvahealth.org](mailto:NPGO@uvahealth.org) with questions.

- 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.

### RN Peer Review | Updated Process and Resources

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 for Fiscal Year 2026. Explore the variety of information and robust resources available on the [Nursing Peer Review website](#).

## Knowledgelink Website Redesign

The [Knowledgelink page](#) has been redesigned and the [Nursing Center for Excellence](#) website link has been relocated. You may now find it under the “site map” header at the bottom of the page. Below is a screenshot for your reference:

<b>SITE MAP</b>	<b>QUICK LINKS</b>	<b>UVA HEALTH SYSTEM</b>
KnowledgeLink Dashboard	Workday	UVA Health
UVA Health Intranet Sites	Kronos	School of Medicine
UVA Community Health Intranet	IT Service Desk	School of Nursing
Clinician Portal	Outlook Email	University Physicians Group
People Search	Data Portal	<b>Nursing Center for Excellence</b>
A-Z Resource List	PolicyTech	University of Virginia

## Professional Development

### Nurse Leader Development Program Opportunity

The next offering of the Nurse Leader Development Program begins **February 18, 2026**. Newly expanded, this **ten-class series** is crafted to elevate the leadership acumen and professional capabilities of nurse leaders and will now award a total of **23 contact hours** upon successful completion! The program is available to all Nursing Directors, Nurse Managers, Assistant Nurse Managers, and Charge Nurses.

Interested? Please contact [Drew Gogian](#) to get enrolled in the next cohort!

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

The deadline for the 2026 Annual RN Certification Bonus is **Sat., February 28, 2026 at 2359**. [Click here](#) for instructions to update or add a professional board certification. Details and eligibility for the bonus are available [here](#).

**Are you currently certified?** Take two minutes to log into Workday to **confirm that your active professional board certification** is entered and the expiration date is correct and not expired.

**Are you newly certified?** Enter your new professional board certification and ensure it is approved by your manager before the deadline. Select the RN approved certification with “-Specialty-” listed after the name.

### Have a question about becoming certified?

Join us for a **30-minute Virtual Certification Q&A** on **Friday, January 23 at 1200** – Zoom link and information [here](#). All are welcome to attend – bring your questions!

### Save the Date | 2026 Evidence-Based Practice Symposium

Our National Nurses Week activities will kick off with the 2026 Annual EBP Symposium on **Wednesday, May 6**, at an off-site location. Stay tuned for more information and registration details as they are announced.

### Clinical Nurse Leader Association of Virginia Kick Off Meeting

Please join special guests Bob Lapointe, MSN, RN, CNL, CPHQ, International Clinical Nurse Leader Association President, Joselyn White, MHA, MSN, RN, CNL, CMSRN, and Katrina Day-Whitehead, DNP, RN, CNL, PCCN, President and Vice President of the CNLA of the Carolinas, for the inaugural VA CNL Chapter kick-off meeting. The meeting will be held **virtually on Jan, 28, 2026 at 6 pm**. Connect with other CNLs in academia and clinical settings. [Click here for additional information](#).

## Recognition

## Congratulations!

- Justine Kaskel, RN Clinician 1, 3 West, obtained her Clinical Nurse Leader certification.

## Magnet® Minute

Every day, our nurses demonstrate excellence in transformational leadership, structural empowerment, exemplary professional practice, and new knowledge and innovations. The Magnet® Minute features our extraordinary team members in a snapshot story, sharing how University Medical Center nurses often exceed the highest **Magnet®** standards. Have a Magnet Minute to share? Let us know! **Submit your story!**

## Magnet® Minute

**ANCC Magnet Recognition®** is an honor reserved for organizations that demonstrate commitment to transformational leadership, structural empowerment, exemplary professional practice, and new knowledge and innovation. As a Magnet-recognized organization, UVA Health University Medical Center nurses achieve excellence in these areas by leveraging our Nursing Care Delivery Model of Relationship-Based Care, shown at the center of our Professional Practice Model.



Multiple Magnet® standards incorporate nurse involvement, affiliation, and participation in professional organizations.



Submit your Magnet story!



## Magnet® Minute

**UVA Nurse Leads International Refugee, Immigrant, and Migrant Health Nursing Committee**

**Elizabeth Carpenter**, BSN, RN, serves as the RN Care Coordinator for the International Refugee Clinic at University Medical Center's Primary Care Family Medicine Clinic. She is also a member of the Society for Refugee Healthcare Providers, an international professional organization. After connecting with peers at a conference, Elizabeth became interested in finding a formalized way to collaborate with nurses to share best practices in caring for their patients. Nurses working with this population need a specialized skill set to effectively care for and communicate with patients. Elizabeth believed a professional nursing organization could help define that skill set and spread best practices. With her advocacy and work, the Refugee, Immigrant, and Migrant Health Nursing Committee was formed within the Society for Refugee Healthcare Providers.



The committee held their first meeting November 2025, with Elizabeth serving as co-chair. Four subcommittees were created as a focus for their work – Mental Health, Research, Rural Health, and Nursing Roles in Refugee Health. Elizabeth and her peers aspire to create a professional board certification for nurses caring for the refugee, immigrant, and migrant patient population, and we are excitedly cheering them on as they embark on this important work!

Submit your Magnet story!



**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](#).*