

NPGO BLAST

April 23, 2026

UVA Nursing Practice Updates

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

Headlines:

Patient Safety Moment: Transfusion Safety

Sign Up for Required Training: GE Muse System ECG Equipment Transition

Continuous Cardiopulmonary Monitoring SOP Updated

Get Notified When a Heparin Lab Returns - Use the "Notify Me" Functionality

Enteral Tube Feeding (Gastric, Gastrostomy, Jejunostomy)

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 with any questions.

Nursing Updates

2026 National Nurses Week Events and Activities

Explore the 2026 National Nurses Week celebrations happening here at the University Medical Center May 6-12. Go to uvanursesweek.com to learn about the special events and various opportunities for participation and fun, as well as team resources, downloadable calendar planners, livestream link for the awards ceremony, and more!

2026 Nurses Week [Flyer](#) and [Calendar](#)

Special events:

- EBP Symposium
- NEW! Nurses Walk for Wellness
- Food Truck Friday
- Drop-In Celebration
- NEW! Pop-Up Art Activity
- Nursing Excellence Awards Ceremony
- NEW! Professional Headshots for RNs
- Late Nights at Higher Grounds

Anytime - Anywhere Activities:

- Blessing of the Hands
- Nurses Week Giveaways
- Nightingale Notable Superlatives
- Nurse Legacy Hall of Fame
- Virtual Scavenger Hunt
- NEW! Nurses Walk for Wellness Challenges
- Pet Therapy Rounding

Why Kahuna? Why Now?

Delivering exceptional patient care requires more than dedication. It requires clarity, consistency, and confidence in skills across every role, every shift, and every site.

Kahuna is being implemented to support Nursing, Social Work, and Unlicensed Assistive Personnel (UAPs) by transforming how competencies are tracked, validated, and developed. Kahuna digitalizes skills and competencies on one electronic platform, replacing spreadsheets, binders, and disconnected systems to streamline validation, skills mapping, and skills gap analysis.

What This Means for You:

✔ Quick, Real-Time Access to Learning & Competencies

- Know exactly what's expected for new hires
- No competency paperwork to keep track of
- Know exactly what's expected for your role; no searching for lost paperwork, no guesswork
- Instantly access learning resources tied directly to required skills (includes policies, procedures, and equipment quick guides)

✔ Visibility of Competency Progression

- Track competency attainment in one place
- Clearly see your progress, gaps, and next steps for development

✔ Less Time on Paperwork, More Time for Patients

- Eliminate manual tracking and redundant documentation
- Competencies follow you as you transition departments
- Streamline workflows so leaders and team members can focus on care and growth

Submit a Nomination! 2026 Nursing Assistant Awards

It's time to recognize all the wonderful things your nursing assistant colleagues have done over the past year! Review the NPGO Nursing Assistant Awards criteria and eligibility requirements and consider nominating one or more team members for one of the award categories below:

- Patient Care Technician of the Year
- Certified Nursing Assistant of the Year
- Certified Medical Assistant of the Year
- Specialty Technician of the Year

Nominations must be at least 300 words and include specific examples! There must be at least one example per criterion to be considered. [Click here](#) to submit a nomination. Nominations **close Thursday, May 7 at 2359** - don't miss this opportunity! If you have any questions about eligibility or need assistance, email nngo@uvahealth.org.

New 2026 Calendar of Events for Nurses

The Nursing Center for Excellence sponsors a wide variety of events throughout the year for personal and professional development, governance and research activities, and celebrating all the things that nurses accomplish! Check out upcoming opportunities anytime on our website [here](#).

Professional Development

RN Professional Development Goal Repository

Looking for ideas for your annual professional development goal? Need suggestions on what to focus on or help writing in a SMART-goal format? Explore the recently published [Professional Development Goal Repository](#), created by the NPGO Professional Development Committee, to help support nurses in their professional growth goals in this upcoming performance appraisal season.

Nurse Leader Development Program Opportunity

The next offering of the Nurse Leader Development Program begins **May 13, 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 enroll in the next cohort!

Professional Board Certification Resources | For New & Re-Certifying RNs

The [Nursing Certification website](#) offers a step-by-step guide for becoming certified – including selecting a professional board certification, study materials, funding resources, and more! For re-certifying RNs, check out the funding resources, along with free continuing ed credits to support your goals. Go to uvacertifiednurses.com for info!

Recognition

Congratulations

- Congratulations to **Dea Mahanes, DNP, APRN, CCNS, CCRN, CNRN, HEC-C, FNCS, APP-CNS** for neuro-critical and neuro-intermediate care, for earning the National 2026 ANA DAISY® Award for Nursing Ethics in Leadership. This is a national award that recognizes a nurse leader supporting professionals whose compassion and clinical practice demonstrate the importance of human values and ethics in nursing as defined in the ANA's Center for Ethics and Human Rights Code of Ethics for Nurses – and The DAISY Foundation's focus on extraordinary, compassionate care.

Certification Celebration

- **Daniel Girard, RN Clinician 2, Emergency Department**, obtained his Certified Emergency Nurse 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](#).