

NPGO BLAST

May 7, 2026

UVA Nursing Practice Updates

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

Headlines:

ALERT: VaPro Plus Catheters

Patient Safety Moment: Hand Hygiene - The Basics

Code Cart / Medication Tray Cleaning Prior to Replacement

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

Happy National Nurses Week!

Go to uvanursesweek.com to learn about the special events and various opportunities happening here at the University Medical Center now through May 12.

[2026 Nurses Week Flyer and Calendar](#)

Special events:

NEW! Nurses Walk for Wellness Group Walks
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
Special feature webinars

Annual Nursing Excellence Awards Ceremony | Tuesday, May 12, doors open at 1400 at the Wool Factory. [Click here](#) to see the list of nominees. Make plans to watch this celebration event via the [livestream](#) – new for this year!

Nominate a RN for the Virginia Nurses Foundation 40 Under 40 Awards

The Virginia Nurses Foundation will honor rising nursing leaders at the annual VNF Gala in Fall 2026. Nominate an outstanding nurse who demonstrates achievements in professional practice, leadership, and impact. Award criteria, additional information, and a link to submit nominations can be found [here](#). The deadline to submit a nomination is **May 18, 2026**. Reach out to NPGO@uvahealth.org with questions.

Kahuna Competency Management System | What Is a Kahuna Super User?

A Kahuna Super User is an individual identified by department leadership to support their clinic or unit during the Kahuna implementation. This individual has agreed to complete advanced Kahuna training and provide on-site support during the July 2026 go-live.

The Kahuna Super User will support your department by:

- Receiving in-depth Kahuna training & experience assisting with facilitation of Unit Leader Training sessions
- Providing the Kahuna Team with feedback regarding training effectiveness and the educational needs of clinical nurses and UAPs
- Collaborating with the Kahuna Team during area-specific competency builds
- Communicating concerns related to practice-area competencies to help optimize platform configuration, support defined nursing roles, and streamline competency tracking
- Serving as a change agent for Kahuna implementation within the clinic or unit
- Functioning as the primary Kahuna resource for their department’s team members during rollout and go-live

For additional information, including videos, training, and more, visit the [Kahuna website](#).

NPGO Office of President-elect | Applications for candidacy are being accepted now through July 31st !

The NPGO Nominating Committee seeks candidates who meet the criteria for **leadership positions in the NPGO**. We know so many of you would be excellent in these roles! We are seeking candidates' names for the 2027 President-Elect.

Interested in serving or have questions about the office of President-elect? The Nominating Committee hosted a Panel Discussion featuring recent NPGO Presidents answering some of the most common questions about this important position. You can watch the panel discussion [here](#). See below for a “Speedwatcher’s guide” to questions and content:

Subject/Content	Time Start	Time end
Introduction of Panel	00:00	01:09
Main Responsibility of President-elect	01:21	03:00
Transition of President-elect to President	03:01	08:32

Immediate Past President role and commitment	08:33	12:02
Best parts of the experience of the Office	12:03	13:53
Time Commitment of all three roles/Scheduling	13:54	23:32
Typical week/Work pattern	23:33	25:15
How to leverage the position to make Professional Governance real and tangible?	25:16	29:02
Impacts to Overtime eligibility and opportunity	29:03	32:53
What should be key considerations for anyone interested in this position?	32:54	36:15

If you or someone you know is interested in serving as President-elect in 2027, please complete our **Candidacy Application**. Applicants will be contacted to schedule an interview with the current Nominating Committee.

Nurses' Voices Needed | Research Study Participation Opportunity

Hospital-based registered nurses 18 years of age or older are invited to participate in a research study examining nurses' job attribute preferences. The online survey takes approximately 15–20 minutes and includes a \$20 electronic gift card upon completion. An optional 30-minute Zoom interview includes a \$25 electronic gift card.

Survey flyer | To participate, please **click here**

Contact:

Sookyung Park, MPH, RN | PhD Candidate, UVA School of Nursing | tzi6yv@virginia.edu
 Jessica Keim-Malpass, PhD, RN | Professor, UVA School of Nursing | jlk2t@virginia.edu

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

Nursing Advocacy Initiative Training Session

Registration for the **May 27 Nursing Advocacy Initiative (NAI) Training Session** is open! Join other registered nurses from the University Medical Center and use your voice to **advocate** for your patients and profession. After attending an in-person, 90-minute training session, you will be eligible to participate in upcoming legislative sessions, policy roundtables, and more! 1.75 CEs are available to those who participate in a training session. Contact **Leanne Fox** to learn more!

Blast Question

Your Voice Matters!

What is the last day to complete the UVA Health's Employee Engagement Survey? Enter your answer **here**.

Recognition

Congratulations!

- **Sandra Cyphert**, RN Clinician 2, BMT Apheresis, obtained her Nephrology Nurse Certification.

April BEE Award Recipients

- **Emmi X**, Patient Companion, Staffing Resource Office
- **William Potts**, Clinical Social Work Supervisor, Transplant

April DAISY Award Recipients

- **Elizabeth Massie**, RN Clinician 3, CV ICU
- **Jessica Munnikhuysen**, RN Clinician 4 - Cath Lab, Electrophysiology

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.



TL12
Provide an example, with supporting evidence, of a nurse's(s') advocacy for individual or community health promotion at an external forum where decisions impacting healthcare are made.



Submit your Magnet story!

UVA Health
University Medical Center



Magnet Minute

Empowering Nurses for External Advocacy

JT Hall, MSN, RN, CNL, NEA-BC, Director Nursing Professional Practice, and Leanne Fox, MPP, Nursing Governance Coordinator, recognized the potential for nurses to impact health care policy through legislative advocacy. Legislators are generalists who rely on specialists like nurses to develop fair and effective policies.

JT and Leanne developed the [Nursing Advocacy Initiative \(NAI\)](#), a unique nonpartisan, issues-based advocacy program to empower and facilitate nurses to engage in legislative advocacy. Any RN or APRN at University Medical Center is welcome to participate. NAI's training supports and prepares nurses with no advocacy experience and strives to include as many nurses as possible. NAI offers multiple opportunities to engage, including Advocacy Day in January and legislative and policy events throughout the year. By 2026, multiple pieces of legislation that NAI nurses advocated for have been signed into law. NAI also received a [special legislative commendation \(HR126\)](#) from Delegate Amy Laufer (D-55), honoring their advocacy in service to their patients and profession. NAI is always looking for new opportunities for University Medical Center's nurses to use their experiences to advocate for nurses, patients, and health care.



Nursing Advocacy Initiative

Professional · Nurse-led · Data-driven · Nonpartisan



Submit your Magnet story!

 **UVA Health**
University Medical Center



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Clinician 4 | Outpatient Sgy. Ctr. (OPSC)
2026 NPGO President

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Inpatient Charge Nurse | Medical ICU
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Past Thursday Blast editions are available [here](#).