

NPGO BLAST

July 9, 2026

UVA Nursing Practice Updates

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

Headlines:

Patient Safety Moment: Pain Reassessment and Opioid Safety Monitoring

Substitute Product: Zoll Adult Defibrillator Pads

RECALL: CliniClean Pericare Wipes in BD Urinary Catheter Trays

Large Bore (Salem Sump) Enteral Tubes Placed for Suction Decompression: Don't Delay Suction While Awaiting X-Ray

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

Nursing Updates

Share Your Perspective on Registered Nurse Readiness for Practice Following Orientation

Your input is valued and needed. Summer is the season for newly graduated healthcare professionals, including many new registered nurses, to join our team. That is why we want to hear from you. This survey will provide a detailed understanding of our current condition of RN orientation and practice readiness. The survey will be available for 3 weeks, closing **July 21**. Please know that your responses will be completely anonymous and will never be individually identified. Only you will know how you respond.

Use the quick links below as needed for resources:

[Link to survey](#) | [Link to flyer for posting](#)

Questions? Email Kathleen Rea: kmj6d@uvahealth.org

Are you ready? Kahuna Competency Management System goes live July 20

In preparation for the [Kahuna Competency Management System](#) go-live on **Monday July 20**, ask your department leadership who your identified Kahuna Super Users are. These individuals have prepared to support you during the first few weeks of go-live by attending a Super User class.

If you are a Super User, Preceptor, Charge Nurse, Educator/NPDP, or Admin Assistant/Specialist that assists with onboarding of new hires, please check your email for a request to complete a User Attestation in the [Access Management Platform \(AMP\)](#).

Final steps are being taken in preparation for the go-live. This includes Workday deactivation of the RN, LPN, Social Work, Medical Assistants (MA), CNA, PCT, ED Tech, Ortho Tech, Dialysis Tech, and Athletic Trainer

- Orientation Competency Assessment (OCA), Regional Competency Assessment (RCA), and Department Specific Competency (DSC) forms
- Onboarding tasks

Action Needed: The 4-minute **Kahuna End User Training** module will be assigned via Workday during the week of July 13, with a completion deadline of August 1. Team members who have already completed Kahuna Workday modules do not need to repeat this training.

For additional details, including role-specific training and FAQs, visit [our Kahuna webpage](#).

Next Week | NPGO Night Shift Committee Meeting

Join us for the next NPGO Night Shift Committee meeting on **Friday morning, July 17, from 0200–0300** in the Medical Center Board Room.

This month's meeting will feature discussion on NIOSH Training for Nurses on Shift Work along with updates and discussion on additional topics relevant to our night shift team.

Want to learn more about our monthly night shift meetings and stay connected? Click [here](#) to sign up. Be sure to share your recent professional accomplishments using this [link](#) so we can recognize and celebrate you at an upcoming meeting!

Nominate a Health Unit Coordinator for HUC of the Year!

Nominations for the 2026 Health Unit Coordinator of the Year are open now until **Friday, July 31 at 2359**. The recipient will be presented with their award during National Health Unit Coordinator Week August 23-29. For more information and to submit a nomination, review the [Awards and Recognition Website](#). To be considered eligible, nominations must be at least 300 words long.

Only 3 weeks left! | Applications for NPGO President-elect candidacy open through July 31

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 for the 2027 President-elect position.

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 may go to the Nominations and Elections web page for more information about this position and to view the panel discussion. There is a Speed Watcher's guide posted to identify segments!

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

Professional Development

The Mentor Who Changed Me | Special Opportunity to Listen to Our Colleagues' Stories

Join virtually to hear from our colleagues **Dana Breeding, BSN, RN, Andrea Colasurdo, BSN, RN, Anna DeLong, MSW, LCSW, and Anna Haupt, RN**, reflect on the mentors who changed them - their lessons, encouragement, and impact on their professional and personal journeys. Be inspired at the UVA Schwartz Center Rounds on **Wednesday, July 15 at 1200** via Zoom. [Register today!](#)

Inspired? Last week to sign up to be a Mentor or Mentee in the Fall Mentorship Cohort

Be a part of one of the unique Mentorship Programs offered for University Medical Center nurses and future nurses! The 6-month programs are tailored so each Mentee receives the support and resources they need to make progress toward their goals, all while connecting with a Mentor from a different team. [Print/Share](#) this flyer with your team.

Learn more and sign up by July 15! The following cohorts begin in September:

- Clinician 1 Transition to Practice
- RN Degree Students – open to all levels of degrees including entry degrees
- Self-Discovery
- Experienced Nurses

Are you the Certification Champion for your team?

Join us virtually on **Wednesday, July 15, 1500-1600** for our **Certification Champion Meeting** to discuss how to determine your team's July certification rate, set goals for FY27, funding resources, and to share ideas for tracking and coaching your colleagues towards their goal of becoming certified! Download the date, time, and Zoom link to your calendar by **clicking here**.

Annual RN Degree Scholarships | Applications Open Through Aug. 6

UVA Health University Medical Center is offering a scholarship opportunity for eligible University Medical Center employees interested in pursuing any level of nursing degree in the 2026-27 academic year. You do not need to be an RN to apply, and the scholarship is not exclusive to UVA School of Nursing programs – it is applicable to any accredited nursing degree program. Eligibility aligns with the UVA HR Education Benefits Program. Once again, the Office of the Chief Nursing Officer is providing \$90,000 in funding to disburse to support our growing nursing workforce.

Scholarships are applicable to classes taken January 2026 to June 2027 for:

- ADN degree program
- BSN degree program (classes and prerequisites)
- Higher nursing degree program

Read more, download a flyer, and apply.

Nurse Leader Development Program Opportunity

The next offering of the Nurse Leader Development Program begins **July 29**. 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!

Blast Question

Question: What is the purpose of the NPGO Call for Interest that will be announced in August?

- A. to volunteer to be a mentor for the mentorship program
- B. To volunteer for committees and become more involved in nursing decision-making and professional governance
- C. To look into new leadership opportunities
- D. To sign up for annual training

Answer: B

CONGRATULATIONS! **Melody Defibaugh, RN** from Outpatient Surgery Center Post-Op. Look out for an email from us to get your SWAG BAG!

Quick Links to Standing Items

- **Champion Resources and Updates.**
- Clinical Career Ladder **resources**, **deadlines** and **training**.
- **2026 Calendar of Events for Nurses**
- **UVA's Professional Growth Resources for You**

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**.*