

NPGO BLAST

July 23, 2026

UVA Nursing Practice Updates

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

Headlines:

Change in Blood Cooler Expiration - Effective 8/1

GE 12 Lead ECG Troubleshooting Guide

Archived Guidance Document: Adult Thoracostomy (Chest Tube) Dressing Change SOP

Patient Safety Moment: Pain Assessment and Management Updates Coming Soon

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

Nursing Updates

Kahuna is Live!

Have you explored the [NEW Kahuna Competency platform](#) through KnowledgeLink?

- Need Support?
 - For go-live resources and support information, visit the [UVA Kahuna](#) site.
- For team members hired prior to July 20:
 - Team members:
 - Competencies are now active in Kahuna, and team members are encouraged to begin completing self-assessments for skills they are competent to perform.
 - Managers, NPDP/Educators, and Preceptors:
 - Deadline: Employee* competency documentation should be completed in Kahuna by June 30, 2027
 - Quality Control Process:
 - If a competency has already been signed off on the employee's previous paper-based competency records, it may be documented and signed off in Kahuna.
 - Competencies that were not previously validated on paper must be demonstrated before being signed off in Kahuna.
 - Start with your Preceptors and Charge Nurses and then move on to other unit team members
 - Kahuna Instructions
 - PDF: [My Assessments](#) PDF or Video: [My Assessments](#)
 - Video: [Individual Dashboard](#)

Please remember that the Joint Commission survey window opens in January 2027.

- The UVA Accreditation team will look for team member competency documentation in Kahuna first.
- If competencies are not documented in Kahuna, the UVA Accreditation team will request paper competency records from unit leadership.

Thank you for helping ensure our competency records are current, accurate, and survey ready.

* RN, LPN, SW, Medical Assistants (MA), CNA, PCT, ED Tech, Ortho Tech, Dialysis Tech, and Athletic Trainer roles in most Medical Center departments including ambulatory clinics.

Nominate a Health Unit Coordinator for 2026 HUC of the Year!

Nominations for the 2026 Health Unit Coordinator of the Year are open 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 2 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? Now's the time to ask! The Nominating Committee hosted a Panel Discussion featuring recent NPGO Presidents answering some of the most common questions about this important position. [Watch the recorded discussion](#) using the [Speed Watcher's guide](#).

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

Annual RN Degree Scholarships | Applications Open Through August 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.](#)

Save the Date | 2026 Annual Nursing Summit

Mark your calendar for the [2026 Annual Nursing Summit](#) being hosted by the NPGO Nursing Summit Planning Committee on **Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2026, 0930-1630** at our *new* location, The Virginia Guesthouse. Registration and details coming soon. Stay tuned for more information!

Print and share [the Save the Date flyer](#).

NPGO Presidents Virtual Office Hours – First Thursday of Each Month from 1100–1200.

Our next office hours will be on **Thursday, August 6**, and we would love to hear from you with questions, thoughts, or any support you need for local professional governance.

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](#).