

NPGO BLAST

September 17, 2026

UVA Nursing Practice Updates

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

Headlines:

Save the Date: Stryker Mobile Experience - October 13th

Pain Management Planning

Patient Safety Moment: Point of Care Testing - Quality Control Matters!

Patient Flu Vaccine Screening Is In Full Swing

Introducing PolicyTech AI Search! Compliance Hub "Nira" Now Available!

Backorder and Substitution of IV Start Kits

Pyxis Warning with Dispense of High-Risk Neuromuscular Blockade Agents

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

Nursing Updates

Be a Voting Member in 2027! NPGO Committee Call for Interest Survey

Interested in being a regional representative and voting member on a NPGO Central Committee beginning January 2027?

- [Click here](#) to learn about each committee
- Submit your name via the [Call for Interest Survey](#) by September 25

For more information, use [this link](#) to explore the webpage. Email NPGO@uvahealth.org with questions.

Don't Miss Tonight's NSC Meeting | Launch Party for NS Survival Guide!

Join us tonight from 0200–0300 in the Medical Center Board Room. Please attend **in person** for a special **Launch Party for the newly revised Night Shift Survival Guide!** Not onsite? Use this [Zoom link](#) to connect.

We will have refreshments, themed treats, and the opportunity to explore the revised Night Shift Survival Guide. Come celebrate the hard work that went into this resource and help us kick off its official launch.

Want to know more about our monthly night shift meetings and happenings? Click [here](#) to sign up.

2026 RN Engagement Results | Final Drop-In Session Next Week

Don't miss the final virtual drop-in session being hosted **Wednesday, Sept. 23, 0730-0815** to learn about our overall nursing engagement survey results and hear how we compare against other academic healthcare organizations as part of our Nursing Excellence Magnet component. We'll spend the first portion reviewing our collective data and then dive into questions and reflections from attendees.

Download a calendar planner with the Zoom link. Drop-in Session information is also available on the **event website**. We hope you can tune in!

Announcing our Fall 2026 Election Slate!

On behalf of the NPGO Nominating Committee, we are excited to announce our elections slate for the Fall 2026 NPGO Elections! Voting will open on October 1st and the link to the electronic ballot will be shared in the NPGO Blast. All NPGO members are eligible to cast a vote by October 19th!

WHAT WILL BE ON THE BALLOT?

2027 President-Elect candidate:

- **Tracey Keeley**, BSN, RN, CCRN, SCRNP | Clinician 4, 6 West

Over the next several weeks, the President-elect candidate, Nominating committee members, and NPGO leaders will be visiting central and regional Professional Governance meetings to promote awareness and answer questions. You may invite them to your local area by emailing [**NPGO@uvahealth.org**](mailto:NPGO@uvahealth.org).

Thank you to the members of this year's **Nominating Committee**.

Flu Shots Coming to Night Shift

Beginning next week, workplace flu vaccines will be available across UVA Health. Night shift team members can take advantage of special roving flu vaccine carts on **Monday, Sept. 28, from 2200 to Tuesday, Sept. 29, at 0100**. Keep an eye out for the cart in your area and protect yourself this flu season without leaving your shift.

A second overnight vaccination opportunity will be offered in the **Dining Conference Rooms on Thursday, Oct. 15, from 2230 through Friday, Oct. 16, at 0130**.

Take advantage of either option to conveniently receive your annual flu vaccine.

NPGO Presidents Virtual Office Hours

Our next office hours will be **Thursday, October 1, 1100-1200**. We would love to hear from you with questions, thoughts, or requests for any support with your local professional governance.

Join Zoom Meeting | Meeting ID: 963 1442 0130 | Passcode: 53869417

Our Office Hours are hosted on the first Thursday of each month from 1100–1200.

Professional Development

Next Week! 2026 VNA Legislative Summit – Free for Nurses

We are pleased to announce that our organization has partnered with the Virginia Nurses Association to provide our dedicated nurses with free access to their annual Legislative Summit!

The program will be live **September 24th (0830 – 1645)** and available on-demand through May 31, 2027. Nurses can tap into content that empowers them to become powerful advocates for nursing and the well-being of all Virginians! This is an incredible opportunity for professional growth and engagement.

We are sharing the conference landing page link so all nurses may participate in the livestream from their own devices.

Conference Landing Page:

<https://virginiannurses.com/page/LegislativeSummitLandingPage>

The conference will be accessible from the landing page link above. ***Please note: The livestream will not be active until September 24, 2026.***

On-demand recordings will be accessible via the same link approximately two weeks following the conference.

Instructions for completing the CE evaluation and earning **up to 7.0** nursing contact hours will be provided during the program.

Evidence-Based Practice Bootcamp | Registration Closes Oct. 1

We hope you will join us for the EBP Bootcamp! Registration is open in Workday. [Learn more here](#) and share this [flyer](#) with your colleagues to help spread the word!

- Session 1 | Thursday, October 8, 1300-1500
- Session 2 | Tuesday, November 3, 1300-1500
- Session 3 | Thursday, December 17, 1300-1500

RN Clinical Career Ladder Manager Training

Thursday, September 24, 1500-1630

[Enroll in Workday](#)

This course meets requirements for manager training for participation in Clinical Career Ladder interviews with direct reports.

Includes additional strategies for:

- Team assessment for advancement readiness
- Coaching to promote next level behaviors
- Revalidation process
- Hiring into Clinician 3 and Clinician 4 levels

Have Questions About Becoming a Certified RN?

Drop by in-person or virtually to the [Certification Office Hours](#) to ask your questions or review the multiple resources available to support your professional achievement of becoming certified! The NPGO Professional Development Committee's Chair and Vice Chair will be available to help answer your questions and connect you with certification resources.

Tuesday, Oct. 13, 1200-1230 | Medical Center Board Room and via [Zoom](#) (download a [calendar planner](#) to access the Zoom link)

WAITLIST ONLY! | 2026 NPGO Annual Nursing Summit

As of September 2, registration for the 2026 Nursing Summit is full. If you are registered and find that you can no longer attend, please cancel your registration in Workday as soon as possible. This will allow us to offer your spot to a colleague on the waitlist who is eager to participate.

For more information, please visit the [event website](#).

Final Nurse Leader Development Cohort – Begins October 14!

The final cohort of our current Nurse Leader Development Program will begin October 14, 2026. This will be the last time the program is offered in its current format. Directors, nurse managers, assistant nurse managers, and charge nurses are welcome to be enrolled. Because this is the final cohort, participants will have one opportunity to make up a missed session with this cohort and remain eligible to receive contact hours.

PLEASE NOTE: For those who have make-up work remaining from previous cohorts and wish to receive contact hours, this will be the final opportunity to attend any missed sessions and complete those requirements.

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

Kahuna Updates

What is going on with Kahuna now?

Phase 1 Optimization: At go-live, the Kahuna team targeted completion of at least 80% of the system build. We are now optimizing and finalizing the remaining components to ensure the system fully supports our needs.

Phase 2 Work:

- Specialty Nursing Role build – (e.g., Care Coordinators, Clinical Nurse Leader, Clinical Nurse Specialist)
- Specialty Equipment/Procedure competency build (e.g., CRRT, Procedural Sedation, CoreTrak)
- Kahuna CertIQ BLS Integration planning
- Annual Competency Process Integration planning

Reminder: Super User Access Deactivation

Super User (SU) access for areas that went live on July 20 will be deactivated on Sept. 30, including removal from both AMP and Kahuna. For areas that went live on Aug. 17, SU access is extended through Oct. 19. Thank you to all Super Users for your vital support *in the successful go-live of Kahuna across your areas*. Unit Managers, Educators, and Preceptors will continue to have the ability to sign off employee competencies.

Preceptor Tip | Before ending your shift, document your orientee's progress and competency achievements in Kahuna. Timely documentation ensures continuity for you and the next preceptor, just as patient care is documented in Epic before leaving.

Kahuna End User Module Completion | Currently, **40%** of team members have completed the Kahuna End User Module. If you have not yet finished, please do so soon.

Duplicate Competency Statements Identified? If you discover a duplicate competency statement, please submit a ticket through the [Kahuna website](#). As part of our ongoing optimization efforts, we are actively identifying and correcting duplicates as part of ongoing optimization.

Transitioning from Paper Competency Forms to Kahuna for Team Members Hired Prior to July 20, 2026

To date, **13%** of assigned competencies have been signed off in Kahuna, with numbers increasing daily. *Thank you, Managers and Educators, for supporting this transition.*

Recognition

Congratulations!

August BEE Award Recipients

- **Kimberly Williams**, Physical Therapist Clin 3, Physical Therapy
- **Robert Holmes**, Patient Companion, Staffing Resource Office

August DAISY Award Recipients

- **Sarah-Kate Wittig**, RN Clinician 2, 4 North

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](#).