

NPGO BLAST

October 15, 2026

UVA Nursing Practice Updates

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

Headlines:

Documenting Past Immunizations

Patient Safety Moment: Storing Equipment in Correct Locations

Pain Management: Who Are This Week's Stars?

Concentrated Midazolam Changes

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

Nursing Updates

Cast Your Vote Before Polls Close on Monday, Oct. 19 for the 2026 NPGO Election

Voting for the office of 2027 NPGO President-Elect and NPGO Bylaws members closes soon. Don't miss your chance to participate in shared decision making through the Annual NPGO Election. [>>> Click here to vote](#) (have Duo ready). Have problems with the ballot? Contact NPGO (4-9357 or NPGO@uvahealth.org).

If you would like to invite the candidates to your department, please email NPGO@uvahealth.org.

2027 NPGO President-Elect Candidate

Tracey Keeley, BSN, RN, CNRN, Clinician 4, 6 West

Tonight's Night Shift Committee Meeting + Flu Shot Opportunity

Don't forget your flu shot! We will be in the DCRs **tonight from 2230 to 0130** (Oct 16). Stop by to get vaccinated, then head over to the Medical Center Board Room at 0200 to join our monthly committee meeting! Not onsite? Use this [Zoom link](#) to connect.

Want to stay connected with Night Shift Committee updates, events, and monthly meetings? Sign up [here](#).

Hope to see you tonight!

Living Our Professional Practice Model

September's Nursing Scientific Series focused on the purpose and value of Nursing Professional Practice Models, with discussions led by guest speaker Dr. Julia Aucoin. Our PPM, designed by UVA Nurses, anchors us in who we are as nurses at University Medical Center, providing a visual representation of our contribution to the organization and the complexity of our roles and nursing identity.

Want to learn more? Watch Dr. Aucoin's presentation she shared with NPGO Committee Chairs and NPGO Cabinet members. [>>> View the webinar](#)

Take a few minutes to learn how our nursing colleagues incorporated **specific design elements** into our PPM, and review the **behaviors (New!)** connected to each piece of our PPM on page 2. [>> Explore more](#)

Professional Development

Next Thursday – Stop by the 2026 Annual Healthcare Education Fair

Don't miss out on this special opportunity, where **admissions counselors from across Virginia** will be on-site to talk about their healthcare programs, and **UVA's HR Education Benefits and Career Navigation Center** will be available to discuss steps to further your educational path.

When: Thursday, Oct. 22, 1530 – 1830

Where: Main Hospital Cafeteria

Who: Any team member interested in or curious about going to school for a different role within healthcare or any level of nursing degree

Details: Light refreshments provided & a chance to win prizes

Click [here](#) for the website and **flyer** – be sure to invite a colleague or two to attend with you!

Grow professionally. Become Inspired. Be a Mentee or Mentor this Spring!

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 today! The following cohorts begin in January:

- Clinician 1 Transition to Practice
- RN Degree Students – open to all levels of degrees
- Experienced Nurses
- Nocturnal Leaders - for night shift and rotating nurses
- Self-Discovery

More information about the revised Formal Nurse Leader Mentorship Program will be coming soon, as we integrate this valuable resource into the Nurse Leader Transition To Practice Program coming soon in 2027.

Register Today| Free Livestream – 2026 ANCC Magnet® Conference General Sessions

Join in the experience via the four *free* general session livestreams of this year's **ANCC Magnet® Conference** held Oct. 29-31. Hear from keynote speakers **Riaz Meghji, Robin Roberts, and Jesse Israel**, be inspired by the exceptional work nurses are doing across the globe and watch the celebration of Magnet® and Pathway to Excellence® designated organizations! We hope you take advantage of this special opportunity.

Click here to view the schedule and register **by Oct. 23**. Please note – sessions will be livestreamed in Central Time, as the conference is hosted in Chicago, IL. For tech support and viewing recommendations, please review **ANCC's FAQs**.

Kahuna Updates

What is Kahuna CertiIQ? A new feature within Kahuna that allows nurses and UAPs to manage and track life support certifications.

Phased Implementation

Phase 1 | Focuses on Basic Life Support (BLS) certifications for nurses and UAPs.

Future phases | Additional life support certifications will be added over time.

Why are we implementing CertiIQ?

- Team members can upload their BLS certification cards in seconds, eliminating manual entry of names, issue dates, and expiration dates.
- Provides clear visual reminders of upcoming BLS certification expirations.

- Makes it easy to view active BLS certifications.
- Offers managers, supervisors, and educators a Team BLS Certification Overview dashboard to monitor BLS certification status and upcoming expirations across their teams.

Key Dates

- **Nov. 2:** Team members can begin uploading BLS certification cards to Kahuna.
- **Dec. 31:** All existing BLS certification cards must be uploaded.

Will CertIQ Connect to the Kahuna Competency Management System?

- Yes. Beginning **Oct. 29**, Kahuna will automatically link BLS competency statements to CertIQ, allowing statuses to be easily tracked on the Team Matrix.

Workday and Kahuna Integration

- The Kahuna team is partnering with IT to import BLS certification card images from the Certification section in Workday.
- Team members whose BLS certification card images are not available in Workday will need to upload their cards directly into Kahuna starting Nov. 2.
- All BLS certification cards should be uploaded by Dec. 31.
- BLS certification information entered in Kahuna will be sent to Workday. However, BLS certifications uploaded directly to Workday will not transfer to Kahuna.

Additional Resources Coming Soon:

- Informational flyer
- A training video incorporated into existing Kahuna and Workday modules for new hires
- Guides and training videos in the Kahuna Support Library

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.



Multiple Magnet® standards incorporate improvement in patient outcomes, such as the patient experience, supported by clinical nurses.



Submit your Magnet story!

Magnet Minute

Redefining Wait Time in the Neurosurgery Clinics

The Neurosurgery team identified opportunity to improve two areas of concern for the patient experience, 'Information About Delays' and 'Wait Time in Clinic', at three locations: ECCC, Pituitary, and Fontaine. The team, led by Melissa Pritchett, BSN, RN, CNRN, Nurse Manager, and Mindy Bryant, BSN, RN, AMB-BC, Charge Nurse, reviewed the literature and adopted the concept of "restarting the clock". Working with Epic builders, they created a clinic status board that displayed stages of the patient visit and how long they'd been waiting since someone last rounded on them, with associated standard work to guide the rounding initiative.



Nichole S. Hatch, MSN, RN, RNCC, holding a "snack tote" during rounding



Rounding included five actions: Acknowledge, Inform, Set A New Expectation, Address Needs, Re-round. In Q2 – Q3 2025, the team began offering snacks to waiting patients and implemented a snack tote to organize the activity. Leaders role-modeled rounding and encouraged everyone on the team to participate. The rounding initiative, bolstered by snacks, proved to be an effective intervention to improve the patient experience. As shown in the graph, the Patient Experience survey response to 'Information About Delays' improved from the 23rd Percentile Rank to the 97th Percentile at the Pituitary Clinic, with all three locations demonstrating an improvement!



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](#).