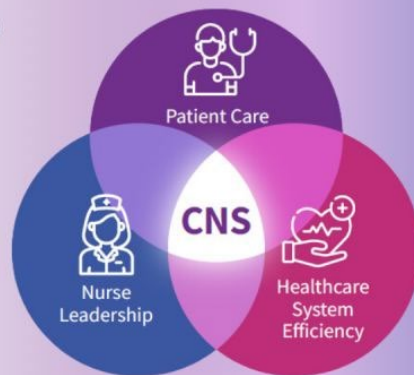


Advanced Practice. Clinical Expertise. Better Outcomes.

Clinical Nurse Specialists

Leaders across 3 Spheres:



WHAT IS A CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST?

A Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) is an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) with graduate-level preparation and advanced clinical expertise in a specialty, population, setting, type of care, or clinical problem.

CNSs improve outcomes through advanced direct patient care and consultation, nursing practice leadership, evidence-based practice, quality improvement, and systems-level change.

WHAT CNSs BRING TO UVA HEALTH

- **Direct Care & Clinical Expertise** Complex patients • Specialty assessment & management • Consultation
- **Nurses & Nursing Practice** Clinical expertise • Coaching • Mentoring • Practice standards
- **Systems & Outcomes** Evidence into practice • Quality & safety • Workflow & process improvement
- **Collaboration & Connections** Patients • Nurses • Providers • Interprofessional teams • Organizational resources

NEED CLINICAL EXPERTISE? START WITH A CNS.

CNSs bring advanced clinical expertise to complex patient care, support nurses at the bedside, connect teams with specialized resources, and improve practice and outcomes.

CONNECT WITH A CNS WHEN...

- A patient has complex or specialized care needs that may benefit from CNS assessment, management, or consultation.
- You have a complex clinical or patient-care question.
- A quality or safety outcome needs improvement.
- You are planning a workflow, technology, or practice change.
- You need specialty expertise, support with a challenging clinical situation, or help connecting with specialized resources.
- You are seeing variation in practice or wondering, "What does the evidence say?"
- You are developing or revising a policy, guideline, or standard.
- You need help implementing, evaluating, or sustaining a change.

COULD YOU BE A FUTURE CNS?

Do others seek your clinical expertise? Do you enjoy solving problems, improving practice, teaching, advocating, or collaborating? **Explore the CNS role and career path at NACNS.**



SCAN TO LEARN MORE

CNS role information and 3 Spheres graphic adapted from National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists (NACNS) resources.

MEET THE UVA HEALTH MEDICAL CENTER CNS TEAM

YOUR PARTNERS IN CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

Expert clinical care • Leadership • Evidence & research • System-wide innovation



Kimberly W. Elgin, DNP, RN, ACNS-BC, PCCN, CMSRN, FCNS, FAAN
APP Director • Clinical Nurse Specialists
Expertise: CNS practice & leadership • Advocacy & scope of practice • Systems leadership



Susan A. Ketcham, MSN, APRN, AGCNS-BC, CPAN
APP Manager • Clinical Nurse Specialists | Perioperative
Expertise: Perianesthesia nursing • SSI prevention • Pain management



Lauren Bedard, MSN, APRN, ACCNS-AG, CCRN
Adult Critical Care • Cardiac Medicine & TCV Surgery
Expertise: Cardiac medicine • TCV surgery • Heart failure • Pulmonary HTN



Cheri Blevins, DNP, APRN, CCNS, CCRN
Adult Critical Care Medicine
Delirium Interdisciplinary Collaborative Chair • Clinical Assistant Professor of Nursing, UVA School of Nursing
Expertise: Pulmonary therapies • Chest tube management • Ventilator strategies • Proning therapy • Delirium



Scott Darrah, MSN, APRN, ACCNS-AG
Adult Acute Medicine
Expertise: Sepsis • NEWS+ (nursing workload scoring) • Substance use disorders • Complex patient progression • Pulmonary



Brenda Deller, MSN, APRN, AG-AC CNS
Adult Renal
Expertise: Adult & pediatric dialysis/apheresis • Peritoneal dialysis • HD catheter maintenance • CLABSI Prevention



Dina Hood, MPH, MSN, APRN, ACCNS-AG, CEN
Adult Emergency Medicine
Expertise: Emergency medicine • Pain management • Geriatric care



Amy Johnston, MSN, RN, AGCNS-BC, CNRN
Adult Acute & Progressive Neuroscience
Expertise: Medication safety • Behavior management



Kristi Kimpel Wilkins, MSN, APRN, CCNS, CCRN
Adult Critical & Progressive Surgery/Trauma
APP Lead for HAIs
Expertise: CLABSI • CAUTI • Enteral tubes • Complex patients • Interprofessional communications



Michelle Longley, DNP, RN, GNP-C, AGCNS-BC
Adult-Gerontology Wellness
Fall/HAPI Prevention Program Metric Lead
Expertise: Fall prevention • HAPI prevention • Wound care • Skin failure • Restraints • Beds



Dea Mahanes, DNP, APRN, CCNS, HEC-C, FNCS
Neuro Critical/Intermediate Care
Ethics and Moral Distress Consult Service
Expertise: Spinal cord injury • Complex family communication



Kimberly D. Miller, DNP, AGCNS-BC, CDCES, BC-ADM
Glycemic Management & Diabetes
Expertise: Diabetes care • Glucomanager



Kathleen Rea, DNP, APRN, ACNS-BC, PCCN, CNL
Adult Acute & Progressive Care • Surgical Subspecialties
Expertise: QI Coach • Nursing Education & Professional Development



Tanya D. Thomas, DNP, APRN, AGCNS-BC, OCN
Adult Oncology
Expertise: Hazardous medication management

HOW TO CONNECT WITH THE CNS TEAM

NEED A CNS?

Secure Chat: UVMC Clinical Nurse Specialist On Call

Send your clinical or practice question and the team will connect you with the appropriate CNS.

CONTACT A CNS DIRECTLY

You may also contact any CNS directly via Secure Chat or email.

MEET OUR TEAM & LEARN MORE



[Clinical Nurse Specialists at UVA Health](#)
[Center for Advanced Practice](#)