Happy Spring Everyone!

I’m excited and proud to work with all of you and witness the extraordinary care you provide to our patients each and every day. And 2020 is extra special — in honor of the 200th anniversary of Florence Nightingale’s birth, the World Health Assembly has designated it the Year of the Nurse. This distinction celebrates the vital role nurses play in transforming health care around the world.

At UC Davis Health, you are helping to transform care across the Sacramento region and beyond. From our fetal surgery team and their phenomenal care of a pregnant patient dealing with twin-to-twin transfusion syndrome to the nurses on the Children’s Hospital Transport Team that helped design our new child-friendly ambulance, our nurses are providing essential services and fully embracing relationship-based care. You also play a significant role outside of the hospital walls; your ongoing support of the California International Marathon ensures that our friends and neighbors

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Hospital unit awards

Fetal surgery team receives DAISY Team Award

Each year the DAISY Foundation awards one group of caregivers who identify and meet patient and/or patient family needs by going above and beyond the traditional role of nursing. The team award recognizes that while an idea to achieve better patient and family outcomes may start with one individual, it often takes an entire team to implement successfully.

Due to their teamwork and dedication, the fetal surgery team — under the direction of Shinjiro Hirose, director of the UC Davis Fetal Care and Treatment Center — has earned this honorable award. The team provided extraordinary care to a 27-year-old pregnant patient whose twins were diagnosed with twin-to-twin transfusion syndrome. Dr. Hirose and his team performed fetal surgery while multiple team members took turns compassionately sitting under the drapes to calm and comfort the mother-to-be.

L–R: Toby Marsh, Chief Nursing and Patient Care Services Officer; Nurse manager Carolyn Parrish; Shinjiro Hirose, M.D.; Beverly Navarrette; Allison Horrely; Aida Benitez; Olga Yakoubovsky; Ryan Esquerra; and Wendy Wilson, executive director.

Not pictured: David Dietrich; James Jones, M.D.; and Jeff Tully, M.D.
Surgical ICU honored with Silver Beacon Award for Excellence

Congratulations to the Surgical ICU for receiving the Silver-Level Beacon Award for Excellence from the American Association of Critical Care Nurses (AACN). Recognized units have met AACN’s rigorous certification process that ensures a commitment to nursing excellence, building strong relationships between patients, and improving outcomes and overall patient care satisfaction.

The unit has shown hard work, dedication to teamwork, and supportive environments of professionalism among colleagues and leaders.

Two new medical-surgical units receive PRISM Awards

East 5 Neuroscience and the Tower 8 Transplant/Metabolic Unit both received PRISM Awards — short for Premier Recognition in the Specialty of Medical-Surgery. The prestigious award from the Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses (AMSN) and the Medical-Surgical Nursing Certification Board (MSNCB) is granted to acute-care units that show exemplary work in the areas of: leadership; recruitment and retention; evidence-based practice; patient outcomes; healthy practice environment; and lifelong learning for unit staff.

Over the past two years, five UC Davis Health medical-surgical units have received PRISM Awards, catapulting our medical center to the top spot among California hospitals with five out of six awards.
Creative Health Care Management Summit to Build Compassion, Empathy & Love

Last October we were honored to co-host the annual Summit to Build Compassion, Empathy & Love with Creative Health Care Management. Over 120 health care providers across the country attended the three-day gathering in Sacramento which focused on relationship-based culture, strengthening resilience, and reflecting on the hard work that all caregivers do.

Attendees were given the opportunity to learn from others, network, share best practices and experiences, and hear from health care leaders on advancing relationship-based culture in their own workplace.

The summit was a huge success, and to show thanks and support for our best practices, Creative Health Care Management donated $1,000 to our Reigniting the Spirit of Caring (RSC) endowment.
D. Gregory Farwell, M.D., chair of UC Davis Health’s Department of Otolaryngology and the OR team completed the first-ever Trans-Oral Robotic Surgery (ENT TORS) procedure in California. The minimally invasive surgery was performed using the new da Vinci SP robot, which allowed safe effective access and visibility to the patient’s mouth. “Our entire surgical team is incredibly pleased to begin using the SP robot and bring its potential to an expanded patient population,” said Molly Sword, RN. “As a team we’re always striving to provide the best possible care to all of our patients, and it’s heartening to be a part of something that allows us to do more, and better, for even more patients in need. I’m always so proud of the work our team does every day, and this has served as another reminder that what we do, and the strides we make here at UC Davis Health, have real impact on real people.” she said.

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— Molly Sword, RN

Our young referral patients throughout the region can now benefit from our new and improved transport ambulance thanks to NORCAL Ambulance and Children’s Miracle Network (CMN).

The new ambulance includes a state-of-the-art transport isolette for vulnerable neonatal patients, a technologically advanced air conditioning and heater system, crew cab space for family members, and a DVD player for patients.

More than 800 children are transported each year to UC Davis Children's Hospital via the UC Davis Children’s Hospital Transport Team.
Congratulations to our DAISY Award recipients!

You exemplify the nursing values of courage, compassion and integrity in every situation.

Heather Mikulin, RN, BSN
Burn Unit

She took this information and created a comprehensive and personalized care plan. To say that someone went above and beyond to provide care truly describes her actions. The patient’s small stature, requirements to secure ICU equipment, and wound dressings made finding appropriate clothing and securement devices challenging. Heather went shopping and purchased multiple items of properly fitted clothing to meet his needs while preserving his dignity. This reduced the use of restraints and provided comfort that we weren’t able to achieve previously.

Joseph Panelo, RN
GI and Endoscopy Unit

I was the patient who required four ERCP procedures last April. When you first introduced yourself and established the nurse/patient relationship, you immediately conveyed that I was going to be well cared for throughout the procedure by yourself and the team.

You established that rapport before knowing I was a retired UC Davis Medical Center RN and so I knew and respected that you would treat all your patients with such care!
Christine Weiss, RN, BSN, CMSRN
Tower 6 Medical Surgical Unit

She realized she was intermittently confused during her stay, and she appreciated when Christine knew when to just go along with it, but recognized at times she needed to be corrected and/or reoriented. She never felt that we viewed her as crazy, and that allowed her to not become scared during her times of confusion.

Stephanie Baroni, RN, BSN
Transplant Clinic

Our kidney transplant journey began about two years ago. Since the beginning Stephanie has been incredibly caring and compassionate. She is a trustworthy and reliant individual, who makes you feel like you are her priority. Her dedication goes above and beyond. Her hard work and perseverance made my husband’s kidney transplant possible, in an efficient manner. What makes her unique and outstanding is the fact that not only was she my living donor nurse, but she would also go out of her way to help out my husband — who was the recipient — even though it was not her responsibility. My husband and I are extremely grateful to have had her in our kidney transplant journey.

Kendall Mendenhall, RN, BSN, CCRN
Tower 2 SICU

Kendall was able to connect with him on a personal level by getting to know him, and inquiring about the events in his life leading up to his hospital admission. He was able to help the patient identify what his hopes were for the future. During this time, Kendall discovered the patient had met the love of his life just prior to seeking medical help. Kendall helped to motivate the patient and change his perspective into a more positive light by having him reflect on his recent experience with love.

After a few days under Kendall’s care, the patient became much more positive. He was walking again, taking his medication, and talking more about the love of his life. Kendall helped him clean up by giving him a fresh shave and trimming his hair and nails. He was a new man.

To nominate a nurse for the DAISY Award, visit health.ucdavis.edu/nurse/daisy.
Professional Governance Council

Advanced Practice Provider Council
- Membership has increased to 21 members representing both inpatient and outpatient in all APP categories.
- Establishing an APP Education and Scholarship.
- Working with the UC Davis Philanthropy Department to establish support for APP in excellence, leadership, innovation and health.

Professional Development Council
- Working with CPPN to redesign our current competency management system.
- Collaborating with Donna Wright and OnSomble to develop a software program and management system that puts the nurse at the center of their own competency management and growth.

In Preceptor and Residency sub-committee (PARS)
- In efforts to provide evidence-based best practice recommendations and consistency in precepting practices, the sub-committee has created a Transition to Practice Preceptor Program.
- The program addresses criteria for development and recognition to include new graduate nurse residents, newly hired experienced nurses, and nurses changing their primary work environment.
- General preceptor training for all RN staff who may work with student nurses will be included in a revised onboarding program. This will help support Magnet® re-designation and Transition to Practice Program accreditation.

Quality and Safety Council
- Amanda Waters from Tower 8 will be transitioning into her new role as co-chair.
- Three new safety awards have been finalized, approved and will be distributed soon. These include 365 Days of Patient Safety, Sustained Quality, and Patient Safety Innovation.
- A Josie King Award was given to social worker Courtney Corbitt for dealing with a challenging patient and family.
- The first Josie King Team Award was given to the blood bank for their help on a NICU baby.
- The latest Unit Based Practice Council (UBPC) presentations included PCR’s establishment of a Peer Support Program and the ED’s Specialty Certification increase to 61 nurses, which exceeded their goal.

Evidence-Based Practice and Research Council
- Preparations include, offering workshops for abstract writing; poster development and oral presentations; and flyer distribution and presentation of updated Unit Based Practice Council (UBPC) submission options to All Here Day.
- Working on a study to look at various aspects surrounding evidence-based practice at UC Davis Health via four surveys that nurses will be asked to complete. Surveys will be given on a quarterly basis in 2020.
- Identifying all nurse-initiated research including report review of IRB submissions over the last year. We plan to prospectively review studies in 2020.
**EMR Council**

- In 2019, the nurses made it through the Epic Refuel project which entailed four quarterly Epic upgrades with countless changes to the nurses views and workflows.
- The Nurse Brain was implemented as Epic’s first attempt to create a new tool for the bedside nurse.
- The nurse worklist tool was implemented to help nurses organize task oriented items.
- We have expanded our required documentation checklists to shift and discharge to further guide nurses in completing important pieces of documentation. Feedback on these tools has been well received.
- The Alaris IV pump and Epic EMR integration project went live with our quarter four go live in November. The project improved patient safety, and streamlined medication administration and Epic documentation while limiting manual steps.

  **Benefits of the integration included:**

  - A decrease in overrides, including high-risk overrides.
  - Limits on administration rate, dose, and concentration providing real-time feedback to the nurse.
  - The pump being auto-programmed by the order in Epic with the nurse validating the information.
  - An increase in usage of positive patient identification.
  - Improved Epic EMR documentation for volume intake and output.

- Continue to work on large health system projects affecting nursing go live, including improving our workflow for suicide risk patients.
- Council nurses have been instrumental in operationalizing all new changes and communicating improvements to their units.

**Clinical Practice Council**

- Created a Violence Debriefing Form in collaboration with Workplace Violence Committees, Professional Governance Council, nursing supervisors, and others to help support staff after a violent or aggressive episode in the hospital. The form will be attached to the workplace violence policy.
- Moving forward with a Complementary Therapies website, which will provide information on various therapies available for patients. The website will be live in the upcoming months.
Throughout the health care field medication errors have been a major issue surrounding patient safety, but with integrated smart pump technology taking place at UC Davis Health, this innovative safeguard can ensure patients are receiving the safest level of care.

In the past, 18% of medication errors including wrong patient, initial dose/rate, concentration, and documentation were pump related. However, 35% of those errors were considered preventable. But with the introduction of new smart pump technology plus infusion pump integration in 2018–19, those significant errors could be improved.

Last November the UC Davis Health infusion pump integration with barcode scanning technology was implemented by a collaborative taskforce of expert clinical nurses, pharmacy staff, IT and product vendors to help improve medication administration practices, patient safety, and documentation throughout our health system.

During the integration:

- The taskforce created standard workflows, cut over and downtime procedures, while nurses supported training and the development of educational documents.
- 2,200 nurses attended an IT education class with a nursing co-facilitator who provided hands-on experience regarding nursing practice and policies.
- Go live support was initiated in each patient care area where designated nursing super users assisted with coaching, problem solving, and reporting of system and workflow issues.
- Compliance with the drug library safety technology increased from 92% to 96.5%, correlating with targeting preventable pump related events.

With the support of our skilled nurses knowing unique workflows in each area, end users were able to successfully operate and adopt the smart pump technology.
More than 12,000 runners and teams participated in the main race at the 37th annual event in 2019 and an additional 2,000 children participated in the UC Davis Children’s Hospital MaraFUNRun, a 5k fun run/walk. Meanwhile more than 100 faculty, staff and students reported for volunteer duty on the course and the finish-line medical tent, which included acute care and musculoskeletal teams.

Thank you to all UC Davis Health nurse volunteers who attended the event!
Certifications

Newly Recognized Clinical Nurse III
Brian Della Maggiora
Michael Dion
Sarina Fazio
Meredith Hansen
Nicole Lira
Emily Murdock
Brenna Oakes
Edith Ortiz
Barbara Rios
Andrea Vega-Breaux

Newly specialty-certified nurses

Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGACNP-BC)
Rex Ambatali
Stephanie Hetrea

Blood and Marrow Transplant Certified Nurse (BMTCN)
Natalie Dew

Certified Ambulatory Perianesthesia Nurse (CAPA)
William Paik

Certified Emergency Nurse (CEN)
Patsy Barker
Anyang Dai
Jamie Heitmeyer
John Lynch

Certified Infection Control (CIC)
Tracy Adams
Janet Peterson

Certified Medical Surgical Registered Nurse (CMSRN)
Elaine Crisostomo
Evan Gayagoy
Julie Haro
Olga Karaputa
Cludithe Lupot
KC Sagun
Daneva Tabingo
Benzon Tambot
Elaine Vang

Certified Nephrology Nurse (CNN)
Roderick Nunoz
Norma Salazar

Certified Nurse Operating Room (CNOR)
Julie Chou
Paul Harrelid
Sara Rodriguez

Certified Otorhinolaryngology and Head-Neck Nurse (CORLN)
Brenda Cheatum

Certified Pediatric Nurse (CPN)
Jessica Langford

Certified Radiology Nurse (CRN)
Scott Prudhomme

Critical Care Registered Nurse (CCRN-Adult)
Justin Cantu
Truc Cao
Michael Dion
Natalie Felcher
Lisandra Freilich
Alyson Finley
Nicole Hassna
Allison Hom
Erin Kozlowski
Kendal Kulper
Virginia Lam
Jaclyn Montano
Natasha Palmer
Jessica Sewekk
Jessica Sewell
Gladys Sumo
Andrew Tarquino
Amy Wamer

Care Registered Nurse (CCRN-Neonatal)
Heidi Jones
Marya Prikhodko

Care Registered Nurse (CCRN-Peds)
Haley Dannewitz

Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP-BC)
Laura Galindo
Larry Gomez
Abigail Scheitlin

Inpatient Obstetric Nursing (RNC-OB)
Claire Cook
Leticia Dickinson
Misty Harmon
Dainele Wise

International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC)
Carina Bassib

Neonatal Intensive Care Nurse (RNC-NIC)
Keri Shields

Pain Management Nurse (RN-BC)
Amber Williams

Pediatric Nurse (RN-BC)
Jessica Shanley

Progressive Care Certified Nurse (PCCN)
Vanessa Brown
Joel Calderon
James Campbell
Diana Cortez
Sonia De Guzman

Help us review
Nurses can also assist by identifying stories to be submitted, or reviewing articles for publication.
If you’re interested, please call Ellen Kissinger at 916-734-7819.
You can also email questions and comments to hs-ucdavisnurse@ucdavis.edu

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Credits
UC Davis Nurse is published regularly to recognize achievements, promote communication and celebrate excellence among nurses across UC Davis Health.

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Call for articles
We’re always seeking interesting, informative articles from nurses that work at UC Davis Health!

- In order to print as many articles as possible, our desired length limit is approximately 600 words.

- Photographs, graphs and charts that enhance the article are welcome, and add interest to the publication. Photos should be submitted in the largest (pixel dimensions) and highest-resolution format (dpi) possible.

- The editorial staff may make editorial changes, or request that authors make revisions, on an as-needed basis.

- Nurses can also assist by identifying stories to be submitted, or reviewing articles for publication.

If you’re interested, please call Ellen Kissinger at 916-734-7819.
You can also email questions and comments to hs-ucdavisnurse@ucdavis.edu

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