

**Yakima Regional Nurse Practice Meeting
July 18, 2005**

Members: Chair-Pam Rimel*, Susan Jacobson, Carmen Garrison*, Susan Holdeman*, Keith Prouse*, Donna Mellinger, Ron Fought*, Corina Osmond-Vickers, Julie Logan*, Marti Brunell, Barb Evans, Sheila Leman, Deb Westland, Terri Wright, Stormye Presnell*, Susan Gleeson*, Bruce Furgeson*. Bev Calvert*

Visitors:

Called to order/ground rules: The meeting was called to order at 1610 by Pamela Rimel.

Minutes: The minutes from the last meeting were accepted.

New Business:

Staffing: Retention and recruitment was discussed. There have been several 13-week travel nurse contracts signed. Several full-time RN's have been hired both in ICU and ED. There will be postings for STAT nurse positions. Ron Fought is looking at dividing ACU into two units with two separate charge nurses.

ADO's: Bruce provided an update. ADO's continue to come in at an increased rate. The major concerns identified have been ER and nurses floating to ICU. Ron stated he looks at every ADO and is looking for trends. He also said that he adds additional notes to the form letters he sends out so nurses know he is really looking at them individually. Bruce also shared a graph of the new hires compared to the number of nurses who have left since HMA bought the hospital.

Education:

IV training: Standardization of the departments regarding the procedure of IV starts was discussed. There are several variations being used.

Equipment: It was again suggested that we have a products committee. Ron is looking into it.

There have been some serious employee latex allergic reactions. It was noted that the latex and the latex-free gloves used at YRMC are both green and hard to differentiate. One employee has gone to buying her own latex-free gloves because she can get the purple ones. Ron will address this with purchasing. It was also suggested that we go completely latex-free hospital-wide.

There has been a change in the alcohol swabs. They are now the same color as the betadine (on the package). This makes it difficult, at a glance, to differentiate between the two.

Discharge teaching: Susan H. is working on discharge planning.

Critical care residency: Very encouraging.

Orientation to floating Units: There was a large discussion about sending extra staff to units they need training in, making a larger, more versatile group of nurses who can float to other units (such as ICU, ER for the computer charting, and ACU). Instead of sending extra staff home on low census or calling staff to take low census, allow them to go to the different areas they could be pulled to.

Pharmacy: Overrides during pharmacy hours are continuing. STAT orders are the only acceptable use for override Pyxis during regular Pharmacy hours. Continue using faxing. 4C “chemo” room has been cleared out to be a med room. Working on a potassium policy. Working on the alcohol withdrawal policy. Med room doors have to remain shut and locked. New policies will be communicated to nurses by the educators. Narcotic counts have to be at least twice a week- no exceptions.

Meeting was adjourned at 1720. The next meeting will be Monday, August 15, 2005 at 1600.