

Wisconsin Nurses Association  
2010 Reference Report #5

**Subject:** **Validating and Valuing Nursing's Contributions to Quality Care Via Data Collection and Reporting**

**Introduced by:** **WNA Nursing Practice and Nursing Research Councils and Norma Lang RN, PhD.**

**WNA Core Issue(s): Workplace Health, Rights & Safety, Nurse Shortage/Safe Staffing, and Patient Safety/Advocacy**

Summary: There are increasing demands on health care providers and organizations for demonstrating and reporting quality care and patient safety outcomes throughout the U.S. The role of the professional nurse in contributing to safe and quality patient care has gained the attention of national organizations that include the National Quality Forum, Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations and Leapfrog Group, to name a few. According to the April 2010 ANA document, *The Impact of Nursing Care on Quality* ([www.nursingworld.org](http://www.nursingworld.org)), there are a number of factors that support the need for collecting, measuring and reporting on nursing care outcomes. These factors are as follows:

- *Nurses represent the largest, single group of healthcare professionals.*
- *Evidence substantiates nursing's influence on inpatient outcomes.*
- *Measures of nursing care have been fully developed, are in use, and have been vetted.*
- *There has been a public call for information about nursing care quality.*
- *Evidence exists that public reporting of data stimulates quality improvement and choice.*
- *There is agreement among diverse health care stakeholders that the National Quality Forum-endorsed nursing-sensitive measures should be incorporated into national and state hospital performance measurement and reporting activities.*

In Wisconsin, nursing is seeing an increase in the number of healthcare organizations that are building and expanding electronic health care records. The bundling of data related to specific nurse quality and patient safety indicators with the electronic medical record is not a reality, but needs to be. There are a number of collaboratives and initiatives taking place in Wisconsin that addresses the collection and reporting of patient quality and safety data. These activities include, The Wisconsin Collaborative for Quality, Aligning Forces for Quality, State of Wisconsin e-Health Board. The organizations sponsoring these activities are remiss in providing a seat at the table for a representative from the state-wide professional nursing organization and as a result are missing the key and consistent contributor to quality and safe patient care.

The time to validate and acknowledge nursing's contribution to quality and safe patient care is long overdue. In order for this to occur, nursing as a profession, needs to recognize and embrace this important fact. Nursing needs to be the lead voice in describing the importance of having professional nursing involved in the discussions regarding the importance of collecting, measuring, and reporting of nurse-sensitive indicators that are integrated into electronic medical records.

Recommendations: That the Wisconsin Nurses Association will:

1. Sponsor a Nursing Summit that will identify strategies for promoting and advancing the use, integration and reporting of nurse-sensitive quality indicators.
2. Take the lead in Wisconsin for advocating for the promotion of the use and integration of nurse-sensitive quality indicators in EMRs through:
  - a. Representation on state-related organizations and entities.
  - b. Work with other interested nursing and consumer groups on the importance of validating nursing's contribution to healthcare through collecting and reporting on NSIs.
  - b. Provide education and information to nurses regarding the importance of validating nursing's contribution to healthcare through collecting and reporting on NSIs.

**WNA Goals:** Goal II. Assure that the registered nurse is an essential provider in all practice settings through education, research, workplace advocacy, legislation and regulation; and Goal III. Promote the existence of the Wisconsin Nurses Association as a multipurpose organization that will continue to be strong and effective at the local, state, and national levels.

Fiscal Note:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Responsible</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Sponsor summit	Board of Directors, Nursing Practice Council and Nursing Research Council	Breakeven
Follow-up meetings (12 participants) 2 face-to-face	Board of Directors, Nursing Practice Council and Nursing Research Council	\$405.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel for staff - WNA leadership (3) 3 x .30/miles x 150 miles \$135 each x 3</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meals/Refreshments \$8 x 12 x 2</li> </ul>		\$192.00
WNA members participating in medical electronic research strategy meetings with other disciplines and consumers	Board of Directors, Nursing Practice Council and Nursing Research Council	\$0.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel</li> </ul>		
Total Reference #5		\$597.00

References:

- Aligning Faces for Quality, Wisconsin (2010). Available on the world wide <http://www.rwjf.org>
- American Nurses Association (2010). The Impact of Nursing Care on Quality. Silver Spring, MD: Author
- State of Wisconsin eHealth Initiative (2010). Available on the world wide web. <http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/ehalth/index.htm>

Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality (2010). Available on the world wide web.  
<http://www.wchq.org>