WNA News

WNA Membership Assembly and Annual Meeting. This year we are including a variety of educational offerings over a 3-day span from Thursday, October 20 – Saturday, October 22 at the Marriott West Hotel in Middleton. The sessions will be in “tracks,” which preliminarily are: *The Nurse’s Role in Palliative and End-of-Life Care across the Lifespan, Clinical and Interprofessional Considerations for Patient-Centered Team-Based Care, Wisconsin Faith Community Nurses Annual Conference, Environmental Health*, and the biannual *Surviving Your First Year Workshop*. Saturday morning will feature the WNA Awards Brunch and the WNA Annual Meeting (members may join virtually).

Awards. We are now accepting nominations for the WNA Awards! The Awards are a great opportunity to honor your colleagues' achievements and contributions to WNA and the nursing profession. The winners will be honored at the WNA Membership Assembly and Annual Meeting on Saturday, October 22. You can read more about the different awards and how to apply on the [WNA website](https://www.wisnurse.org).

Mentorship Program. We are proud to announce the kick-off of the WNA Mentorship Program. We are going to form “mentorship groups” consisting of 1-2 mentors and 3-4 mentees. We think this will be a great way to teach and learn through the classic mentor:mentee relationship, as well as an opportunity to learn from our peers. Groups will start monthly calls in August. Sign up on the [WNA website](https://www.wisnurse.org).

Help ANA with a story for *The American Nurse* newspaper. Susan Trossman is working on a story for about nurses who are trying to balance taking care of their older parents, their young children, or both. She’d like to speak with nurse members about the rewards and challenges of trying to meet the needs of other family members, as well as any strategies they can share on how they care for themselves. The story is for the Sept/Oct health-focused issue of the paper. The phone interviews will take about 15 minutes and nurses who are interviewed will have the opportunity to review their quotes. [Email Brianna](mailto:brianna@ana.org) if interested!

Member Spotlight. WNA has so many incredible members making a lasting impression in nursing. We think it’s about time that everyone else knows about our incredible members, too. That is why we are starting a Member Spotlight series on our website. This is the space to showcase your talent. Tell us about your remarkable research, your touching stories, the obstacles you’ve overcome. Show us—and the world—what it really means to be a Wisconsin Nurse. [Fill out your form to be spotlighted](https://www.wisnurse.org).

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Keep a look out for more WNA and ANA updates in the Monitor as well as on the [website](https://www.wisnurse.org) and social media.
ANA News

**ANA and American Delirium Society Launch New Resource Website.** ANA collaborated with the [American Delirium Society](#) and a work group of content experts to create a website that raises awareness about delirium, a serious but preventable neurological condition, and provides resources to help nurses prevent, identify and treat it. ANA promotes nursing excellence through ethics, standards and best practices. Learning best practices to address delirium is important for ANA and ADS members as well as nurses in all health care settings. Frontline registered nurses work with patients 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and are ideally positioned to drive delirium prevention and treatment. [Learn more here.](#)

**ANA President Responds to USA TODAY Column about Proposed VA APRN Rule.** As you know, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has proposed a rule to allow APRNs to practice to the full extent of their education and training. On June 6, USA TODAY published an extremely negative op-ed about this important development by a physician that accused nurses of “acting like doctors.” In response, President Cipriano sent a letter to the editor that was published this morning in USA TODAY’s Opinion section. [Read it here.](#) USA TODAY edited the letter for space. The original version is attached for your convenience.

As a reminder, the 60-day public comment period on the proposed rule will end on [July 24, 2016](#). We seek your assistance to ensure that the VA receives an overwhelming number of supportive comments to this rule to underscore the important role that **ALL** APRNs play in providing high-quality care to veterans. Please visit www.RNaction.org to submit a public comment today.

**Upcoming Deadline: Vote ANA Leaders to “100 Most Influential” List.** There’s still time to help choose the 100 Most Influential People in Healthcare! ANA President Pam Cipriano and ANA CEO Marla Weston are both nominated for *Modern Healthcare’s* “100 Most Influential People in Healthcare” list. Recognizing nurse leaders in the “Most Influential” rankings is an excellent way to elevate the profession and show how nurses are transforming the health care system.

In addition to voting for Pam and Marla, we encourage you to consider voting for other nurse leaders on the ballot, including: Anne Bavier, National League for Nursing; Nancy Howell Agee, Carilion Clinic; Sister Carol Keenan, Catholic Health Association; Beverly Malone, National League for Nursing; Maureen Swick, American Organization of Nurse Executives; and Marilyn Tavenner, America’s Health Insurance Plans. Please [vote here](#) for the five nominees you believe should make the final list of the "100 Most Influential." Don’t delay: Voting closes June 24.

**Nursing Practice, Education and Research Updates**

**NCSBN Provides Nursys e-Notify Free of Charge to Nurses Wishing to Track Their License Status.** The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) now provides automatic license status quickly, easily, securely, and free of charge to individual nurses who enroll through Nursys e-Notify. This innovative nurse licensure notification system was previously only available to institutions that employ nurses. Nursys is the only national database for licensure verification for registered nurses (RNs), licensed practical/vocational nurses (LPN/VNs) and advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs). Nursys is designated as a primary source equivalent database through a written agreement with participating boards of nursing (BONs). Nursys is live and dynamic, and all updates to the system are reflected immediately. [Enroll today!](#)

**In Conversation With... Barbara Drew, RN, PhD: Alarm Fatigue Research.** “With all these level of alarms—we have crisis, warning, advisory, textual—what would really catch your attention that something was wrong?” She thought about it for a second and she said, "If I came in the unit and everything was quiet—if there were no alarms, no sounds, I would know something was wrong." [Listen to the interview.](#)
Mean girls of the ER: the alarming nurse culture of bullying and hazing. Disruptive behaviors are receiving increased attention as a cultural factor that contributes to medical error. Although much of the focus has been on physicians, the presence of bullying among nurses is also a concern. This magazine article explores nurse behaviors such as withholding information, intimidation, and name calling that negatively affect patient safety and nurse retention. Read the article.

Evidence summary and recommendations for improved communication during care transitions. Transitions are a complicated and vulnerable time for patients, particularly for those with complex care needs. This review examines the literature around care transitions and insights from patient and family advisory councils. The authors recommend standardizing the process for veterans with complex conditions and suggest focus on the use of real-time information exchange, documented care plans, and engaging patients and their families in transitions. Read the article here.

Safety risks associated with physical interactions between patients and caregivers during treatment and care delivery in home care settings: a systematic review. Adverse events are thought to be common in patients receiving home health care. This systematic review defined home care safety risks for both patients and caregivers, including awkward working positions, social distractions, abuse and violence, and other issues that are relatively unique to this care setting. Read the abstract here.

Transformational leadership in nursing and medication safety education: a discussion paper. Leadership has an important role in driving and maintaining change in patient safety. This commentary explores existing evidence and expert consensus to identify four characteristics of transformational leaders in nursing that support sustainable improvement in medication safety. Read the abstract here.

The Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action dashboard has been updated with recent numbers, and also new measures. The biggest shift for the dashboard, which uses graphics and numbers to show progress toward reaching the Campaign goals to improve America's health through nursing, is its new diversity measure. This important factor had been tracked before, but divided among other categories of measurement. Among other updates is a change to workforce data, which now focuses on shifts in supply, demand, and education. Click here to download the dashboard.

Every School Needs a Registered Nurse, States Pediatrics Organization. Every school should have at least one full-time registered nurse, says the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) in its recently updated policy statement. Read the article.

Federal Health Policy Updates

Senate subcommittee approves Labor-HHS funding bill. A Senate appropriations subcommittee today approved legislation that would provide $161.9 billion in base discretionary funding for the departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and related agencies in fiscal year 2017, $270 million less than this year. HHS programs would receive $76.9 billion, $1.4 billion more than in FY 2016, according to a committee summary. Read more here.

Congress sent President Barack Obama a bipartisan bill Tuesday regulating tens of thousands of toxic chemicals. This sweeping bill would, for the first time, regulate tens of thousands of toxic chemicals in everyday products, from household cleaners to clothing and furniture. In a rare display of bipartisanship in an election year, the Senate backed the measure on a voice vote after Republicans and Democrats spoke enthusiastically about the legislation. Backers of the bill said it would clear up a hodgepodge of state rules and update and improve a toxic-chemicals law that has remained unchanged for 40 years. Read the article here.
Senate Republicans appear to be backing away from their push to defund the federal health reform law. Republicans controlling the Senate are abandoning an effort to use their power over the federal purse strings to block implementation of the Affordable Care Act. The more pragmatic approach came Tuesday on a huge $164 billion spending measure and reflects a hope by top Republicans like Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky to remove veto bait from must-pass spending bills in hopes of advancing them more easily with Democratic support. Read the article here.

State Health Policy Updates

403 Candidates File for Fall Election. More than 400 candidates filed nomination papers with the Government Accountability Board (GAB) to get on the ballot in November, according to GAB. The deadline to file nomination papers was 5 p.m. Wednesday, June 1. Among the 16 State Senate and 99 State Representatives races this fall, 39 are running unopposed. The primary election in Wisconsin is Aug. 9. The general election is Nov. 8. Click here for a listing of those individuals who have filed nomination papers.

Democrats Target Prescription Drug Prices. Two Democratic state lawmakers held a press conference Tuesday, along with Citizen Action of Wisconsin, to share a bill draft that seeks to identify highly priced prescription drugs and identify strategies for managing those prices. The bill, drafted by State Rep. Melissa Sargent (D-Madison) and State Rep. Deb Kolste (D-Janesville) would require Office of the Commissioner of Insurance involvement. The 2015-16 legislative session has concluded for the year, so the bill will need to be introduced in the next legislative session, which begins in January 2017. Read the draft bill.

Lawmakers: Delays likely on long-term care changes. Republican lawmakers will likely delay a vote for months on whether to approve GOP Gov. Scott Walker’s plans to overhaul long-term care programs. The Walker administration wants to change how the multibillion-dollar Family Care and IRIS programs are run, shifting them from nonprofit providers to for-profit insurers. Backers argue the new system would save money and provide better care for more than 55,000 elderly and disabled people, while detractors contend there are no guarantees and say vulnerable people could be put at risk by the changes. Read the article here.

Physician groups testified against "Primary Spinal Care Practitioner" certification legislation. On May 24, the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services held an informational hearing on proposal 2015 Senate Bill 762 to create an additional certification for chiropractors that would, among other things, allow prescribing of medications and administration of anesthesia under the direction of a physician. The new certification, known in the legislation as a Primary Spinal Care Practitioner (PSCP), would allow the PSCPs to practice "spinal medicine" after completing an additional 60 hours of instruction and 500 clinical rotation hours beyond their chiropractic training. Wisconsin’s two professional chiropractic groups, the Wisconsin Chiropractic Association (WCA) and the Chiropractic Society of Wisconsin (CSW), had differing views on the proposal. The Legislature is adjourned for the 2015-16 session, therefore SB 762 will not move forward this year.

Kaiser Family Foundation: 74 percent of 2014 overdose deaths in state due to opioids. This percentage is the 13th highest percentage of all 50 states and Washington D.C. View KFF's data.

Report: Wisconsin ranked 13th in the nation on senior health. A report from the United Health Foundation ranks Wisconsin in the upper quarter of states for senior health, but notes the state has fallen six spots since its placement last year. Wisconsin ranked 13th among the nation for senior health in 2016, according to the report released last month. Last year, the report ranked the state 7th. Nationwide, smoking has declined, but the prevalence of diabetes and obesity has increased. The report noted that the state has a high percentage of people receiving health screenings as well as those with diabetes managing their disease. It also had a low prevalence of food insecurity. But the state had a high prevalence of excessive drinking and obesity as well as low flu vaccination coverage. The report noted that in the past year, community support for seniors in poverty also declined from $794 to $579. But smoking rates and preventable hospitalizations decreased during the past three years. Read the report.
Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin awards $20 million to behavioral health initiatives. The Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment is committing nearly $20 million to 10 community coalitions to help improve behavioral health. It’s spreading the funding out over eight years. The coalitions cover 26 counties and are partnering with more than 120 organizations. "The Endowment shifted its focus from 'grantmaker' to 'changemaker' two years ago, and this project is the culmination of a lot of fresh thinking," said Cheryl Maurana, a senior associate dean with the Medical College of Wisconsin and director of the endowment. Read more about the endowment.

ThedaCare and UnitedHealthcare launch accountable care program. ThedaCare and UnitedHealthcare launched an accountable care program last month set to begin July 1 and open to roughly 34,000 people enrolled in employer-sponsored health plans. Under the new program, the two will spend more resources on care coordination and data sharing, including information about emergency room visits and hospital admissions. It aims to help patients manage chronic health conditions and may use patient navigators to help with planning after discharge and schedule follow-ups. Read more.

Wisconsin health systems integrate to form Ascension Wisconsin. Ascension Wisconsin will adopt new model that includes a Northern, Southern region and will install new presidents for both, system says. With the integration, Ascension Wisconsin will include with 27 hospitals and hundreds of sites of care, and employ more than 24,000 associates and nearly 1,000 medical group physicians. In fiscal year 2015, the health systems that now comprise Ascension Wisconsin provided $300 million in community benefit and care of persons living in poverty. Read the article.

Patient Safety and Quality

About the Zika Virus: Planning Resources. The intent of these planning resource documents is to enhance healthcare coalition and healthcare system preparedness and response to a domestic Zika virus disease outbreak by highlighting some of the anticipated hospital, primary and outpatient care, and social service resource needs essential to caring for affected adults and children. Read more.

E coli gene that can spread antibiotic resistance discovered in U.S. patient. The Department of Defense’s Multidrug-resistant Organism Repository and Surveillance Network has identified the first bacteria in the U.S. with a gene that confers resistance to colistin, an antibiotic used to treat multidrug-resistant infections. Read the article.

Medical Errors Unseat Respiratory Disease as Third Leading Cause of Death. A study conducted by Johns Hopkins researchers estimates that 250,000 Americans die annually due to medical errors, nearly 100,000 more than those who die of respiratory disease. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) currently still states that respiratory disease is the third leading cause of death in the nation. Read the article here.

Health Literacy and Palliative Care: Workshop Summary (2016). The Institute of Medicine Roundtable on Health Literacy convened a 1-day public workshop to explore the relationship between palliative care and health literacy, and the importance of health literate communication in providing high-quality delivery of palliative care. Health Literacy and Palliative Care summarizes the discussions that occurred throughout the workshop and highlights the key lessons presented, practical strategies, and the needs and opportunities for improving health literacy in the United States. Read the workshop summary.

Applying an Implementation Science Approach to Genomic Medicine: Workshop Summary (2016). Although it is becoming increasingly more common for clinicians to use genomic data in their practices for disease prevention, diagnosis, and treatment, the process of integrating genomic data into the practice of medicine has been a slow and challenging one. Some of the major barriers impeding the incorporation of new genomic technology into clinical practice are: the difficulty of changing routine medical practices to account for the use of genetic testing, the limited knowledge of patients and providers about genomic medicine, assessing sufficient evidence to support the use of genetic tests, privacy and data security issues, and uncertainty about reimbursement. Read the workshop summary.
AHRQ Program Reduces Urinary Tract Infections in Hospitals. Approximately 250,000 catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTIs) occur in hospitals each year, costing about $250 million. CAUTIs, which are among the most common healthcare-associated infections (HAIs), are largely preventable. Stopping HAIs spares patients an infection that can have serious complications, such as bloodstream infection. It also reduces the need for antibiotics, which decreases the chance that bacteria will develop resistance to these life-saving medications. Read the report here.

AHRQ Releases Success Stories Shown to Help Engage Patients and Families in Primary Care – includes Bellin Health System of Wisconsin. New success stories from AHRQ’s patient and family engagement project, Guide to Improving Patient Safety in Primary Care Settings by Engaging Patients and Families, provide demonstrated experience for improving patient safety in primary care. Read the case studies here. To learn more about AHRQ’s patient and family engagement in primary care, click here.

Transforming Health Care: A Compendium of Reports from the National Patient Safety Foundation’s Lucian Leape Institute. Since 2010, the Lucian Leape Institute has explored five key areas to transform health care. This compendium combines the findings of five reports published between 2010 and 2015 to help foster leadership awareness of the changes needed to achieve lasting patient safety improvement. Read the compendium here.

Opportunities

Adverse Events, Near Misses, and Errors. The terms adverse events, near misses, and medical errors are used in patient safety to refer to events where patients were harmed (or easily could have been). This Patient Safety Primer defines these terms and related concepts. Read about the terms.

Measurement of Patient Safety. Measuring patient safety is a complex and evolving field, and achieving accurate and reliable measurement strategies remains a challenge for the safety field. This Patient Safety Primer reviews several of the common measurement strategies used in the safety field. Read the review.

AHA, CDC issue patient education resource on prescription opioids. The AHA and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention today released a one-page resource to help hospital patients who may be prescribed opioids before discharge discuss the risks and benefits of these medications with their health care provider. View the resource document.

ONC issues patient portal engagement tool, videos. The Department of Health and Human Services’ Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology today released a “Patient Engagement Playbook” tool to help health care practices, hospital administrators, and others use patient portals to engage patients in their health and care. View the playbook.

Promoted Upcoming Events

Wisconsin Section, American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. August 5-6, 2016 2016 Annual Conference – “Back to Basics” Blue Harbor Resort, Sheboygan, WI Approved for 10.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™
**Hospital Staff Educator, MC160505.** In 2016, Marshfield Clinic, one of the largest patient care, research & educational systems in the United States, will celebrate 100 years of innovation and clinical excellence! There has never been a better time to join us!

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**Occupational Health Nurse / RN.** (Part-Time, 30 hours/week – benefit eligible)

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