

Nursing update



Listening and (My) Learning

Via Christi's annual learning requirements contain important and potentially life-saving information. However, Nursing leaders have received consistent feedback that going through online modules of information already learned was time-consuming and repetitive.

If you haven't yet gone to complete your annual learning, you're in for a pleasant surprise: You can now skip learning modules **if you can pass the pre-test**. "You shared, we listened," says Carla Yost, system chief nursing officer.

Bedside shift report helping engage patients

It's been exactly a year since Via Christi launched bedside shift reporting – an initiative that has led to a change in culture as well as in practice and greater patient engagement. Just ask Sandy Heiman, RN, who along with Cheryl French, RN, were doing shift report when their patient on 5SE asked, "How many years of experience do you two have?"

While Cheryl typically introduces Sandy, who celebrated her 40th Via Christi service anniversary last year, and tells patients they collectively have more than 60 years working together, it was the first time they'd been asked that particular question. The answer, to the patient's delight, was 66.

It's that type of patient engagement and interaction at the bedside that helps build trust and confidence in their care, says Sandy. "It relaxes them and helps them think about something else besides their illness and being in the hospital. It also helps them share concerns or correct anything that may not be right and to be involved."

Well-deserved recognition

Three Via Christi nurses are among an impressive group of healthcare providers being recognized at this year's Wichita Business Journal Healthcare Heroes.

Kris Hill, RN, chief nursing officer at St. Francis, and Lyn Pitman, RN, oncology navigator, are among the Nursing honorees, and Ruth Hommertzheim, RN, who serves as the clinical nurse specialist for the NewLife Center, is being honored in the Healthcare Educator category. They will be among those recognized at an Aug. 3 awards dinner at the Hyatt Regency. Additionally, a profile of what makes them exceptional will be published in the Business Journal the following day.

Other Via Christi 2017 Healthcare Heroes include Via Christi's Medical Mission at Home for Community Outreach; Jacques Blackman, MD, Physicians; Lee Spalding, Healthcare Volunteers; Via Christi Outpatient Pharmacy, Pharmacy; and Ely Bartal, MD, Kansas Surgery & Recovery administrator, for Lifetime Achievement.