



## Kentucky Board of Nursing

### Programs of Nursing Update

October 2007

Questions? Contact: Patty Spurr, Education Consultant @ 502-429-3333; Patricia.Spurr@ky.gov

### Graduation Honor Cords from NSNA



NSNA Graduation Cords

NSNA has developed graduation cords available for purchase. The blue and white cords, now with a distinctive charm that displays the NSNA logo, can be worn with other honor cords. By using these cords, you indicate your participation and commitment to nurses and nursing students in your chapter and in professional organizations. Graduation cords are \$10.00 each (not including shipping and handling) and will only be sold in bulk to schools of nursing. A portion of each purchase goes to support the scholarship fund. A minimum of 10 cords must be ordered. Orders must be placed as a group for each school. Individual cords will only be sold during the Mid-Year Conference and Annual Convention. Available at: <http://www.nсна.org/foundation/fundraiser.asp>

### Student Nurse Errors Circumstantial *(published in Advance for Nurses 10.18.07)*

Student nurses are an important part of the patient care team and can enrich patients' experiences during hospitalization; however, some circumstances may increase the chance of their involvement in medication errors. The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) has analyzed medication errors by student nurses, and discovered that a distinct set of error-prone conditions or medications can make mistakes involving students more likely. The Institute's findings were published in the Oct. 18, 2007 issue of the newsletter *ISMP Medication Safety Alert!*

Some student-related errors are similar in origin to those that involve seasoned licensed healthcare professionals, including misinterpreting abbreviations and misidentifying drugs due to look-alike packages or labels. But by examining data from the U.S. Pharmacopeia-ISMP Medication Error Reporting Program and the Pennsylvania Patient Safety Reporting Program, ISMP found a significant number of other errors stem from more system-related problems, some of which are unique to environments where students and hospital staff are caring together for patients.

One major system problem is the duality of patient assignments; patients assigned to student nurses are also assigned to staff nurses. Although this policy is necessary, it makes communication breakdowns regarding who will administer which prescribed medications and when more likely. Communication between students, nursing instructors, and staff needs to be planned carefully to ensure that safety issues are taken into consideration. Data also shows insulin is among the most frequent drugs involved in student nurse-related errors, particularly with omitting doses, selecting the wrong type of insulin, administering the wrong sliding-scale coverage, and administering insulin to the wrong patient.

Nursing instructors and students should treat insulin as a high-alert medication and observe all safeguards in place to prevent errors, including a double check of all insulin doses by a staff nurse before administration. An abbreviated list of other conditions that promote student nurse-related errors is provided below.

**Nonstandard Times** - Medications scheduled for administration during nonstandard or less commonly used times, particularly early in the morning, are prone to student dose omissions.

**Documentation Issues** - With both staff nurses and students administering medications to the same patients, dose omissions or extra doses have been administered because students or staff nurses have not properly documented or reviewed prior documentation of drug administration.

**MARs Unavailable or Not Referenced** - Students may not consistently use the patient's medication administration record (MAR) to guide the preparation of medications, and may not bring it consistently to the bedside for reference when administering medications.

**Partial Drug Administration** - Students may not be administering all of the prescribed medications to assigned patients, particularly IV medications that they may not be permitted to administer. This can lead to missed doses due to confusion about who is responsible for administration of a medication.

**Held or Discontinued Medications** - Students have not known or understood the organization's processes for holding and discontinuing medications and have administered drugs that have been placed on hold or discontinued.

**Monitoring Issues** - Students may not be aware that vital signs and/or lab values should be checked before administering certain medications.

**Non-Specific Doses Administered Dispensed** - Student nurses have administered excessive doses when they expected the drug to be provided in a patient-specific dose, but pharmacy had dispensed a larger dose or quantity.

**Oral Liquids in Parenteral Solutions** - Preparation of oral or enteral solutions in parenteral syringes has led to students accidentally administering these products by the IV route.

**Preparing Drugs for Multiple Patients** - Student nurses have given medications to the wrong patient, particularly when they prepared more than one patient's medications at a time and brought medications for two or more patients into a room.

#### **ISMP RECOMMENDATIONS**

ISMP recommends each practice site hosting student nurses meet with the clinical instructors who will be supervising the students. The organization's medication administration procedures and specific error-prone conditions that exist during clinical rotations should be reviewed, along with system-level safety nets designed to reduce these risks, and safety practices that students and faculty should adopt to further enhance patient safety.

Nursing instructors should be asked to describe error-prone conditions they have observed in addition to those listed above, and invited to attend orientation programs that cover the organization's safety goals so they can reinforce related safe practices during rotations.

## **Education Regulation Update**

As you are well aware, the Educational regulations for Kentucky have been receiving an overhaul. The following educational regulations went into effect on October 18, 2007. The final versions are being formatted in Frankfort and copies will be forwarded as soon as they are available. We will hold informational sessions in the Spring to review the new regulations and the changes that will impact each nursing program. In January 2008 at the Education Committee an agenda item will be for the discussion as to when each regulation will be enforced during visits.

<b>201KAR</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Effective/Last Revision Dates</b>		<b>Effective Date</b>
<b>20:250</b>	Definitions/ RN-LPN prelicensure programs of nursing	6/4/85	0/17/93	Repealed 10/18/2007
<b>20:280</b>	Standards for prelicensure RN/LPN programs	6/4/85	01/15/03	10/18/2007
<b>20:300</b>	Standards for prelicensure experimental programs of			Repealed

	nursing	6/4/85		10/18/2007
<b>20:310</b>	Faculty for prelicensure RN/LPN programs	7/9/85	4/11/03	10/18/2007
<b>20:320</b>	Standards for curriculum of prelicensure RN/LPN programs (Updated to include both RN & PN)	6/4/85	8/20/03	10/18/2007
<b>20:330</b>	Standards for curriculum of prelicensure LPN programs	6/4/85	8/20/03	Repealed 10/18/2007
<b>20:340</b>	Students in prelicensure RN/LPN programs	6/4/85		10/18/2007
<b>20:350</b>	Education facilities and resources for prelicensure RN/LPN programs	6/4/85		10/18/2007

Due to public feedback, the remaining four regulations were sent back to the Board for additional discussion. Each is still in process and additional details will be shared as available.

<b>201KAR</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
<b>20:260</b>	<b>Organization &amp; administration standards for prelicensure programs of nursing</b>	<b>11/17/2000</b>
<b>20:270</b>	<b>Programs of nursing surveys</b>	<b>11/06/1987</b>
<b>20:290</b>	<b>Standards for prelicensure RN/LPN extension programs</b>	<b>11/06/1987</b>
<b>20:360</b>	<b>Evaluation of prelicensure RN/LPN programs</b>	<b>11/06/1987</b>

## Time Off

Due to personal illness issues (nothing serious), I will be off the month of November. If you have questions, please direct them to Lila Hicks at [lilaa.hicks@ky.gov](mailto:lilaa.hicks@ky.gov) and she will handle or route accordingly.

	
<i>Happy Halloween!!</i>	<i>Happy Turkey Day!</i>



KENTUCKY BOARD OF NURSING  
312 WHITTINGTON PARKWAY, SUITE 300  
LOUISVILLE, KY 40222



**2<sup>nd</sup> Kentucky Nurse Educator Conference: Making A Difference!**  
**May 17, 2008**

***Call for Proposals***

**Introduction**

Kentucky programs of nursing are filled with talented educators and the Kentucky Conference wants to celebrate how we make a difference in our student's lives. Share your knowledge and experience with your fellow faculty members from across the state. The program will be held at the Carroll Knicely Center in Bowling Green, KY.

Faculty members from across the state are invited to submit a proposal for a concurrent session or poster presentation. Focused areas for proposals include:

- Working with students
- Teaching strategies
- Evaluation/assessment strategies
- Curriculum development
- PDA Use in Education
- Preparing for the CNE
- Use of simulations
- On-line learning/teaching strategies

The standard session will be 50 minutes in length with the potential for a session running across two time periods. Proposals should be submitted electronically no later than: **January 15, 2008**.

**Call for Presentations/Posters**

Educators are encouraged to develop proposals that describe innovative and practical applications of knowledge and/ or skills for the education of nursing students.

**Submission Guidelines:**

Prepare a narrative or outline format of the concurrent session presentation. The order of the content includes:

- Title of the session: Concurrent Session or Poster
- Speaker(s) names (include primary contact person and contact information including e-mail)
- If concurrent session: Teaching Methods to be used such as lecture, discussion, case study, etc.
- Objective(s)
- Level of intended audience: Basic, Intermediate, Advanced, General
- Focused areas of presentation:
  - Working with students
  - Teaching strategies
  - Evaluation/assessment strategies
  - Curriculum development
  - PDA Use in Education
  - Preparing for the CNE
  - Use of simulations
  - On-line learning/teaching strategies

- One paragraph description of the session to be used in the development of the brochure announcing the conference. (25-40 words)
- Duration of presentation: 50 or 100 minutes
- A proposal no longer than one page in length; double spaced; 10-12 size font

**Submit the proposal electronically to: patricia.spurr@ky.gov. Submissions must be received no later than January 15, 2008.**