

- from the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC):
- o Obtain directly from the AOC web site (www.kycourts.com) or
 - o Send a paper request to AOC using the form located on the KBN website (www.kbn.ky.gov/license/aocform.htm).
3. Continuing Competency requirements

Remember, you CANNOT practice as an RN, LPN, ARNP, or SANE in Kentucky if your license has lapsed.

RECENT CHANGES TO KENTUCKY NURSING LAWS

Effective September 1, 2010, applicants who wish to use a paper application must submit a request form along with a \$40 paper application fee.

This fee applies to RN and LPN applicants for licensure by examination, endorsement, or reinstatement, as well as retirement applicants.

The fee must be received with the request form before an application will be mailed. The \$40 fee is in addition to the application fee.

STATE AND FEDERAL BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR ALL LICENSEES

In the 2010 legislative session, the nursing law expanded KBN's ability to obtain state and federal criminal background checks on applicants.

STATE BACKGROUND CHECKS: Criminal history reports from AOC will be required for applicants for an ARNP license and a SANE credential. This requirement will be implemented beginning January 1, 2011.

FEDERAL BACKGROUND CHECKS: KBN will soon begin fingerprinting all nurses seeking licensure in Kentucky. This process will be phased in beginning January 1, 2011.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS AND THE SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY

by **Nathan Goldman**, *General Counsel* and **Charlotte Beason, Ed.D., RN, NEA**, *Executive Director*

The mission of the Kentucky Board of Nursing is the protection of the public from unsafe or incompetent nurses. One way the Board accomplishes this mission is by investigating complaints against nurses. Annually, the Board reviews over 1,600 complaints. Through this process, the Board has seen an increase in the number of nurses and applicants for licensure with criminal convictions. In light of this upward trend and in keeping with its mission of public protection, the Board determined that it is in the best interests of the public to conduct criminal background checks (CBC). HB 179, which was passed during the 2010 General Assembly, gave the KBN this authority. By taking this step, the KBN joined a growing number of nursing and other regulatory boards across the country that require this additional security measure. The KBN staff will implement the CBC process in phases and nurses as well as dialysis technicians will be informed prior to any changes that may affect their credentials.

Two databases are available for

criminal background checks. The first is through the Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts. It is known as CourtNet. This database contains criminal convictions in all Kentucky courts and can be accessed by name, date of

birth, and social security number. The Board currently utilizes CourtNet in all investigations. It is also used for applicants for licensure by examination and reinstatement. However, one drawback to CourtNet is its limitation to actions taken ONLY within the state.

The FBI's National Crime Information Center (NCIC) contains information from across the United States and is ac-

cessed through fingerprints. The Board has been utilizing this database for applicants for licensure by endorsement and, as stated earlier, will now begin to expand fingerprinting and use of the NCIC over time.

Another specialized database that is utilized by the Board is the National Sex Offender Registry which is maintained by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing. The Board checks all licensees against the Sex Offender Registry at regular intervals.

It should be noted that these data-

continued on page 18 >>

bases are tools which are not final evidence of a conviction. Anytime there is a match of a licensee to information recorded in any database, there is a procedure to follow. If the search was conducted as a result of an application, the applicant is required to report the conviction and to provide a certified copy of the court record and a letter of explanation. All criminal convictions are reviewed to determine if further action is warranted. Some minor convictions are filed away as not posing a threat to public safety. Others may be investigated more fully and some action may be taken on the application. The nurse or applicant will be fully informed at all steps along the process.

Anyone who has questions regarding criminal background checks can contact the board via email (kbnwebmaster@ky.gov).

If you embrace the mission of superior care, we want you on our team.



- Competitive Salaries
- Clinical Ladder Program
- Self Scheduling
- Shared Governance Model
- On-site Childcare
- On-site Health Club
- Employee Wellness Program
- Scholarship Programs
- Clinical Information System
- State-of-the-art Surgical Center and Women's Pavilion
- daVinci Surgical Robot
- Remote Presence Stroke Robot

At Methodist, we are committed to superior patient care. Visit our website to learn more about working with us.



www.methodisthospital.net ● 270-827-7540 ● Henderson, KY 42420

the education you need for the career you want.

Earn your **Practical Nursing** associate degree in just 15 months.



ata
COLLEGE

LEARN WELL. LIVE WELL.

www.ata.edu

Medical Assisting
 Medical Office Assisting
 Medical Coding
Practical Nursing
 Dental Assisting
 Limited Medical Radiography
 Medical Laboratory Technician
 Phlebotomy

CALL TODAY!

371.8327
www.ata.edu

Accredited by Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools

Developmentally Approved by KBN

Financial aid available to those who qualify

10180 Linn Station Rd., Louisville



SAFE EXAM COMPLIANCE TOOLKITS & TRAINING NOW AVAILABLE

by **MaryLee Underwood, JD, BSW**, Staff Attorney, Kentucky Assn. of Sexual Assault Programs (KASAP)

Hospitals are now required by law to provide Sexual Assault Forensic-Medical (SAFE) Exams to victims who seek treatment, but do not want to report to law enforcement officials. To support hospitals in complying with these new legal mandates, Kentucky's Sexual Assault Response Team Advisory Committee has developed resources and training that are now available from the Kentucky Association of Sexual Assault Programs (502-226-2704 or munderwood@kasap.org).

RESOURCES

- **SAFE Exam Toolkit Compliance Guide** - Includes sample policies and procedures, forms, and related resources.
- **SAFE Exam Supply Toolkit** - Includes a Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit (SAECK) and other supplies needed for a SAFE Exam. Each hospital will be provided one kit. Each hospital will be responsible for restocking necessary supplies. SAFE Exam Supply Toolkits will be distributed through

regional training events (listed below).

TRAINING

- **SAFE Exam Compliance Training** - Addresses fundamental medical and legal issues for hospital leaders, especially Emergency Department Managers, Chief Nursing Officers, Risk Managers, and Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners. Nurses will receive 2.5 continuing education credits, at no cost. Contact Melissa Edlin (502-689-2744 or melissa.edlin@kasap.org) for registration instructions. Training will be provided at no cost to recipients, but pre-registration is required.
 - o **Paducah:** 9/22/10, 8:30-11:00 am (CT), McCracken Co. Cooperative Extension Office, 2705 Olivet Church Rd.
 - o **Madisonville:** 9/22/10, 2:00-4:30 pm (CT), Hopkins Co. Extension Office, 75 Cornwall St.
 - o **Owensboro:** 9/23/10, 8:30-11:00 am (CT), Daviess Co. Cooperative Extension,

- 4800 New Hartford Rd.
- o **Elizabethtown:** 9/23/10, 2:30-5:00 pm (EST), Elizabethtown Tourism & Convention Bureau, 1030 North Mulberry St.
- o **Glasgow:** 9/30/10, 9:00-11:30 am (CT), Barren Co. Cooperative Extension, 1463 West Main St.
- o **London:** 10/4/10, 8:30-11:00 am (EST), Laurel Co. Extension Office, 200 County Extension Rd.
- o **Prestonsburg:** 10/4/10, 2:00-4:30 pm (EST), Floyd Co. Extension Office, 921 South Lake Dr.
- o **Paris:** 10/5/10, 8:30-11:00 am (EST), Bourbon Co. Extension Office, 603 Millersburg Rd.
- o **Morehead:** 10/5/10, 2:00-4:30 pm (EST), Rowan Co. Court House, 627 East Main St.

If you have any questions, please contact the Kentucky Hospital Association (502-426-6220 or kdees@kha.com) or the Kentucky Association of Sexual Assault Programs (502-226-2704 or munderwood@kasap.org).

A PLACE YOU CAN CALL HOME ...

CAMBRIDGE PLACE

Cambridge Place provides resident directed care and respects resident choices. Our residents enjoy a clean, sociable and comfortable environment. If you honor this type of environment then Cambridge Place may be the right fit for you in making your next career move. We have active employee appreciation programs and our caregivers interact daily with our residents. In other words ... we are family here. Ask a resident about our lovely facility or ask a caregiver. Now is a great time to join our team.

RN/LPN:

Various Shifts Available.

Accepting applications for Nurses..

Flexible schedules including 12 hr, 16 hr shifts

The facility accepts applications for all departments, M-F, 8am-5pm

Apply at: 2020 Cambridge Drive,
Lexington, KY 40504
email: admincambridge@insightbb.com
EOE

Opportunity

University Hospital

A proud member of  Health Care

University Hospital is a state-of-the-art, 404 bed acute care facility, providing a full range of diagnostic, therapeutic, emergency, and surgical services, including the area's only Level I Trauma Center. As the primary adult teaching hospital for the UofL Health Sciences Center, we train the next generation of health care professionals.

Please contact **Human Resources at 502-562-3156** for information on openings for RN's or visit our web site at **www.UofLHealthcare.org** for a list of openings.



PSYCHIATRIC NURSE PRACTITIONER

Kentucky River Community Care, Inc., a private, non-profit, Community Mental Health Center in the beautiful mountains of Eastern Kentucky, is seeking a qualified candidate for a unique opportunity. This position will provide clinical care in an outpatient setting.

If you're interested in: Joining an established agency, with over 30 years experience; Becoming part of a dynamic mental health team in eight counties; Working in an innovative environment; Competitive salary and benefits; Application for loan repayment through the National Health Service Corps

Please send letter of interest and resume or CV to: Human Resources Department, Kentucky River Community Care, Inc., PO Box 794, Jackson, KY 41339

Kentucky River Community Care, Inc., (KRCC) is a private, nonprofit Community Mental Health Center dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of the people of our region. We help individuals and families in the eight counties of the Kentucky River region by providing mental health, developmental disabilities, substance abuse and trauma services. KRCC seeks to promote public safety, boost economic wellbeing and improve community and individual quality of life.

Please be sure to include the position to which you are inquiring about. EOE/AA.



What do You want out of life?

www.spalding.edu • facebook.com/spaldinguniversity

Spalding University now offers a BSN program in an evening/weekend format to accommodate working and/or second degree students.

- *Earn your BSN in 22 months attending evenings and weekends*

- *Only school of nursing in the area to accommodate working individuals*

- *Receive individual attention with our low clinical faculty to student ratio*

Join us for the annual Conboy Lectureship, November 2nd, featuring Dr. Linda Aiken. Call 502-585-7125 for tickets and more information.

Over 75 Years of Nursing Excellence
For more information contact:
(502) 585-7125
nursing@spalding.edu



“The faculty was very helpful and interested in guiding me, which was not the case with other schools. Spalding will prepare me to be a quality nurse, and do so in a caring manner. I am so happy with my decision.”

Jennifer Jones
2nd Degree Accelerated BSN Student



DISCIPLINARY Actions

Since the publication of the spring edition of the *KBN Connection*, the Board has taken the following actions related to disciplinary matters as authorized by the *Kentucky Nursing Laws*. A report that contains a more extensive list of disciplinary actions is available on the KBN website (<http://kbn.ky.gov/conprotect/investdiscp/disciplinary.htm>). If you need additional information, contact KBN's Consumer Protection Branch at 502-429-3300.

IMMEDIATE TEMPORARY SUSPENSION RETRACTED

Moser, Patricia L. Fitzgerald	RN License #1100708	Carrollton, KY	ITS 3/30/2010
-------------------------------	---------------------	----------------	---------------

LICENSE/CREDENTIAL DENIED

Douglas, Julliette	LPN Applicant/Endorsement	Imperial, MO	Eff. 7/2/2010
Kieser, David	RN Applicant/Endorsement	Cincinnati, OH	Eff. 8/19/2010
Meade, Randall Jason	LPN Applicant/Endorsement	Huddy, KY	Eff. 9/16/2010

LICENSE/CREDENTIAL DENIED REINSTATEMENT

Gast, Gregory James	RN License #1088237; ARNP App	Lawrenceburg, IN	Eff. 7/2/2010
---------------------	-------------------------------	------------------	---------------

IMMEDIATE TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF LICENSE/CREDENTIAL

Abbott, Amy Michelle Linville	RN License #1079701	Somerset, KY	Eff. 7/8/2010
Beckett, Jonna Nicole	LPN License #2043522	Dunlow, WV	Eff. 8/5/2010
Bolin, Sharon Lynn Dyer	LPN License #2026552	Jeffersonville, KY	Eff. 9/22/2010
Chapman, Linda Sue Stevens	RN License #1085350	Noctor, KY	Eff. 7/8/2010
Jean, Phito M.	LPN License #2045086	Orange Park, FL	Eff. 7/2/2010
Milam, Tracy	RN License #1120177	Charlotte, NC	Eff. 7/8/2010
Rayburn, Amber Jo Dummitt	LPN License #2041326	Berea, KY	Eff. 9/8/2010
Rodriquez, Shannon Phillips	RN License #1120783	Science Hill, KY	Eff. 7/16/2010
Royse, Elizabeth Elaine Thomas	LPN License #2022502	Clearwater, FL	Eff. 7/9/2010
Shields, Thomas Bernard	RN License #1121408; ARNP #6167-P	Franklin, KY	Eff. 9/22/2010

IMPORTANT LICENSURE INFORMATION

Renewing Your License: The licensure renewal period ends at midnight (Eastern Time) October 31, 2010. Failure to renew will require a reinstatement application with different criminal history requirements.

Reinstating Your License: Beginning April 1, 2010, all reinstatement applicants must submit a criminal history report obtained from the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC). This may delay your reinstatement by up to 10 business days.

LICENSE/CREDENTIAL IMMEDIATELY SUSPENDED OR DENIED REINSTATEMENT FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH BOARD ORDER; STAYED SUSPENSION IMPLEMENTED OR TERMINATION FROM THE KARE PROGRAM

Bowen, Debby S. Woodside	LPN License #2039729	Lexington, KY	Eff. 8/9/2010
Brown, Jenny Lynn White	RN License #1107708	Rockfield, KY	Eff. 8/13/2010
Browning, Mary Beth	RN License #1108999	Homewood, AL	Eff. 8/13/2010
Craft, Lisa Carol Lamm	RN License #1077294	Hopkinsville, KY	Eff. 7/2/2010
Curtis, Charice Osborn	RN License #1122229	Evansville, IN	Eff. 8/9/2010
Elswick, Thomas	RN License #1101624	Burdine, KY	Eff. 8/20/2010
Ford, Rhonda Sue West	LPN License #2026992	Mayfield, KY	Eff. 7/2/2010
Goodson, Patricia Ann	LPN License #2031258	Prestonsburg, KY	Eff. 8/16/2010
Gwinn, Georgia A.	RN License #1020658	Louisville, KY	Eff. 7/2/2010
Hobgood, Kelley Leigh Wilkins	LPN License #2039713	Central City, KY	Eff. 9/1/2010
Justice, Derek Charles	RN License #1093007	Lexington, KY	Eff. 8/9/2010
King, Gladys Gay Young	RN License #1105866	Danville, KY	Eff. 9/8/2010

Knowland, Jacqueline Lorriane	LPN License #2024254	Fairdale, KY	Eff. 8/16/2010
McGee, Jeffrey Scott	RN License #1065563; ARNP #2455	Louisville, KY	Eff. 8/9/2010
Miniard, Nedra Lee Duvall	RN License #1076329	Lexington, KY	Eff. 8/16/2010
Thomas, Jeffrey O.	LPN License #2028634	Bowling Green, KY	Eff. 7/8/2010
Todd, Bridgette Rene Beason	LPN License #2036197	Louisville, KY	Eff. 9/15/2010
Warrick, Larry Daniel	RN License #1080353	Nicholasville, KY	Eff. 9/1/2010
Wells, Edward Anthony	LPN License #2030472	Louisville, KY	Eff. 8/16/2010
Wyrick, Jennifer B. Barker	RN License #1111467	Hazard, KY	Eff. 9/15/2010

LICENSE/CREDENTIAL SUSPENDED

Crumbaker, Penelope Anne Dame	RN License #1082943	Owensboro, KY	Eff. 8/20/2010
McKenzie, Jeffrey Calvin	RN License #1041928	Cincinnati, OH	Eff. 9/16/2010
Sutton, Laura Ann Heaverin	LPN License #2029591	Louisville, KY	Eff. 9/16/2010

LICENSE/CREDENTIAL VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED

Brophy, Amber Beth Kiskaden	RN License #1117035	Maysville, KY	Eff. 9/21/2010
Brown, Bridget N. Bryant	LPN License #2025660	Louisville, KY	Eff. 7/13/2010
Davis, Aja Renae Frank	LPN License #2032520	Corydon, IN	Eff. 9/21/2010
Faris, Julie A.	RN License #1106872; LPN License #2038152	Nicholasville, KY	Eff. 9/21/2010
Oakley, Matthew Wayne	RN License #1095356	Gilbertsville, KY	Eff. 8/4/2010
Schwartz, Elliot	RN License #1109455; ARNP# 4896-A	Tuscaloosa, Al	Eff. 7/13/2010
Suding, Laura Holman	RN License #1118851	Magnolia, KY	Eff. 8/20/2010

LICENSE/CREDENTIAL TO BE REINSTATED LIMITED-PROBATED

Akers, Ralph S.	RN License #1102496	Farmington, KY	Eff. 9/21/2010
Lucas, Kathy L. Hehman	RN License #1057760	Newport, KY	Eff. 9/21/2010
Vincent, Cheriee Massey	RN License #1108368	Oakland, KY	Eff. 8/20/2010
Winder, Rebecca Sue Adams	RN License #1087990	Louisville, KY	Eff. 8/20/2010

LICENSE/CREDENTIAL LIMITED-PROBATED

Charlton, Holly	RN License #1099014	Wingo, KY	Eff. 8/25/2010
Roby, Jennifer Lea Rednour	LPN License #2043023	Mt. Washington, KY	Eff. 8/20/2010

LICENSE/CREDENTIAL ISSUED ON LIMITATION/PROBATION

Trice, Lawrence M.	LPN Applicant/Endorsement	Cincinnati, OH	Eff. 7/13/2010
--------------------	---------------------------	----------------	----------------

LICENSE/CREDENTIAL REPRIMANDED

Bowlds, Rebecca Sue Ready	LPN License #2029013	Magnolia, KY	Eff. 7/13/2010
Bowles, Sharon C. Coomer	RN License #1099913; LPN License #2030120	Taylorsville, KY	Eff. 9/21/2010
Brittingham, Tera Joyner	LPN License #2043897	New Albany, IN	Eff. 7/13/2010
Cullen, William Carter	RN License #1079147	Madisonville, KY	Eff. 8/4/2010
Hatfield, Misty Dawn Konopka	RN License #1088527	Sturgis, KY	Eff. 7/13/2010
Jefferies, Tracey Lynn Highbaugh	RN License #1092122	Sonora, KY	Eff. 8/26/2010
Kraft, Lani M.	RN License #1103037	Evansville, IN	Eff. 9/21/2010
Oliver, Myra Lyons	RN License #1071280	Campton, KY	Eff. 7/13/2010
Price, Mick Demian	RN License #1111967	Louisville, KY	Eff. 8/25/2010
Pyzik-Harmon, Terri M.	RN License #1074031	Inez, KY	Eff. 8/26/2010

CONSENT DECREES ENTERED FISCAL YEAR TO DATE

Imposition of civil penalty for practice without a current active license, temporary work permit, or ARNP registration	1
Imposition of civil penalty for falsification of an application for licensure	1
Imposition of civil penalty for failure to meet mandatory continuing education requirement.....	17
Imposition of civil penalty for a positive drug screen.....	5

LICENSES REMOVED FROM PROBATION FISCAL YEAR TO DATE	2
--	----------

KENTUCKY ALTERNATIVE RECOVERY EFFORT (KARE) PROGRAM GRADUATES FISCAL YEAR TO DATE	4
--	----------



Elder & Good, PLLC
ELDER & GOOD, PLLC

NURSE LICENSE DEFENSE

Put our experience to work for you

We provide comprehensive legal representation for nurses with issues before the Kentucky Board of Nursing; you benefit from our combined insight as former Medical Board litigation lawyer and seasoned defense attorney.



L. Chad Elder
celder@eldergood.com



Brian R. Good
bgood@eldergood.com

BOARD INVESTIGATIONS • BOARD APPLICATION ISSUES • FORMAL BOARD COMPLAINTS
DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS & APPEALS • HOSPITAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS
CRIMINAL DEFENSE



Elder & Good, PLLC
159 St. Matthews Avenue, Suite 1
Louisville, Kentucky 40207
p 502.365.2800 • f 502.365.2801
www.eldergood.com

AUDIT

Q: I was selected for the CE audit last year. I have friends that have been in nursing for many years but have never been selected. Why did I receive an audit letter and they did not?

A: Nurses receiving CE audit letters are chosen by random selection. The number of years one has been in nursing has nothing to do with the selection process.

Q: What will happen if I am audited, and I do not have the required contact hours?

A: You will be asked to earn the required hours and submit copies of the CE certificates to KBN along with a letter of explanation as to why these hours were earned late. Once this documentation is received and accepted by KBN, you will be allowed to enter into a Consent Decree with KBN and pay the required fine. If you refuse to earn the late hours and/or pay the fine, your records and audit response will be forwarded to the Investigation and Discipline Section of the Consumer Protection Branch for initiation of disciplinary action.

GENERAL CE/COMPETENCY

Q: I understand there have been changes to the CE regulations and I will now be required to renew my license for one year rather than two. I am confused as to the earning period. What is the present earning period for Kentucky nurses?

A: Nurses are required to earn 14 contact hours or the equivalent within the yearly earning period of November 1 through October 31. You may wish to view the CE brochure available on the KBN website (www.kbn.ky.gov) for additional earning information.

Q: My friend refers to the continuing education hours she earns as CEUs. I notice that you refer to them as contact hours. What is the difference in a CEU and a contact hour?

A: Contact hours refer to the stated amount of time an individual was present during a course. One contact hour is equal to 50 minutes of clock time.

Continuing Education Unit (CEU) is the term used as the unit of measurement by colleges and universities to designate 10 contact hours. The terms contact hour and CEU cannot be used interchangeably. Kentucky and most nursing continuing education providers require offerings to be determined in contact hours.

Q: This is my first renewal of my Kentucky nursing license. Am I required to earn CE hours for this renewal?

A: All nurses are exempt from earning CE hours for their first Kentucky renewal. This is true for nurses licensed by examination or by endorsement from another state. If the nurse fails to renew the original license, the exemption is lost and all CE requirements must be met before the license can be reinstated.

Q: Is it true that I can use an employment evaluation for part of my CE hours?

A: Yes. A satisfactory employment evaluation or competency validation for your position as a nurse, that covers at least six months of the earning period, can be used for seven contact hours. You must earn the other seven hours. Other acceptable ways to earn your CE hours can be found online (www.kbn.ky.gov/ce/) under "Licensure Renewal Requirements."

Q: Do college courses count as CE hours?

A: Academic courses in nursing and health care, or social or physical sciences will count toward your CE requirement. One semester credit hour equals 15 contact hours. One quarter credit hour equals 12 contact hours. These courses count as CE for the earning period in which the course was completed.

Q: I have attended a CE course that is not offered by an approved CE provider. How can I get credit for these hours?

A: You may wish to submit an "Individual Request for Review of CE Activities," (www.kbn.ky.gov/ce/) under "CE Forms and Publications," to KBN requesting contact hours for this course. There is a non-refundable charge of \$10 for the review. You can also request an

application form by contacting the KBN office at 800-305-2042, ext. 237. Once submitted, your application will be reviewed and, if approved, the appropriate number of contact hours will be awarded.

Applications must be submitted no later than November 30 of the licensure year.

Q: Are CE hours earned on the internet acceptable for licensure in Kentucky? If so, how many of the required 14 hours can be earned on the internet?

A: Internet CE courses are acceptable if offered by an approved CE provider. All 14 hours or any combination of the hours may be from internet providers.

Q: I understand that I can use my nursing certification for the required 14 contact hours of CE. Is this correct?

A: If you have a national nursing certification or recertification related to your practice role that is in effect the whole earning period or earned initially this period, it will count for the required 14 contact hours for Kentucky licensure.

NOTE: In addition to the national nursing certification, ARNPs are required to earn five approved contact hours in pharmacology each earning period. SANE-credentialed nurses must earn five contact hours of approved sexual assault CE.

Q: I am required to take a class in CPR where I work. Will this CPR class count toward my CE requirement?

A: No. CPR and BLS classes, as well as in-service education and nurse aide training, do not count as CE hours.

Q: Will ACLS and PALS courses count toward my CE requirement?

A: If an approved provider offers the ACLS or PALS courses, the hours earned will be accepted by KBN. See the attached list of national nursing organizations recognized by KBN for continuing education offerings or visit the KBN website (www.kbn.ky.gov).

Q: Can a nurse substitute CME credits for nursing contact hours?

A: CME credits do not automatically transfer to contact hours. If you wish to earn contact hours for a course that awarded CME credit, you will need to go to the KBN CE Web page (www.kbn.ky.gov/ce/) under "CE Forms and Publications," and submit an "Individual

continued on page 26 >>

Request for Review of CE Activities.” ARNPs are allowed to use CME credits for pharmacology continuing education if the provider offering the course is recognized by their national certifying organization.

Q: I have earned more CE hours this earning period than I need. Can these hours be used for my next renewal?

A: No. CE hours cannot be carried over to the next earning period. All 14 hours must be earned within the specified earning period.

PROVIDERS

Q: Where can I find a list of approved CE providers?

A: You can print a copy of the KBN approver provider list from the KBN website (www.kbn.ky.gov) under “CE Forms and Publications” or you may request a copy of the list by contacting the KBN office at 800-305-2042, ext. 237.

In addition, a list of National Nursing Organizations recognized by KBN for continuing education is also provided on the KBN website and at the end of this article. If a provider approved by one of these organizations offers a course you wish to take, that course will be accepted by KBN for the same number of contact hours.

RECORD KEEPING

Q: Does KBN have a record of the CE hours I have earned?

A: No. KBN does not keep track of each nurse’s CE hours – that responsibility falls on the individual nurse. It is the responsibility of the CE provider to see that the nurse receives a certificate of completion, but the provider does not send a copy of the certificate to KBN. You are not required to submit CE certificates to KBN unless requested to do so through the CE audit. Nurses must retain records of their CE/competency for at least five years following a licensure period. HIV/AIDS CE records must be retained for 12 years.

HIV/AIDS

Q: I understand there have been some changes in the HIV/AIDS CE requirements. How many HIV/AIDS contact hours must I earn, and what is the earning period?

A: All nurses are required to earn two contact hours of approved HIV/AIDS CE within the appropriate ten year period. For LPNs, that period is 11/01/2001 through 10/31/2011. For RNs, that period is 11/01/002 through 10/31/2012. The course must be offered by an approved CE provider or approved by the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services in Frankfort, Kentucky.

PHARMACOLOGY CE FOR ARNPs

Q: I am an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner (ARNP) in Kentucky. Are there any specific CE requirements for my registration renewal?

A: ARNPs are required to earn five contact hours of approved CE in pharmacology each licensure period. The licensure earning period is November 1st through October 31st of the renewal year. In 2008, the regulation was amended to reflect that pharmacology CE hours can be earned from any provider that is recognized by your ARNP accrediting body. It is the responsibility of the individual ARNP to contact the certifying body for a complete and up-to-date list of recognized providers for their organization.

SEXUAL ASSAULT CE FOR SANE

CREDENTIALLED NURSES

Q: Are SANE-credentialed nurses required to earn specific CE hours in addition to the required 14 contact hours for RN renewal?

A: SANE-credentialed nurses are required to earn five contact hours of approved sexual assault CE (forensic medicine or domestic violence CE will meet this requirement). These hours count as part of the required 14 hours for RN renewal.

KARE for Nurses Program Confidentiality Changes

by Paula S. Schenk, MPH, RN, KARE for Nurses Program Manager and Compliance Section Supervisor

Effective July 15, 2010, the KBN began verifying participation of some licensees in the KARE for Nurses Program on the KBN website. This is in accordance with KRS 314.171(10), which went into effect July 15, 2010, and states as follows:

Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the board shall disclose the fact of a nurse’s participation in the alternative to discipline program to the public. No information other than the nurse’s participation in the alternative to discipline program shall be disclosed.

This change stems from the Board’s fundamental and paramount duty of public protection. The Board will acknowledge only the nurse’s participation in the KARE for Nurses Program. This notice is only being made available via the Board’s online verification system. It will not be published in the Board’s newsletter (*KBNursing Connection*) or any other periodical. All information including but not limited to reports, memoranda, statements, interviews

or other documents either received or generated by the Program shall remain privileged and confidential.

Participants admitted to the KARE for Nurses Program before July 15, 2010 shall be given an option as to whether they sign a Waiver of Confidentiality granting permission to the Board to provide online verification of their participation in the program.

The KARE for Nurses Program remains a voluntary, alternative to discipline monitoring program for nurses with substance use disorders. KARE Program requirements include, but are not limited to, notification of participation by the nurse to a variety of individuals and entities. This statute change promotes the accountability of nurses who participate in this Program to abide by this requirement.

For additional information, you may contact Paula S. Schenk, MPH, RN, KARE for Nurses Program Manager and Compliance Section Supervisor, at (502) 429-3328 or via e-mail (PaulaS.Schenk@ky.gov).

Nurse Networking

The "NEW" Classifieds

Reach 70,000 nurses in Kentucky for as little as \$260.

LIMITED
AVAILABILITY
CALL TODAY

Contact Michelle Forinash
mforinash@pcipublishing.com
1-800-561-4686 ext. 112



Recruit Talented Nursing Faculty

Advertise your nursing school faculty opportunities in the KY Nursing Connection – reaching 70,000 nurses statewide. Contact Michelle at mforinash@pcipublishing.com

Thrive as a Legal Nurse Consultant!

LNCs are in demand and can earn \$80 to \$150 per hour analyzing medical cases for attorneys.

Legal Nurse Consulting, Inc.'s dynamic, self-paced LNC training program prepares you for ASLNC certification - from the privacy of your own home or attend class starting May 3, 2011 • Louisville, KY

Put your clinical experience to work in the exciting legal arena...take that first step today.

Visit www.LNCcenter.com or 888-888-4560



1.5" wide x 1" high
only
\$260.00



Soak Away Stress And Muscle Tension!

Fizzing Mineral Bath soak added to a warm bath will make you feel like your home is a spa!



jordan
ESSENTIALS
bath & body

Dead Sea Salts:

Legendary mineral rich salts to relax and ease muscles

Grape Seed Oil:

Antioxidant

Shea Butter:

Moisturizing

Citric Acid Vitamin C:

Effervescent

Nurses – Earn Extra Income!

Become a Jordan Essentials consultant today by visiting www.jordanrep.com/11668 or call toll-free 1-877-662-8669.

To order Fizzing Mineral Bath and other high quality home spa products from Jordan Essentials, go to www.myjstore.com/stunursing and choose consultant #11668 for purchase. Portions of the proceeds go the ThinkNurse Scholarship Fund. All products are made in America!

TNSF
ThinkNurse
Scholarship Fund

StuNurse.com
education/employment

What is the KARE for Nurses Program?

by Paula S. Schenk, MPH, RN,
KARE Program Manager and
Compliance Section Supervisor

The Kentucky Alternative Recovery Effort (KARE) for Nurses program was developed and is offered by the Kentucky Board of Nursing (KBN). The purpose of KARE is to identify and assist nurses whose abilities to provide nursing care are compromised by dependency on drugs or alcohol so that they can return to competent and safe practice. The program recognizes that nurses are individuals who have dedicated their lives to helping others and are now in need of help. KARE's foundation is that substance abuse is treatable and that the recovery and return to competent nursing practice is in the best interest of the nurse and public health. KARE believes that a nurse should not lose a job or license due to substance abuse and offers an opportunity for encouragement, treatment and recovery. The program emphasizes hope and is administered with compassion, confidentiality, concern and dignity for the nurse.

The Disease . . .

Many people believe that nurses are immune from addiction by virtue of their intelligence and education. In reality, exposure, easy availability, and familiarity with medications often lead predisposed health professionals to develop chemical dependency. Substance abuse is one of the major factors threatening safe nursing practice. Chemical dependency is a chronic, progressive illness characterized by the use of chemicals in spite of adverse consequences. This compulsive-use cycle may have periods where use is controlled, but it is normally followed by at least one episode of out-of-control use causing adverse consequences in one's life. Not recognizing or dealing with chemical dependency will exacerbate the problem. Often we are too engrossed in our own problems to be objective, and our individual efforts result in more stress that increases the severity of the situation. Left untreated, chemical dependency will not only risk your life, but the life and safety of patients.

There is a place to turn for help . . .

Nurses often buy into the myth that they should be able to handle their chemical dependency because they are health care providers. What may seem a tremendous burden to one person can become a lighter load when shared with someone else. The first step is to admit there is a problem. It isn't easy to admit to another person that we are having trouble handling our problems alone. It is a subject that we avoid discussing or confronting. Yet once we reach that first step, we can begin the process of regaining our life.

Services . . .

KARE develops individualized Program Agreements based upon the unique circumstances of the nurse. Monitoring can be facilitated in many ways, such as:

- Assisting with identification, assessment and referral to approved treatment providers.
- Monitoring participants' compliance during recovery and continued nursing practice.
- Providing education to nurses, employers and other groups about KARE.
- Providing encouragement and support to help ensure the participants are able to practice nursing in accordance with acceptable and prevailing standards of safe nursing care.

Eligibility . . .

A nurse may access KARE by self-referral, board referral, referral from another person or agency, such as an employer, coworker or family member. Admission to KARE is available to individuals who, at the time of application, meet the requirements listed below:

- RN or LPN, licensed in Kentucky, or an applicant for a credential issued by KBN;
- Request participation in the program (regardless of whether referred by the Board, self, or another person);
- Admit, in writing, to being a chemically dependent individual;
- Have not been terminated from a similar program in this or any other state for noncompliance;
- Have attended an approved treatment provider;
- Obtain a chemical dependency assessment, which includes a complete physical and psychosocial evaluation performed by a licensed or certified medical or psychological specialist in the field of drug, alcohol, or other chemical dependency;
- Agree to the terms set forth in the agreement; and
- Agree not to be employed in any capacity in a patient care setting or one that requires licensure until approved to do so by the program staff.

Questions? KARE compliance forms are located on the KBN website (<http://kbn.ky.gov/kare.htm>). To obtain further information or to make a confidential referral, call 800-305-2042 and speak with Paula Schenk, KARE Program Manager and Compliance Section Supervisor (Ext. 236 or PaulaS.Schenk@ky.gov) or Jill Cambron, KARE Coordinator (Ext. 289 or JillM.Cambron@ky.gov).

Sixth Annual

Nursing Continuing Education

Cruise

April 10-17, 2011



**Cruise your way to
Nursing CE Credits
on the Caribbean Sea aboard
Adventure of the Seas!**

Day	Port	Arrive	Depart	Activity
10-Apr	San Juan, Puerto Rico		8:30 PM	
11-Apr				Cruising
12-Apr	Willemstad, Curacao	8:00 AM	6:00 PM	Docked
13-Apr	Oranjestad, Aruba	8:00 AM	6:00 PM	Docked
14-Apr				Cruising
15-Apr	Roseau, Dominica	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Docked
16-Apr	Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas	8:00 AM	6:00 PM	Docked
17-Apr	San Juan, Puerto Rico	6:00 AM		



Who said Continuing Education can't be fun? We are changing that forever. Join ThinkNurse and Poe Travel for a CE Cruise that will cure your overworked blues with some salsa and sun on Royal Caribbean's *Adventure of the Seas*. While you're touring the Caribbean, you can earn your annual CE credits AND possibly write the trip off on your taxes. How is that for paradise?

Prices for this cruise and conference are based on double occupancy (bring your friend, spouse or significant other please!) and **start as low as \$848 per person** (not including airfare). If you won't be attending the conference, you can deduct \$75. A \$250 non-refundable per-person deposit is required to secure your reservation for the cruise, **BUT please ask us about our Cruise LayAway Plan.**

What a week! We depart from San Juan, Puerto Rico. Your first stop is Willemstad, Curacao. Our next stop is Oranjestad, Aruba, then Roseau, Dominica, and Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas before cruising back to San Juan.

For more information about the cruise and the curriculum, please log on to our Web site at ThinkNurse.com or call Teresa Grace at Poe Travel Toll-free at 800.727.1960.

POE TRAVEL

ERRORS WITH INJECTABLE MEDICATIONS: Unlabeled syringes are surprisingly common!

Article reprinted from *ISMP Medication Safety Alert! Nurse Advise-ERR* (January 2008, Volume 6, Issue 1), with permission by the Institute for Safe Medication Practices

Research shows that the incidence of errors with injectable medications is higher than with other forms of medications.^{1,2} Studies also suggest that half of all harmful drug errors originate during the administration phase; of those errors, about two-thirds involve injectable medications.^{3,4}

Several factors⁵ increase the risk of errors and patient harm with injectable medications:

- Availability of concentrated drugs for which further dilutions are required
- Complex calculations (e.g., changing a dose from mmol to mg)
- Requiring multiple manipulations to prepare the drug (e.g., vial-to-syringe transfer, syringe-to-syringe transfer, dilution, use of a filter)
- Reconstitution of powders and drugs that require special diluents
- Use of part of/more than one vial/ampule for a single dose
- Use of medications that require non-standard handling/precautions (e.g., light protection, inline filter)
- Inadequate/inaccessible drug information
- Preparing the drug in clinical areas instead of the pharmacy, with limited or absent product labeling.

Unlabeled syringes are a significant risk associated with preparation of injectable products in clinical areas. To cite one instance, a 15-year-old teenager with a history of malignant hyperthermia received the contents of an unlabeled syringe that was thought to contain MARCAINE (bupivacaine) with epinephrine. The syringe actually contained 30 mL of epinephrine

1:1,000. The nurse who had drawn the medication into a syringe had intended to add it to several bags of normal saline, but she was called away unexpectedly and left the unlabeled syringe on a tray near the patient. The patient's blood pressure increased after local injection of the

epinephrine into his limb, initially leading staff to believe he was experiencing malignant hyperthermia. The error was recognized after the patient developed ventricular tachycardia and pulmonary edema. He fortunately recovered without harm.

Last June, the American Nurses Association released the results of an online survey of more than 1,000 US nurses about the challenges of labeling syringes that contain injectable medications.⁵ The survey revealed that most (97%) nurses are worried about medication errors, and more than two-thirds (68%) believe errors can be reduced with more consistent syringe labeling. Nearly half (44%) of the nurses said they inject medications via a syringe more than five times each shift, and one-third (37%) administer injectable medications at least once each shift. Just one-third (37%) of nurses reported that they always label the syringes they prepare, and one in four (28%) nurses admitted they never label syringes they prepare.

Nurses who responded to the survey reported that several factors interfere with or prevent routine labeling of syringes. They noted that labels may:

- Cover the measurement gradation on the syringe barrel (65%)
- Not be suitable for a syringe (55%)
- Impair the ability to check the dosage when comparing the medication in a syringe with the order (39%)
- Make syringes hard to handle (31%)
- Detach from the syringe (30%)
- Make it difficult to attach a syringe to a pump (24%).

To reduce risks associated with unlabeled syringes, consider the [following] recommendations:

Pre-labeled syringes. Have pharmacy dispense ready-to-administer injectable products in labeled syringes as prescribed for individual patients.

Prefilled syringes. Use commercially

available, prefilled syringes of medications, which are already labeled.

Commercial labels. Use commercially available labels for syringes in all drug preparation areas (including radiology, nuclear medicine, and other areas where medications are administered). Tape is not suitable for labeling syringes.

Label placement standards. Follow established guidelines regarding label placement on syringes, including specific directions on how to avoid interference with viewing gradations on the syringe barrel and the contents of the syringe, or interference with use/function of the syringe. Apply the label directly below gradation lines to ensure that the scale and name of the drug and strength/dose are visible. Labels should be oriented to facilitate viewing when a right-handed person holds the syringe.

Discard if unlabeled. Discard unlabeled syringes and report the event as a hazardous condition. No syringe should leave a nurse's hand unless it is labeled.

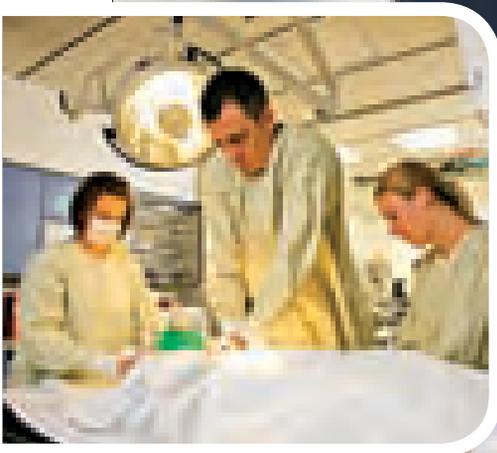
References:

- 1) Taxis K, Barber N. *Ethnographic study of the incidence and severity of intravenous medicine errors.* *Br Med J.* 2003;326:684-7.
- 2) Cousins DH, et al. *Medication errors in intravenous medicine preparation and administration: a multicentre audit in the UK, Germany and France.* *Qual Saf Health Care.* 2005;14:190-5.
- 3) Bates D, et al. *The cost of adverse events in hospitalized patients.* *JAMA.* 1997;227:307-11.
- 4) Bates DW, Cullen DJ, Laird N. *Incidence of adverse drug events and potential adverse drug events: implications for prevention.* *JAMA.* 1995;274(1):29-34.
- 5) American Nurses Association. *Medication errors and syringe safety are top concerns for nurses according to a new national study.* Press release: June 18, 2007. Accessed at: www.nursingworld.org/FunctionalMenuCategories/MediaResources/PressReleases/2007/SyringeSafetyStudy.aspx



I think Norton Healthcare has a great reputation that is well-deserved.

I wouldn't want to work anywhere else.



Brian – Registered Nurse

Real people. Remarkable care.

Brian knew he wanted to do something that would make a positive difference in people's lives. He chose a career in nursing at Norton Healthcare. He's now part of nearly 11,000 employees and physicians whose hard work makes lives better every day.

NortonHealthcare.com/careers



Follow us on  

Norton Healthcare is an EEO/AA employer.

Good people delivering great quality care.

Being ranked among the Top 5% of the nation's hospitals has not come easy - or overnight. It's been a process. One that's taken time, effort and working with dedicated staff to change the way we do things.

Changing processes where appropriate has not only resulted in greater quality and better care - but it has resulted in better outcomes for our patients and those they love.

Improving Quality.
Improving Care.
Improving Outcomes.



Owensboro
Medical Health System

2009 & 2010 Distinguished Hospital Awards for Clinical Excellence.™

Join Our Quality Team at OMHS

Apply online at www.omhs.org or Call 1-877-227-3841