

Bridging the Preparation-Practice Gap

Best Practices for Accelerating the Practice Readiness of Nursing Students

A Workshop for Nursing Leaders representing Service & Education

sponsored by
West Michigan Nursing Advisory Council
Alliance for Health

Executive Summary

Frontline nursing leaders are increasingly voicing concern about the practice readiness of new graduate nurses. At the same time, hospitals and health systems are increasingly relying on inexperienced staff. This session offers pragmatic guidance for what steps hospitals and health systems might take, in collaboration with local nursing schools, to ensure that nursing students are better prepared for practicing in the complex acute care environment.

The session will begin with an overview of a set of parallel nursing school and hospital surveys. The surveys were recently conducted by the Center. More than 400 nursing school leaders and over 3,500 hospital-based nursing leaders responded to questions on a common set of 36 new graduate skills. The differences reported in skill sets among various new graduate subgroups, such as those working in specific unit specialties and holding different degree types, will be examined. Then, 14 key best practices for addressing new graduates' greatest improvement needs will be introduced, with a particular focus on enhancing the value of nursing student clinical rotations.

Date/Time/Location

Wednesday, July 15, 2009

9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Registration and coffee begins at 8:30 a.m.

Gerald & Jane-Ann POSTMA CENTER
Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services
300 68th Street SE - Grand Rapids MI 49548
616.222.4530

Cost: \$30.00 Contact Hours: 6.5

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Please RSVP by July 8, 2009