

Atlantic City Medical Center
Unit Based Nursing Forum



Goal: Empower nurses by providing a vehicle for autonomy and responsibility regarding unit operations and clinical issues.

Areas of Focus

- ◆ Education
- ◆ Clinical Practice
- ◆ Quality Improvement
- ◆ Staff Satisfaction
- ◆ Customer Service
- ◆ Safety Indicators

Example

Unit Specific Topics (Needs Assessment)
Unit Specific Diagnoses (3M = Bariatric; 2S= Joints)
Pain Mgt, Restraints, Transfer, DRG indicators
Scheduling, Staffing
Focus determined by Jackson results
Safety Advocate; Daily Safety briefings

Membership: Seeking voluntary participation. Members agree to attend 50% of meetings and commit to participate on proposed solutions and activities. Representatives may include:

- ◆ Nursing management
- ◆ Nursing staff (Team Leader, RN, LPN)
- ◆ Patient Care Associate
- ◆ Administrative Associate
- ◆ Case Management
- ◆ Other representatives as directed by unit (ie Respiratory Therapy, etc.)

Roles:

- ◆ Facilitator – CCC, TL or CNS; Assists group in maintaining objectives and sticking to agenda
- ◆ Leader – Leads the group in implementing agenda, defining objectives
- ◆ Note Taker – Keeps a record of each meeting (format provided), including sign in.

Forum Activities:

- ◆ Formulate objectives (Establish timelines and priorities).
- ◆ Establish meeting “ground rules.”
- ◆ Determine meeting frequency (more frequently at first, then at a minimum monthly).
- ◆ Communicate to all unit members regarding role of council and all council activities.

Nursing Advisory Council:

- ◆ **Goal:** Address organization wide nursing issues. Led by Robyn Begley, CNE.
- ◆ Representative, and designee, from each unit council will sit on Nursing Advisory Council.
- ◆ Advisory Council to meet Bimonthly.