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
  Unit Specific Topics (Needs Assessment)

♦ Clinical Practice
  Unit Specific Diagnoses (3M = Bariatric; 2S= Joints)

♦ Quality Improvement
  Pain Mgt, Restraints, Transfer, DRG indicators

♦ Staff Satisfaction
  Scheduling, Staffing

♦ Customer Service
  Focus determined by Jackson results

♦ Safety Indicators
  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.