

North Hills Hospital's Nurses are Recognized as Excellent

The Great 100 Nurses program is sponsored by the Texas Nurses Association each year, and the winners are chosen because of their leadership qualities, service to community, and their role model as compassionate caregivers who have made significant contributions to the nursing field.

It is a great accomplishment for our facility to have five nurses win this award each year for the past three years! Very few healthcare organizations have done this. This recognition by the DFW nursing community demonstrates that our nurses are excellent.

2006



Felicia Bessman
Outpatient Services



Charlyn Pafford
Nursing Operations

2007



Mary Williams
Med/Surg

2008



Jill Frost
Education



Amanda Robbins
Education



Chris Hutchison
Employee Health



Paula Wyman
Med/Surg, Third Floor



Bart Burgess
CSU

2009



Susan Duboskas
Cardiovascular Services



Jan Guinn-Pigg
Rehab Unit



Clint Magee
PCU



Lynette Montalbano
CSU



Darryl Perkins
CCU

2010



Tracey Smithson
Med/Surg



Rose Messer
ICU



Sally Carmen
Education



Angie Branch
Education



Andrea Wegman
PCU

Shared Governance

North Hills Hospital has a nursing shared governance structure to support nurses' control over nursing practice. Through shared governance, the hospital's nurses address practice concerns and develop, implement, and evaluate standards of care. The Nurse Practice Council (NPC) is chaired by Joyce Kelly, RN, MSN, ACM, who is a case manager, and co-chaired by Amanda

Robbins, RN, MS, who is the Assistant Director of Clinical Excellence. NPC is made up of 25 nurses who share in decision making. An example of NPC success is the implementation of the hospital-wide electronic Kardex, which will enhance the nurse's ability to standardize communication at shift change regarding each patient. The Kardex

is an ongoing shift-to-shift account of relevant information about the patient that may not be in the chart.

NPC also formed the Glycemic Control Team subcommittee to improve the knowledge and competence of the direct care nurse. This team, partnered with Medical Center of Lewisville's diabetic educator, Kerry Kennedy, RN, to develop the program *Making Diabetes Black and White*. The following was accomplished:

- Conducted a baseline assessment of knowledge and beliefs about managing and educating inpatient diabetics.
- Implemented education for the direct care nurse on preventing and treating hypoglycemia, carbohydrate counting, and managing glycemic patients.
- Developed a patient education booklet, *Eight Steps to Managing Your Diabetes*, for nurses to use at the patient's bedside during hospitalization, and for the patient to take home.

