

Date: October 25, 2024



Oregon Center for
N U R S I N G

FRIDAY HUDDLE

A gathering of Oregon nursing workforce leaders to offer timely updates and share insights from peers and stakeholders.

Nursing Workforce

Become an OCN Board Member in 2025: The Oregon Center for Nursing is [looking for new board members](#) to join us in 2025! Composed of up to 15 members, the OCN board meets regularly to discuss the changes in the nursing workforce and healthcare delivery, advise on the organization's policies and strategic direction, and promote the mission and work of OCN. Interested? Contact Jana Bitton to learn more: jana.bitton@oregoncenterfornursing.org.

Help Us Share OCN's Impact: Has OCN positively impacted your career or expanded your network as a nurse? We would love to hear from you! Features involve submitting a short written statement about your experience with OCN. No photos or videos are required. If you're interested in contributing, please contact Callie Fowler at callie.gisler@oregoncenterfornursing.org.

Increase in Atypical Pneumonia Cases: According to the CDC, respiratory infections caused by Mycoplasma pneumonia, most commonly "walking pneumonia," have [increased in the United States](#). A high number of these infections have been seen in pediatric patients.

Employer-Sponsored Learning: Huddlers shared their experiences attending employer-sponsored conferences and other learning opportunities. Kaiser Permanente just hosted its local professional development event for employees. Other organizations, including Saint Alphonsus and Legacy Health, host similar annual events that focus on leadership development and peer-to-peer presentations. While larger healthcare systems have continued annual programming, some smaller organizations have cut staff development budgets following the COVID-19 pandemic. We also discussed making this education more accessible to employees, especially when some Huddlers report bedside staff's preference for in-person education. Options included virtual programming, hosting half-day training over several days, or scheduling the same programming on two repeat days. Local programming for rural communities also helps reduce barriers related to cross-state travel. These models can help decrease the strain on reduced staffing and scheduling.

CNA Licensure Consolidation: Huddlers also explored how Oregon's consolidation of CNA-1 and CNA-2 licenses will impact existing CNA training programs. Because the consolidation empowers employers to train newly hired CNAs and validate their competencies on many skills traditionally taught in CNA-2 programs, these skills will likely not be addressed in standard CNA training programs. This helps ensure that CNAs are up-to-date in their skills according to a healthcare system's specific standards and protocols.

Events & Happenings

OHA Professional and Technical Staffing Webinar: Join the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) for [another webinar to address professional and technical staffing](#) requirements under the new nurse staffing guidelines. The webinar is scheduled for Wednesday, November 20, at 10 a.m.

Orienting AI Toward Health Workforce Well-Being: Join the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) on Monday, December 9, for [a day-long look at artificial intelligence \(AI\)](#) and its impact on healthcare workers. Those interested can register to attend in person in San Diego or to join the webcast virtually.

Next Friday Huddle:

Friday, November 1, at 8:00 a.m.

[Register Here!](#)

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www.oregoncenterfornursing.org

