

Date: September 12, 2025



FRIDAY HUDDLE

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

Nurse Workforce

Updated Vaccine Guidance: OSBN, OMB, and OBOP released [a joint statement](#) to clarify that clinicians should write prescriptions with a diagnosis to provide the COVID-19 vaccine, and that pharmacists may administer under those orders. OSBN Director Rachel Prusak emphasized that providers will not be disciplined for prescribing or administering vaccines according to professional guidelines and past practices. Standing orders for vaccines within systems and other employers any are being encouraged to reduce administrative burden. Refer to OHA's [FAQ](#) with more information for the public.

Healthcare Workforce Committee Recruitment: The Oregon Health Policy Board's Healthcare Workforce Committee is [actively seeking new members](#), including nurses, oral health professionals, maternal/pediatric health representatives, and a student member. The group meets every other month with a strong focus on health equity and produces the statewide healthcare workforce needs assessment.

AI in Nursing: Huddlers discussed Oregon's recent legislative debate over AI and the nurse title —AI chatbots can still call themselves “nurse,” though not “Registered Nurse”. Nationally, the FDA will soon [hold a committee](#) to make recommendations on the use of AI digital mental health devices.

Nurse Education

OSBN Meeting/RENEW Project Update: At the upcoming Oregon State Board of Nursing public meeting in Tillamook on 9/18/25, OCN Executive Director Jana Bitton will present on OCN's [RENEW](#) project. This covers work already accomplished and future plans to support nurse educators over the next four years.

Events & Resources

Town Hall with Senator Merkley: Join OCN's Friday Huddle: Extended Cut on Tuesday, September 16 from 1:30 to 2:15p, with Senator Jeff Merkley to discuss Medicaid cuts and health policy updates. [Register today](#) to save your spot, and [submit your questions and stories](#) to Senator Merkley.

Outstanding Nurse Preceptor Event: OCN will honor 20 nurse preceptors as part of its annual Outstanding Nurse Preceptor event on Wednesday, September 17. [Be sure to register today!](#)

OSBN Meeting: Open to the public! Join OSBN on [September 18th in Tillamook](#) or online at OSBN's YouTube page.

NWONL Regional Meeting: The Northwest Organization of Nurse Leaders will meet on Friday, Sept 19 at 1:30 PM. Jana Bitton and Sofia Aragon (Washington Center for Nursing) will [co-present on workforce issues across Oregon and Washington](#).

Next Friday Huddle:

Friday, September 19th, at 8:00 a.m.

[Register Here!](#)

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