



FRIDAY HUDDLE

Convene • Connect • Collaborate

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



NURSE WORKFORCE

Nurse Pay and Workforce Investment: Oregon now [ranks number one nationally](#) for nurse pay when adjusted for cost of living, highlighting both competitive wages and relative affordability compared to other high-paying states. The upcoming OCN wage survey will provide deeper insight into differences by setting, geography, and experience level.

Providence Health Plan Closure: Providence Health Plan, Oregon's largest private insurer, [will discontinue operations](#) at the end of the year. While Providence hospitals and nursing jobs are not affected, concern was raised about how changes in insurance coverage could impact patient access to care and potentially increase strain on healthcare systems if individuals delay treatment due to loss of coverage.

AI in Practice: AI is rapidly expanding into healthcare and nursing practice. Huddlers discussed AI-assisted documentation, patient monitoring systems, virtual nursing tools, and concerns about the pace of implementation compared to nurses' preparedness and AI literacy- AI is already embedded in healthcare systems and workforce infrastructure, yet there is not much guidance about its use. Concerns included ethics, patient trust, workforce displacement, and the absence of nursing voices in broader AI development conversations. Despite uncertainty, participants agreed that human connection and clinical judgment remain essential components of patient care. The group explored the idea of creating an Oregon AI and Nursing Task Force to support literacy, resource-sharing, and statewide dialogue around AI implementation in healthcare and education.

NURSE EDUCATION

AI Literacy in Nursing Education: Faculty and educators discussed the growing challenge of integrating AI into nursing education while balancing concerns about academic integrity, ethical use, and student preparedness. Participants noted that students are already using AI extensively for studying, personalized learning, and coursework support, but there is uncertainty about best practices for teaching AI literacy and preparing students for AI-integrated clinical environments. The group explored the idea of creating an Oregon AI and Nursing Task Force to support literacy, resource-sharing, and statewide dialogue around AI implementation in healthcare and education.

Oregon VS Federal Loan Limits: Senator Jeff [Merkley has introduced a bill](#) to expand the definition of "professional degrees" to include post-baccalaureate nursing degrees. Concurrently, [Oregon has joined 23 other states](#) to file a lawsuit challenging the administration's new loan limits on several nursing and healthcare degrees.

RESOURCES

2026 Nurse Preceptor Awards- Nominations Opening Soon! The call for organizational nominees will go out in early June.

AI in Nursing Think Tank: The ANA put out a [report focused on AI](#), insisting that AI should support nursing- not replacing it. The report identifies several major concerns, including overreliance on AI, unclear liability, bias, and a lack of AI literacy in nursing education and practice.

Healthy Work Environments in Action Webinar: [Join NWONL](#) on June 16th to explore the implementation and impact of the AACN Healthy Work Environments (HWE.)



OREGON CENTER
for **NURSING**

NEXT FRIDAY HUDDLE:

Friday, May 29th, at 8:00 a.m.

OregonCenterForNursing.org

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