



FRIDAY HUDDLE

Convene • Connect • Collaborate

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



REMINDER: No Huddle next week!!!

NURSE WORKFORCE

Workforce Pressure: Nurses face growing challenges in providing quality patient care amid staffing shortages, financial pressures, and organizational change. Participants shared concerns that some nurses say they don't feel supported when raising patient safety concerns, despite advocacy being a core professional responsibility. Participants expressed frustration, and emphasized that nurses consistently prioritize patients even when systems make that increasingly difficult, and encouraged the community to continue supporting one another through these challenges.

Using the Official Nurse Practice Act Website: The Oregon State Board of Nursing reminded educators and nurses to use the [official OSBN website](#) when referencing the Oregon Nurse Practice Act. Several third-party websites continue to display outdated versions of the regulations, particularly Division 21, making the official Board website the most reliable and current source for information.

Preparing for AI in Healthcare: CMS has introduced [new CPT billing codes related to artificial intelligence](#) and digital health services. At this stage, the codes are focused primarily on AI-assisted radiology and diagnostic imaging rather than direct patient care, but the discussion emphasized that this is an important development for nurses to watch closely. As AI continues to evolve much faster than traditional healthcare systems, participants encouraged nurses to stay engaged in conversations about how these technologies may shape future practice.

NURSE EDUCATION

Clinical Placement Challenges Continue: While the longstanding challenge of securing quality clinical placements for nursing students is not new, increasing patient acuity, workforce shortages, and competing demands on experienced nurses have made finding qualified preceptors and placement space even more difficult. Several attendees emphasized that effective precepting requires both strong clinical skills and the ability to teach, creating additional pressure on a relatively small pool of experienced nurses. Huddlers explored whether traditional models of clinical education continue to meet the needs of today's healthcare environment. National Council of State Boards of Nursing ([NCSBN research](#)) supports replacing up to 50% of direct clinical hours with simulation, rather than requiring additional clinical hours. The conversation also introduced emerging ideas such as shorter, competency-focused clinical experiences instead of traditional full-day shifts, prompting discussion about whether nursing education should prioritize demonstrated competencies over simply accumulating hours.

RESOURCES

Preceptor Recognition Nominations Now Open: Join OCN in recognizing Oregon's outstanding nurse preceptors. [Facilities are invited to submit preceptors](#) who have made a difference in Oregon's nursing workforce, with honorees recognized on Wednesday, Sept. 23 at 9 a.m. The deadline to submit nominations is Aug. 15.

OCN Conference Registration Open: Registration remains open for [OCN's conference on October 19](#). This year's keynote speaker, Renee Thompson, will focus on addressing workplace incivility and fostering healthier work environments. Review her [recent LinkedIn article](#) to learn more about her work before the conference.

Healthcare Champion of the Year Award: Johnson & Johnson and TIME have launched a new [Healthcare Champion of the Year award](#) recognizing outstanding healthcare professionals. Consider nominating exceptional Oregon nurses, emphasizing that the state's nursing workforce deserves national recognition.

Geriatric Psychiatric Unit Closure: Hillsboro Medical Center plans to close its 17-bed inpatient geriatric psychiatric unit. Community [advocacy efforts and petitions](#) are currently underway. Contact practice@oregonrn.org to learn more.



OREGON CENTER
for **NURSING**

NEXT FRIDAY HUDDLE:

Friday, July 31st, at 8:00 a.m.

OregonCenterForNursing.org

REGISTER HERE ▶

