Good Shepherd Hospital (GSH) Bargaining Update 2

October 24, 2014

We’re Making Progress

The Negotiating Team met with Hospital representatives Wednesday and Thursday. After much healthy discussion tentative agreements were reached regarding:

• Future Negotiation Teams will be allowed to accept paid time off (PTO) donations from fellow nurses to allow them to be compensated for time spent negotiating your contracts!
  • Professional Development Approvals for Professional Development will be equitable and not unreasonably denied.
  • Definitions recognizing the split of Tender Loving Care (TLC) into Good Shepherd Home Health and Vange John Memorial Hospice (VJM Hospice)
    • Nurses will now be paid time-and-one-half for troubleshooting on the phone at home
    • Nurses working eight hour work schedules will have the opportunity to designate their work week.

We continue to work back and forth regarding wage proposals and in hopes of finding some relief from high insurance premiums. We believe that we will have some additional agreements Monday.

Come Support Your Team

Additional negotiations sessions are set for Monday, Oct. 27 at 8:30 a.m. and Tuesday, Oct. 28 from 8:30 until noon. We would love to have your support and this is a great way to see for yourself how the process of developing your contract happens!

Remember to wear your ONA logo items to show your support for the team!

Are Your Missing Your Breaks?

You have the right to a 15 minute break for every four hours of work. If you request to be relieved for a break and are being denied please send an email to missedbreakGSH@gmail.com. Please include your unit, shift and date that you missed your break.
OSBN Outreach Classes
The Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN) is hosting an outreach in Pendleton and Baker, with updates on nursing regulations with 7.2 contact hours and it’s FREE!

ONa Ebola Updates and Information
Almost a week has passed since the news broke that two RNs in Dallas, Texas tested positive to the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD). Those nurses appear to be doing well and receiving care both at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Emory University. As we noted last week, this is an ever changing situation, and at ONa we are collecting information from our members about Ebola Preparedness.

If you have not participated in the survey, please click here to take ONa’s Ebola Readiness Survey today!

Your responses are anonymous and will help us to understand how prepared you feel working in your respective organization.

Last week the ONa and the Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems (OAHHS) issued a joint statement. On Monday, ONa participated in a State Public Health meeting with other health care partners with a focus on EVD. As more official information comes from that meeting, it will be sent to our members.

CDC Guidelines for Health Care Providers
Of importance, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has now updated guidelines for health care providers who are providing care to patients positive for the EVD.

CDC Guidelines can be found here
Limiting the number of health care providers present during the procedure to only those essential for patient care and support.

Conduct the procedures in a private room and ideally in an Airborne Infection Isolation Room (AIIR) when feasible. Room doors should be kept closed during the procedure except when entering or leaving the room, and entry and exit should be minimized during and shortly after the procedure.

HCP should wear appropriate PPE (http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/procedures-for-ppe.html) during aerosol generating procedures.

Conduct environmental surface cleaning following procedures (see section below on environmental infection control).

Facilities should develop policies for monitoring and management of potentially exposed health care providers.

Nurses must partner with their respective hospitals and other health care systems to become educated and informed about education and management of patients with Ebola to include the proper donning and doffing of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Nurses should speak out if there is not available education and practice in utilization of PPE. ONa will work with our members to provide education and support.

CDC and OSHA Current Practice Resources & Guidelines
Click here for a list of current guidance from CDC and OSHA
Click here for joint statement issued October 14, 2014 by ONa and the Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems (OAHHS).