



Immunizations!
AUGUST IS NATIONAL
IMMUNIZATION MONTH

Nurses PRN prepares for
Joint Commission
recertification Fall 2010

Regional Updates
*see what's going on
in your area*

PRN Press August 2010

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Certified by The Joint Commission



National Immunization Awareness Month

August is recognized as National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM). The goal of NIAM is to increase awareness about immunizations across the life span, from infants to the elderly.

August is the perfect time to remind family, friends, co-workers, and those in the community to catch up on their vaccinations. Parents are enrolling their children in school, students are entering college, and healthcare workers are preparing for the upcoming flu season.

Why are immunizations important?

Immunization is one of the most significant public health achievements of the 20th century. Vaccines have eradicated smallpox, eliminated wild polio virus in the United States, and significantly reduced the number of cases of measles, diphtheria, rubella, pertussis and other diseases. But despite these efforts, people in the U.S. still die from these and other vaccine-preventable diseases. Vaccines offer safe and effective protection from infectious diseases. By staying up-to-date on the recommended vaccines, individuals can protect themselves, their families and friends and their communities from serious, life-threatening infections.

Who should be immunized?

Getting immunized is a lifelong, life-protecting community effort regardless of age, sex, race, ethnic background or country of origin. Recommended vaccinations begin soon after birth and continue throughout life. Being aware of the vaccines that are recommended for infants, children, adolescents, adults of all ages and seniors, and making sure that we receive these immunizations, are critical to protecting ourselves and our communities from disease.

When are immunizations given?

Because children are particularly vulnerable to infection, most vaccines are given during the first five to six years of life. Other immunizations are recommended during adolescent or adult years and, for certain vaccines, booster immunization are recommended throughout life. Vaccines against certain diseases that may be encountered when traveling outside of the U.S. are recommended for travelers to specific regions of the world.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
BIRTHDAY HAPPY BIRTHDAY
HAPPY BIRTHDAY



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<p>Dawn C., LPN of WI 8.01 Megan M., RN of AR 8.02 Patti F., LPN of IL 8.03 Julie S., RN of WI 8.04 Nicole K., LPN of WI 8.05 Roxane R., RN of IL 8.05 Sandy L., CNA of WI 8.05 M.Stephen T., RN of AZ 8.06 Catrina T., CNA of IL 8.07 Dawn V., RN of WI 8.08 Kimberly C., RN of IL 8.09 Morgan W., RN of WI 8.09 Katherin V., RN of CA 8.10 Melissa G., RN of CA 8.10</p>	<p>Jacqueline G., RN of IL 8.11 Mandie B., RN of WI 8.11 Edgar S., RN of CA 8.12 Arlyne P., RN of IL 8.14 Marcia B., RN of IL 8.14 Christine G., RN of WI 8.15 Jacqueline C., CNA of WI 8.15 Sandy C., RN of WI 8.15 Athena F., RN of RI 8.17 Emelia N., RN of CA 8.17 Wanda C., RN of MO 8.17 Aaron B., CNA of OR 8.20 Denice B., CNA of IL 8.20</p>	<p>Kelly R., RN of WI 8.21 Emily H., RN of OR 8.22 Cara W., RN of CA 8.24 Jessica F., CNA of WI 8.24 Timothy G., RN of MO 8.24 Maria C., RN of CA 8.25 Regina N., RN of IL 8.25 Barbara W., RN of CA 8.26 Julie C., AUDIO of WI 8.26 Vonnie G., LPN of WI 8.26 Angie B., RN of IL 8.29 Christina J., LPN of WI 8.29 Mary G., LPN of WI 8.30</p>
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REGION SPECIFIC

Updates



Madison

- ER, OB and ICU RNs are needed in Madison and surrounding areas.
- Long term care nurses are needed in Madison, Plymouth, Sheboygan and Fond du Lac.

Rockford

- Needing more LTC/Rehab nursing staff... refer any and all of your licensed staff that qualify and earn money while they work.

Appleton

- Per Diem CNA needs in the Wausau/Merrill areas.
- Still looking for Occupational Health Nurses.
- 3 needs at an insurance company in the Fox Valley, permanent opportunities, looking for insurance, medicare and medicaid experience.
- Looking for LPNs in the Fox Valley for long-term care settings.

San Diego

- FIT Testing in San Diego: San Diego employees are able to obtain complimentary FIT testing from one of our clients. Please let the San Diego branch know if you need a FIT test today so arrangements can be made for completion.

What Makes Tea Good for the Body BENEFITS OF TEA

Tea contains high levels of antioxidants, some of which are called polyphenols, flavonoids, and catechins, and all of which take on the “free radicals” in the body and prevent them from harming the healthy cells on board.

In other words, sending in antioxidants is disease prevention in its finest form. Antioxidants are ready and waiting not only in teas but also in several fruits, vegetables, nuts, meats, and even wines. If that were not enough, tea also contains fluoride which benefits your teeth and has bacteria killing properties which helps control bad breath and the formation of plaque.

Are All Teas Equally Good for the Body?

This is a question researchers are still squabbling over. Does green tea have more antioxidants than black tea? Should I drink instant tea or loose leaf tea for better health benefits? Is hot tea better than iced tea? And here's what it comes down to:

- Higher quality teas may have more catechin antioxidants than lower quality teas.
- White tea has more antioxidants than any other tea.
- Green tea has more catechin antioxidants than black tea since black tea goes through more processing.
- Unfermented rooibos tea has more polyphenol antioxidants than fermented rooibos.
- Freshly brewed teas have more polyphenol antioxidants than instant or bottled teas.
- More researchers seem to agree that brewed (cold or hot) or caffeinated tea has more antioxidants than instant teas.

Here's a short preview of many health conditions that studies prove are benefitted by tea and its antioxidants: Heart Benefits, Cancer Prevention, Hypertension-Reducing Benefits, Leukemia-Fighting Benefits, Alzheimer's-Fighting Benefits and AIDS-Fighting Benefits.

Few Americans Using Electronic Medical Records

Many aren't even sure their doctor offers the technology, new poll finds

By Karen Pallarito, HealthDay Reporter

Despite years of hype around the issue, less than one in 10 American adults now utilize electronic medical records or turn to e-mail to contact their doctor, a new Harris Interactive/HealthDay poll finds. Nearly half of respondents weren't even sure if their physician offered these technologies, according to the survey.

Still, most of those polled said they would like their doctors to access their medical records with the click of a mouse. On the other hand, only about a third (30 percent) believe their insurer should have that same access. Overall, "the general public only has a vague idea, only a very limited understanding, of what all this is about," reasoned Humphrey Taylor, chairman of The Harris Poll, a service of Harris Interactive. The poll was conducted online from June 8-10 among 2,035 U.S. adults.

Despite the Obama Administration's campaign to expand the use of health information technology, public attitudes toward electronic medical records haven't budged much over the past few years, the poll shows.

As of 2009, 78 percent of adults indicated that they "strongly" or "somewhat" agree that doctors should have access to their electronic medical records. In 2007, 80 percent were in agreement on physicians' access to those records.

But patients' use of various electronic functions remains very low. Only 9 percent can communicate with their doctors by e-mail, up from 4 percent in 2006. Eight percent can schedule a doctor's visit online, up from 3 percent, and 8 percent can get diagnostic test results by e-mail, up from 2 percent in 2006. A little more than a quarter (28 percent) of those polled thought their doctor used electronic medical records, but 42 percent said they didn't know if their primary care physician had the technology.

Experts believe many consumers remain skeptical about the inappropriate use of health information stored and accessed electronically.

President Barack Obama authorized \$19 billion in stimulus funding over several years to speed doctors' and hospitals' move toward electronic records. However, the financial incentives are tied to new rules that many providers consider overly burdensome. Over time, experts believe electronic medical records will make inroads in American medicine. "There's no question, it's the future," Taylor said. "The question is 'How quickly do we get there?'"



Product Testing is on Facebook!

Become our friend by searching [Prdct Tstg-Prn](#) or send us your email and we'll befriend you. Our facebook page will wall post weekly with the most recent studies and information for you to become involved and get paid.

Product Testing is always looking for infants in diapers and toddlers in training pants for product testing. They are also seeing adults and teens for feminine care product testing. Fox Cities residents (Appleton and surrounding area). Interested - contact Maggie at maggie@prninc.com or by calling 920.749.7702.

PRN PRODUCT TESTING
Maggie Bootz
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Phone: 920.749.7702 - Toll Free: 877.500.2653
Fax: 920.734.5685 Email: maggie@prninc.com

- Infants
- Toddlers
- Teens
- Adults
- Get Paid
- Test Products

WHO'S WHO at PRN? MEET Stacie

Stacie McCarthy is the Senior Account Manager for the Appleton office. Stacie has worked for Nurses PRN for over seven years. She has experienced many segments of the industry through her role as an Account Manager in other markets. Stacie is committed to working hard for the Appleton area and is located in the corporate office in Appleton. Stacie and her husband live just outside of Appleton with their three children. She likes to play volleyball, watch movies, camp and attend her children's activities. Stacie can be reached at stacie@prninc.com.



B.J. S., one of Nurses PRN's traveling OR Techs is on assignment at Mount Desert Hospital in Bar Harbor, Maine. Just last month he received notification that he was selected to be on first call for President Obama and his family while they were in Bar Harbor over the July weekend! PRN is proud and excited that he was selected for this great responsibility. What a great representation of Nurses PRN and a testament to the quality of care B.J. provides.



We're on facebook, twitter and we're bloggin... if any of these social media networks are convenient for you, we'd like to connect. An easy way to find us is by visiting the home page of our website prnhealthservices.com and click on the icons. When your time allows, we hope you'll check us out. Plan to see announcements, assignments, open opportunities and information pop up often - it's just one more way for us to build relationships with friends, like you, one touch at a time.



WELCOME to the family

We'd like to welcome our newest PRN family members - you are part of our team and if there's anything we can do to support you, don't hesitate to let us know. We're happy you've joined us.

Sylvia A., of OC
Laura A., of AP
Jayne C., of SD
Annmarie C., of MD
Lynette C., of AP
Maria C., of AP
Brandy D., of Travel
Kenneth D., of OR
B William D., of MD
Tamara E., of PA
Lydia G., of SD
Melissa G., of SD
Ellen H., of Travel

Michelle H., of Travel
Tracy J., of CH
Ginny K., of Kraft
Perri K., of Travel
Sharon K., of AP
Alicia L., of SD
Maybelle L., of OC
Calcie M., of CH
Amanda M., of MD
Sharon M., of SD
Yen N., of OC
Lisa R., of MD
Mollie R., of AP

Regina R., of CH
Katie S., of AP
Shanquanna T., of SD
Catrina T., of CH
Kayla T., of AP
JoAnne T., of AP
Sara V., of AP
Danielle W., of MD
Gina W., of Travel
Lisa W., of AP





Joint Commission Readiness

Don't forget to check your email and PRNs blog site for Joint Commission and regulatory information updates!

Q: Why do I have to complete orientation, skills checklists, patient safety goals and core mandatory information for PRN?

A: The HCSS (Health Care Staffing Services) firm provides orientation to clinical staff regarding initial job training and information. Although most clients provide their own orientation, PRN is required to cover basic information in our hiring process, this includes: Documented review of PRN policies and procedures (found on www.prnhealthservices.com) prior to providing care, treatment or services; Customers policies and procedures as appropriate; Safety including National Patient Safety Goals Infection Control using CDC or WHO guidelines; Cultural Diversity and Sensitivity, patient rights and ethics in healthcare (core testing materials content); Procedure to follow in the event of unexpected pt. incidents including Sentinel Event reporting; Information to contact PRN in the event of an inappropriate assignment (call 888-830-8811).

Q: Why do I need to repeat some of this material every year for Nurses PRN?

A: The HCSS firm determines the learning needs of clinical staff by what was identified through competence assessment results, client feedback, performance improvement activities, self-assessments, current practice guideline changes, legislative initiatives, or other sources. According to Merlin Wessels, Associate Director, Department of Standards Interpretation for Joint Commission, once those learning needs are identified, the firm can use the information to help guide staff in ongoing educational activities.

Q: How can I participate in CEU's through Nurses PRN?

A: HCSS firm encourages the improvement of clinical staff competence through ongoing educational opportunities. Access to CE Direct featuring Nursing Spectrum Continuing Education is provided free to all Nurses PRN employees. CE Direct is a direct extension of Gannett Healthcare Group's mission to "enrich the professional lives of nurses." CE Direct members have UNLIMITED access to more than 500 top-quality Nursing Spectrum CE courses, available via online e-learning courses, podcast audio courses and magazine article courses. Spectrum CE is one of only two recipients of the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Accreditation Premier Program Award. This prestigious recognition highlights Nursing Spectrum CE's position as one of the nation's top nursing CE providers. To enroll for CE Direct through Nurses PRN contact your account manager today.

Q: How do I receive information regarding my performance for Nurses' PRN?

A: Standard HSHR.6 - The HCSS firm evaluates the performance of clinical staff. Nurses PRN requires written feedback of your performance annually. This performance evaluation extends beyond client clinical feedback and includes PRNs input in the following areas:

- Professional performance (attendance, attitude, presentation, etc): Techniques procedures and skills needed to provide care treatment and services to populations served analysis of negative patterns and trends.
- Evaluation information should be provided to all active PRN staff to provide feedback on fulfillment of job responsibilities and the quality of their efforts. Please contact your account manager today to receive a copy of your written performance in the past year.

Q. What is a sentinel event?

A. The Joint Commission definition

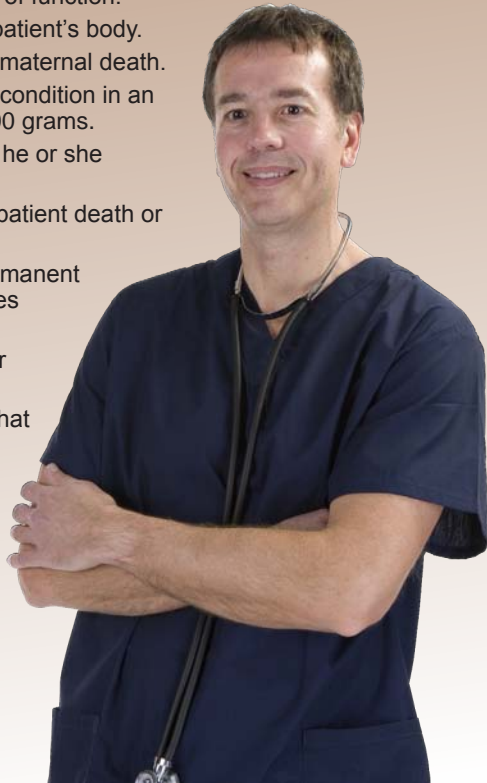
- A sentinel event is an unexpected occurrence involving death or serious physical or psychological injury, or the risk thereof. Serious injury specifically includes loss of limb or function. The phrase “or the risk thereof” includes any process variation for which a recurrence would carry a significant chance of a serious adverse outcome.
- Such events are called “sentinel” because they signal the need for immediate investigation and response.

The terms “sentinel event” and “medical error” are not synonymous; not all sentinel events occur because of an error and not all errors result in sentinel. The Sentinel Event Policy requests the organization to transmit its root cause analysis, action plan, and other sentinel event-related information to The Joint Commission electronically. If you have any questions on sentinel event reporting please contact Nurses PRN CQI team at 888-830-8811 at anytime. You may also access how to voluntarily report a sentinel event through the Joint Commission via www.jointcommission.org.

Examples of Sentinel Events that are Reviewable under the Joint Commission’s Sentinel Event Policy:

- Any patient death, paralysis, coma, or other major permanent loss of function associated with a medication error.
- A patient commits suicide within 72 hours of being discharged from a hospital setting that provides staffed around-the-clock care.
- Any elopement, that is unauthorized departure, of a patient from an around-the-clock care setting resulting in a temporally related death (suicide, accidental death, or homicide) or major permanent loss of function.
- A hospital operates on the wrong side of the patient’s body.
- Any intrapartum (related to the birth process) maternal death.
- Any perinatal death unrelated to a congenital condition in an infant having a birth weight greater than 2,500 grams.
- A patient is abducted from the hospital where he or she receives care, treatment, or services.
- Assault, homicide, or other crime resulting in patient death or major permanent loss of function.
- A patient fall that results in death or major permanent loss of function as a direct result of the injuries sustained in the fall.
- Hemolytic transfusion reaction involving major blood group incompatibilities.
- A foreign body, such as a sponge or forceps that was left in a patient after surgery.

Note: An adverse outcome that is directly related to the natural course of the patient’s illness or underlying condition. For example, terminal illness present at the time of presentation, is not reportable except for suicide in, or following elopement from, a 24-hour care setting (see above).



Family Notes

PRN Family Updates

- 🌀 Congratulations Maripat K. of travel on the recent celebration of your 25th wedding anniversary!
- 🌀 Dawn C. of Madison – great job on your extended contract at UW!
- 🌀 Laura S., Doug G., Ginny K., Sandy U., Robin M., Jane C., Sandi K. of Madison, thank you for all of your hard work at Kraft! You are all doing a great job!
- 🌀 Christina N. (PRN CNO) the Madison team would like to thank you and express our appreciation for all you have done with the Kraft account. Your efforts haven't gone unnoticed.
- 🌀 Thanks to everyone for working with the Rockford office and the variety of back up office staff while Jennice Willman was out. We appreciate your patience, flexibility and understanding, which only makes the experience for us much more enjoyable... so thank you very much!
- 🌀 Thank you to Spring H. for filling an assignment for us and impressing the heck out of the staff at the facility. GREAT JOB!
- 🌀 Great job Arlyne P. on her assignment at a Rockford Clinic!
- 🌀 Our thoughts and prayers are with Jessica L. and her family as she had lost her grandmother.
- 🌀 We really appreciate all the RK employees willing to pick up the last minute shifts...it doesn't go unnoticed, thank you.
- 🌀 Our sympathy is extended to Flora B. of California on the recent passing of her uncle.
- 🌀 Thank you so much Alicia U. of Appleton for your willingness to travel to locations outside of your home area. We appreciate all of your help.
- 🌀 Congratulations to Michelle S. of Appleton on your one month contract.
- 🌀 Oh Baby! Jean Marie H. of Chicago just had a baby girl "Allison" at the end of June. Congratulations and we look forward to having you back.
- 🌀 A special thanks to Gwen H. of Rockford, your recent late evening efforts reflected the compassion that PRN stands for and we appreciate your dedication to your work.

REFERRAL BONUS

The totals you see below are the dollar amounts PRN is GIVING away through our Referral Bonus Program. It's simple and well worth it. Here's how it works. You earn up to \$500 for each nurse you refer. You will receive \$2 per hour for every hour they work up to 250 hours – even if you don't work. The referred nurse will receive an extra \$1 per hour for their first 250 hours. You may not refer one another. Each employee can be referred only one time. A former PRN employee must be inactive for one year prior to eligibility in the referral bonus program.

Appleton - \$32.50
Atlanta - \$64.50
Chicago - \$384.50
Kimberly Clark - \$64.50
Madison - \$261.50
Oregon - \$34.50
Travel - \$197.00

Top Referral of the Month

Theresa T. of Chicago earned \$129.00 while her referrals worked!

June Total: \$1,048.75

Year-to-Date Total: \$10,054.57

Happy Anniversary

9 years

Mandeep S., RN of CT 8.15

4 years

Teresa A., RN of WI 8.12

3 years

Jennifer A., LPN of IN 8.23

Kimberly A., LPN of WI 8.04

Paul L., LPN of MN 8.24

2 years

John G., RN of WI 8.07

Paula K., RN of IN 8.31

Valerie P., RN of WI 8.24

1 year

Denise E., CMA of IL 8.27

Julie W., RN of WI 8.28

Leticia C., RN of OR 8.31

Oluwatosin O., RN of OR 8.31

Sarah H., RN of WA 8.31

Tamika G., RN of MO 8.28

Alina K., RN of IL 8.21

Amy W., RN of IL 8.20

Angie S., RN of IA 8.24

Julie D., CNA of WI 8.03

Linda P., RN of OR 8.19

Lisa T., RN of IL 8.21

Michelle O., RN of OR 8.19

Tara W., RN of WI 8.21

Terri C., RN of MO 8.04

Dawn C., LPN of WI 8.05

Deborah A., CNA of WI 8.12

Julie S., RN of WI 8.15

Pheebe M., RN of IN 8.08

Robert B., RN of CT 8.23

LOYALTY

DEDICATION

COMMITMENT

RELIABLE

INTEGRITY

DEVOTION

SERVICE

RESPONSIBLE

QUALITY

FLEXIBLE

Recipe of the Month

Families with strong traditions always seem to have a "family recipe collection." Nurses PRN is no different. Our family recipes come from nurses all over the country... enjoy and happy cooking!

Shrimp Marinade

submitted by Jeff Jacobsen, Chicago Branch Manager

Ingredients:

- 2 lbs raw shrimp (the larger the better to avoid falling through the racks while cooking on the grill.) Thawed and peeled
- 1/2 c olive oil
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/4 c tequila
- 1/4 tsp cayenne pepper
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1/2 c chili sauce



Directions:

Mix together and pour over shrimp to marinate - overnight if possible. Cook on grill until done.

PRN Corporate Office:
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