



FRIDAY MORNING HUDDLE

A gathering of Oregon nursing workforce leaders together to offer timely updates and share insights from peers and stakeholders during the COVID-19 crisis.

DATE: April 3, 2020

Adequate Staffing:

Furlough/Mandatory Call-off/Low Census. As non-emergent procedures have been postponed/rescheduled, facilities across the region are implementing mandatory call-off or furloughing staff. Many are looking at how that staff can be redistributed when the surge starts to occur.

Oregon Health Authority with assistance from the Workforce Talent and Development Board and Oregon Center for Nursing is launching a survey to hospital to assess workforce capacity and needs over the next month. The survey may be adapted for other health care settings in the future.

Curry Health is currently able to meet their staffing needs but will struggle if hit with a surge.

Oregon Nurses Association is helping members who have been furloughed or called off due to low census numbers.

Nursing Students in Health Care Facilities:

Oregon State Board of Nursing has released new [guidelines](#) allowing nursing students in their last term of school to work in hospitals and receive credit. Educators are reviewing new guidelines, comparing guidelines to past preceptor-model clinical experiences, and discussing how to implement this for students who may want to seek employment in response to the surge.

Clatsop Community College said their program has had to adjust clinical experiences for students who have been affected by low census in hospitals as they follow state mandates to postpone non-emergent procedures and care. They are still able to provide some education in person (following social distancing guidelines) and have begun using virtual simulation products (offered by Laerdal and KeithRN).

Central Oregon Community College is also dealing with a loss of clinical placements in hospital settings.

OHSU School of Nursing is educating in a virtual clinical setting right now. Though they are receiving requests from clinical partners related to PPE donations, they are contemplating reserving that PPE to distribute to students if clinical experiences in facilities become available. They continue to follow guidance from OHSU related to clinical experiences for students.

Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems has multiple members who are interested in potentially employing students to respond to surge, but would like more conversation about how students will be utilized and what their scope of work will be.

Asante Health is currently continuing student clinical experiences but restricting students from working in isolation units.

Updates:

Oregon Health Authority. Incident Command has been restructured into two main branches – healthcare systems and healthcare intelligence. Marc Overbeck is the workforce development manager for the healthcare systems branch. He is hoping the partnerships and structure being developed to respond to COVID-19 can be continued to look at developing the healthcare workforce on a long-term basis.

Oregon State Board of Nursing. OSBN’s April Board Meeting will take place on April 9 at 9 a.m.
Public call-in: 1-866-377-3315, Participant Code: 8932530.

Oregon Center for Nursing conducted two webinars this week in response to Friday Huddle questions and topics. The recorded webinars are available [online](#).

NEXT HUDDLE: FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 8 A.M.

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