

Date: September 15, 2023



Oregon Center for  
NURSING

# FRIDAY HUDDLE

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

## Nursing Workforce

**Labor Strikes and Quality of Life:** Following recent announcements of [nurses at OHSU](#) and [Kaiser Permanente](#) moving towards labor strikes, huddlers discussed the ongoing unrest within the nursing workforce. We identified this unrest across the U.S. workforce, including strikes within the [United Auto Workers](#) and Southwest [Washington school districts](#). Huddlers agree that it is no longer just about wages and benefits but other essential factors that impact a nurse's quality of life—including work-life balance, professional development, and adequate staffing. We agreed that these are not people who are disengaging with or abandoning the profession but are demanding a healthier way to live. Here are additional resources from the conversation:

- [A free five-part series from the ANA Nurse Staffing Task Force](#)
- OCN's "[A New View on Nurse Turnover: How the COVID-19 Pandemic Shocked the System](#)" report

**Updated COVID-19 Vaccinations:** An [updated vaccination for COVID-19](#) has been introduced, along with new protocols from the Oregon Health Authority. Doses are expected to drive in Oregon within the next few days. Huddlers shared the following resources and links with helpful information as healthcare providers adopt the newest guidelines and protocols:

- The updated protocols from the Oregon Health Authority are [available here](#).
- The OHA Immunization Program Help Desk is available by phone at 1-800-980-9431—or email [amanda.j.timmons@oha.oregon.gov](mailto:amanda.j.timmons@oha.oregon.gov) for additional support.
- A webinar with Sec. Xavier Becerra that explores a [national perspective on vaccines](#).
- A blog post from epidemiologist Katelyn Jetelina about common vaccination questions that CDC guidance might not address. [Read it here](#).
- Information about pairing your RSV vaccine with the flu and COVID-19 vaccinations—[click here](#).

**Vaccine Fatigue:** Huddlers also discussed a rise in vaccination declinations, particularly in students attending clinical placements. Others reported similar trends in conversations with family and friends, as well as in interactions with parents of pediatric patients.

**Oregon's Basic Health Program:** Oregon became the third state in the nation to seek approval for a basic health program, according to the [Oregon Health Authority](#). The intended plan would provide medical, mental health, and dental care to more than 100,000 low-income households.

## Events and Happenings

**Upcoming Events:** There are some exciting webinars, conferences, and workshops coming up soon:

- September 20: [ASPE Webinar - SP Voices Around The World](#)
- September 24: [Student Nurse Conference](#) by Oregon AWHONN
- September 24-26: [2023 Oregon AWHONN Fall Conference](#)
- September 25: [OCN Simulation Journal Club](#) (Virtual)
- October 4: [2023 Outstanding Nurse Preceptor Virtual Awards Ceremony](#)
- October 5: [CCO Oregon 10th Annual Conference](#)
- November 3: [Healthcare Violence Prevention Summit](#)

### Next Friday Huddle:

Friday, September 22, at 8:00 a.m.

[Register Here!](#)

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