

## **UC San Diego**

**Spring 2016 - UC San Diego Health Journal of Nursing: The Unique Power of Nursing**

### **Title**

Nurse Leader Involvement in Community Healthcare Outreach

### **Permalink**

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/1v39k4xz>

### **Journal**

UC San Diego Health Journal of Nursing, 9(1)

### **Author**

Noordenbos, John, RN

### **Publication Date**

2016-04-01

Peer reviewed

# NURSE LEADER INVOLVEMENT IN COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE OUTREACH

By: John Noordenbos, RN

The Regional Burn Center has provided burn care and education to the communities of San Diego and Imperial counties for over 40 years. As the Burn Program Coordinator I am responsible for the community outreach throughout the region as an indispensable part of decreasing the incidence of burn injuries as well as improving patient outcomes after injury. The mission of the Burn Center, as the only American Burn Association verified adult and pediatric center for both counties, is to provide these important services.

I have developed a unique two-fold approach to accomplish our mission through provider-targeted burn care education and community-focused burn injury prevention awareness programs. Provider education is directed to first responders such as firemen, paramedics, paramedic students, and emergency department staff. I lecture on topics such as initial assessment of a burn injury, determination of both depth and extent of injury, the importance of evaluating for inhalation injury and initial care of the burn. I also review cases from each catchment

area based on zip code grouping, and present a demographic analysis as well as an overview of select cases. This gives first responders the opportunity to critique the actual cases from their departments and further the development of their competencies overall. Due to the extensive scope of the Burn Center's service area, these education initiatives have helped to ensure better patient outcomes, especially those for whom specialized burn care may be over an hour away.

Community prevention education is an important opportunity to engage with and educate people on a one-to-one basis. I have created educational handouts, posters and tools such as coloring books and other media, which target injuries in the pediatric population. This is a crucial component as this population is particularly vulnerable to scald injury. Fifty percent of burn injuries in children are in those under the age of 5 and 75% of these injuries are from scalds in the home, such as food spills and injuries during bathing. Our information booth set up at fire departments for open houses and community safety fairs allow us to meet with parents



**John Noordenbos, RN** is the Burn Program Coordinator and has been a member of the Burn Team since 1991. He spent the first 5 years working as a night nurse in the Burn ICU, then transitioned to the role of Clinical Research Coordinator for the Burn Center and Wound Treatment Center. In 2009 John took on the challenge of Program Coordinator and in 2015 added on the additional responsibility of Nurse Manager of the Burn Outpatient Clinic. John has been an active member of the American Burn Association since 1996, during which time he has had multiple abstracts accepted for both oral and poster presentation.

and kids and provide interactive education as well as visual aids to show the consequences of unsafe behavior. Additionally we are able to identify risks which may be in the home and provide prevention tips. While it may seem unsettling for children and families to see firsthand images of burn injuries and treatment, the feedback from the community has been extremely positive. Families report that these strong visual aids have helped them to better understand the risks and consequences of common household hazards, and provide better protection for their families.

2015 Coronado Public Safety Open House



# CARDIOVASCULAR ICU AND THE SCREEN YOUR TEEN EVENT

By: Laura Chechel, BSN, RN, CCRN



The highly skilled, compassionate, Sulpizio Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit (CVC ICU) Nurses are a dynamic team, always willing to lend a hand both in and out of the workplace. As the CVICU Nurse Educator, I encouraged our unit-based shared governance council, to use their strengths to for improving and maintaining the cardiac health of young adults within the San Diego community. The Eric Paredes (EP) Save a Life Foundation provided a perfect pairing for an organization in need, and the Sulpizio CVICU's Nurses accomplished skill set.

Hector and Rhina Paredes

3A Cardiovascular ICU team members screening teens for SCA risks. From left to right; Katie Campbell, BSN, RN, CCRN; Yvette Bleakley, BSN, RN, CCRN; Sarah Hillebrand, MSN, RN; Jonathan Bills, RN; Laura Chechel, BSN, RN, CCRN

established the EP Save a Life Foundation in honor of their teenage son Eric Paredes, who tragically died from Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) at the age of 15. SCA is the second leading cause of death among youth under 25. Approximately 1 in 100 teens are at risk for SCA, but with proper screening, SCA is preventable. EP's Save a life foundation's is committed to preventing SCA in teens and young adults so that no other family has to endure the tragic

loss of a teen-age child.

In San Diego alone, it is estimated that 3-5 teens are lost to SCA annually. For this reason, the organization holds free screenings throughout the year in San Diego County for youth ages ranging from 12-25 years old. Screenings are held approximately 6-8 Sundays per year and are staffed entirely by medical and non-medical volunteers. Sulpizio CVICU nurses team-up in groups of 6 to volunteer for 8-hour shifts. At each of these