

UC San Diego

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Message from the Chief Clinical Officer

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Message from the
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our professional practice model depicts, teamwork is not just the relationship you have with other nurses. Our relationships with other disciplines are just as important to producing quality care. One team describes how they successfully improved nurse-physician communication through joint rounds, a process usually found only in the intensive care units. You will learn about uniquely specialized PCUs, like the epilepsy monitoring unit, and unique treatments like CAR-T being delivered in oncology PCUs.

When Jacobs Medical Center first opened, there were many challenges with the environmental design and new workflows. One team describes novel strategies towards teambuilding and overcoming these challenges in an article entitled, 'Igniting Innovation'. They found that even now, well past the move, the same strategies are helpful for everyday operations. These new approaches have been so successful that they have been adopted widely by many other units as a way to enhance employee engagement and provide nurses the resources they need while stimulating new ideas to advance practice. Finally, the Trauma PCU describes the process of working through an ethical dilemma that resulted in changing the way we interact with law enforcement to improve safety of our employees and patients, while maintaining appropriate patient privacy. That article was originally published in Critical Connections, a publication of the Society of Critical Care Medicine, and we are making it available to you through our UCSDH Journal of Nursing.

I hope you enjoy reading these articles as much as I have. I have always encouraged nurses to journal about their work, reflecting back on what it means to be a nurse. This year's journal is just that; a reflection of each nurse's piece of the process of advancing progressive care. I am thankful to all of the nurses who so diligently learned new skills and embraced caring for new and different types of patients. I am grateful that all of these nurses helped us to reach our goals of being able to provide this care to a greater number of people in our community.

I wish all of you a wonderful Nurses Week.

With Gratitude,

MARGARITA BAGGETT, MSN, RN
CHIEF CLINICAL OFFICER

Welcome to the 16th issue of the UC San Diego Health Journal of Nursing. We are proud to produce this year's journal centered on the topic of progressive care nursing. We asked each of our Progressive Care Units (PCUs) to provide stories about their unit, and received a wide range of material on a variety of topics. In 2016 UCSDH expanded the number and types of patient care units. This was done for many reasons. First, we needed to increase the number of ICU beds available for tertiary care needed by patients transferred from our new affiliations with other health centers. Secondly, as our market-share continued to grow, we needed to provide more patients with treatments that required closer monitoring than can be done on a medical-surgical floor.

You will read about the experience of opening a new PCU, where nurses were often asked to care for new types of patients at a new level of care. Many of these nurses had not expected a change like this in their career. Whole units that were once medical-surgical level of acuity were transformed into PCUs. Nurses had to make the hard choice of advancing their skills or leaving the department they had been a part of for many years. I recognize the professional strain that this caused them, and you will hear the emotion in some of these testimonies. Looking back, they tell us it was stressful and challenging, but in the end they report being proud of their newly acquired skills gained through thoughtfully planned education. They express clear appreciation for the support they received from their peers, managers, and educators in the transition.

Then there are the messages of teambuilding, the bonding that occurs as new workgroups settle into their new roles and find their niche in the fabric of UCSDH nursing. The sentiment of pride comes through loudly from those who have transitioned past the 'change' process to the other side where they practice nursing in a 'new normal'. Further, as

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Shared Governance committee membership is a great way to become personally involved in the Magnet journey and to help shape the future of nursing at UCSD. For more information go to our nursing website at <https://health.ucsd.edu/medinfo/nursing/Pages/nursing-committee-opportunities.aspx>

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