

“Nursing Summit 2010: Mock Trial and Beyond” **Presentation Descriptions and Objectives**

Presentation 1: “Legal Exclusive: How to Avoid Daily Practice Risks”

By David Griffiths, Vice President of Nursing Services Organization
And Kate Mager, Account Executive of Nursing Services Organization

Did you know that along with nurses’ growing prestige and accountability you’re more vulnerable to medical malpractice lawsuits? As part of a 10-year landmark study of lawsuits against nursing professionals, the presenters will recommend key strategies for how you can lower your nursing practice risk in medication administration, documentation, diagnosis, higher-risk specialties, and more.

Objectives:

- Identify professional liability risks to nurses in the practice of their profession
- Describe data which nurses can use to benchmark their own outcomes
- Discuss recommendations to support nurses in managing professional liability risks
- Demonstrate the variation between historic and emerging nurse practice models

Presentation 2: “I’ve Been Sued! Now What?”

By Karen Butler, RN, BSN, JD of Thuillez, Ford, Gold, Butler & Young, LLP

You had a really bad day, someone was hurt at your hospital and it may be your fault. What now? Learn what steps you can take to maximize the chances of a successful defense of a malpractice suit. What should you do if served with a claim? Why do you need to cooperate in your defense? What should you do to prepare for a deposition? These and other questions will be answered in this one hour presentation by an attorney who defends malpractice cases.

Objectives:

- Identify strategies for avoiding and defending nurse malpractice claims
- Identify effective strategies for presenting an effective defense at deposition and/or trial

Presentation 3: “Mock Trial Simulation: You Be the Judge”

By Shawna Patrick, MS, RN, President of Nurses for Nursing

Mock trials are an engaging teaching method used to stimulate critical thinking and teamwork; facilitate critical analysis of the medical record and evidence-based practices; and teach nurses about the legal implications of practice, standards of care, scope of practice, principles of documentation, and so much more! In this activity, participants will serve as judge and jury in a mock trial simulation, and will determine the verdict of a negligence case revolving around a patient admitted to the Intensive Care Unit for gastrointestinal bleeding and alcohol withdrawal.

Participants will learn the elements of negligence and how to determine a verdict in a civil trial, the standards of care for alcohol withdrawal and restraints, and the importance of documentation.

Objectives:

- Describe courtroom procedure for a civil trial
- Define the elements of negligence used during civil trial
- Discuss the standards of care for alcohol withdrawal
- Discuss the standards of care for the use of restraints

Presentation 4: “Defensive Documentation: Nurses on the Front Line of Litigation”

By Ann Marie Parisi, RN, CLNC, Nightengale Legal Consulting

When nurses are involved in litigation related to malpractice or negligence, their use of documentation can be crucial.

Learn about current legal issues that affect the nursing professional as a whole. Understand the anatomy of a nursing case and see how documentation affects the outcome. Review real life court cases & verdicts that reflect the power of nursing documentation.

Objectives:

- Identify several issues impacting current litigation
- Identify the four (4) key elements of a nursing negligence case
- Verbalize the importance of nursing documentation in relation to case outcomes/verdicts
- Recognize the important role contributory negligence plays with regard to defense verdicts
- Identify the legal ramifications of altering medical records
- Discuss the clinical Never Events as outlined by National Quality Forum