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Christine E. Lynn

Consortium's November 15 conference to focus on best practices for reloading the leadership pipeline

Role Transitions; Meeting the Future Needs of Nursing will be the theme of the next Nursing Consortium of South Florida conference. Make plans to join us on the 15th of November at the Signature Grand as the Consortium responds to the challenges that many organizations face in filling nurse leader roles by highlighting current best practices for engaging, developing and supporting emerging leaders and for evolving leader roles at this day-long educational conference that will also be an exceptional networking opportunity. [Register this week](#) to take advantage of pre-conference registration rates. Walk-ins will only be accepted the day of the conference on a space available basis.

Dr. Bjarnason to keynote Consortium Fall Conference

Dana Bjarnason, Ph.D., RN, NE-BC the VP and Chief Nursing Executive of [OHSU Healthcare](#) and the Associate Dean, Clinical Affairs at [OHSU School of Nursing](#) will keynote *Role Transitions; Meeting the Future Needs of Nursing*. "We're delighted that Dr. Bjarnason has accepted our invitation. Her commitment to strong collaboration between nursing practice and academia perfectly aligns with the Consortium's mission and legacy. Hers is a career of many impressive professional accomplishments and honors. Yet the fact that she considers changing the generation of nursing leadership at OHSU Healthcare as her greatest accomplishment attests to why she was the perfect keynote for this conference which every nurse leader and emerging leader should attend," remarked executive director Ralph Egües. To register, please [click here](#).

House passes funding reauthorization for nursing loans and grants. Time to engage your Senators.

Vitally needed Title VIII nursing education and workforce funding has made good progress through the legislative process. [H.R. 728](#) recently passing out of the House of Representatives and the Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions Committee has also passed the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act ([S. 1399](#)). The legislation that would reauthorize for five years federal programs to develop the nursing workforce. Next up is a vote in the Senate. Please take the initiative to solicit the support of your Senators for S. 1399 by [clicking here](#) and letting them know that investing in the next generation of nurses though support Title VIII funding is important to you. The [link](#) provides access to an editable email. For additional information on Title VIII, [please click here](#).

Healthcare-associated infections continue to decline

Acute-care hospitals reduced *Clostridium difficile* infections by 12%, central line-associated bloodstream infections by 9% and catheter-associated urinary tract infections by 8% in 2018,

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Hospital South

according to the latest [progress report](#) on reducing health care-associated infections from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. For more on progress to reduce healthcare-associated infections, please [click here](#).

CDC updates guidelines to prevent infections in health care personnel

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has released an [update](#) to its 1998 guidelines to prevent and control infection in the health care workplace, including special considerations associated with emergency response personnel and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Intended for health care leaders and staff who address workplace health and safety, the updated guidelines apply to a broader range of health care settings, including hospital-based, long-term care and outpatient settings. New topics include using performance measures to track and guide quality improvement initiatives to prevent and control infections.

Vaping-related lung injuries continue to climb

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has [updated](#) the number of people with confirmed or probable lung injuries associated with electronic cigarette use or vaping products to 1,888 in 49 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands, including 37 confirmed deaths. CDC and the Food and Drug Administration continue to investigate the cause of the illness. CDC recently issued [updated guidance](#) for clinicians caring for patients with vaping-associated lung injuries, and encourages providers to [report](#) possible cases to their state or local health department.

CMS steps up oversight of nursing home inspections

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has [announced](#) changes to the State Performance Standards System for state survey agencies to ensure that nursing home inspections are timely and accurate. "This includes new performance measures and stricter monitoring to ensure inspections are done in a fair, accurate, and timely manner, ensuring patient safety, and ensuring that enforcement actions — like civil money penalties — are applied consistently," according to a recent [news release](#) by CMS. The change is part of a broader CMS plan [announced](#) in April to enhance nursing home oversight, enforcement, transparency and quality while reducing administrative burden.

New Report! Criteria for Selecting the Leading Health Indicators for Healthy People 2030

The health and well-being of all people and communities are essential to a thriving, equitable society. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health has charged the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to convene an ad hoc committee to assist in the development of Leading Health Indicators (LHIs) for Healthy People 2030. In its [first report](#), the committee discusses the background materials relevant to the charge and makes recommendations regarding the criteria for selecting LHIs.

NTOCC releases new resources for opioid prescribing and management

The National Transitions of Care Coalition (NTOCC) has released new provider and consumer resources in opioid prescribing and management. Please check out these three new NTOCC resources:

- 1) [Taking Care of My Pain Management](#)
- 2) [Know Your Rights, Risks and Responsibility](#)
- 3) [About Prescribing Naloxone](#)

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**Palm Beach State
College
School of Nursing**

Palms West Hospital

**Plantation General
Hospital**

**RN Network
South Miami Hospital**

South University

Trustbridge

University Hospital

**University of Miami
School of Nursing
and Health Studies**

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Hospitals & Clinics**

VITAS Healthcare

West Coast University

**West Kendall Baptist
Hospital**

**Westside Regional
Medical Center**

Joint Commission advisory reviews new maternal care standards

The Joint Commission has issued an [advisory](#) reviewing its new hospital accreditation standards for preventing maternal hemorrhage and severe hypertension/preeclampsia effective July 1, 2020. The advisory also reviews suggested strategies for preventing postpartum hemorrhage, such as obstetric safety bundles. For more on how hospitals are working to advance better health for mothers and babies, please [click here](#).

Report recommends actions to address clinician burnout

Between one-third and one-half of U.S. clinicians experience burnout and addressing the epidemic requires systemic changes by health care organizations, educational institutions and all levels of government, says a new [report](#) from the National Academy of Medicine. The report recommends actions to promote positive work and learning environments; reduce administrative burden and make health information technology easier to use; reduce the stigma associated with seeking help; and address gaps in the research on clinician well-being. The National Academy of Medicine's Action Collaborative on Clinician Well-Being and Resilience requested the study. In May, the American Hospital Association's Physician Alliance released a [playbook](#) to help hospital and health system leaders address burnout in their organizations.

Report examines racial, ethnic differences in opioid overdoses

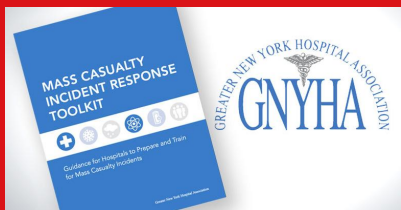
Opioid overdose death rates increased for nearly all racial and ethnic groups in metropolitan areas between 2015 and 2017, according to a new [report](#) by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Black Americans experienced the largest absolute and percentage increases, with a 103% increase in overdose deaths in large cities and a 361% increase in overdoses involving synthetic opioids. Synthetic opioids were involved in nearly 60% of opioid-involved overdose deaths in 2017. "Culturally competent interventions are needed to target populations at risk; these interventions include increasing awareness about synthetic opioids in the drug supply and expanding evidence-based interventions, such as naloxone distribution and medication-assisted treatment," the authors said. In 2018, drug overdose deaths declined 5.1% to about 68,000, according to [preliminary data](#) released by the CDC in July.

Website helps Americans locate substance use disorder treatment

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration has launched [FindTreatment.gov](#), a website to help Americans locate substance use disorder treatment services. Users can access information on more than 13,000 treatment facilities, including treatment options, payment and insurance information. "We know that finding access to the right provider, at the right time, can be essential to helping someone start on the road to recovery," said [Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar](#).

Nov. 12 webinar on building a program to identify, respond to human trafficking

The American Hospital Association's Hospital Against Violence initiative, in collaboration with HEAL Trafficking and Jones Day will host a webinar on Nov. 12 at 3 p.m. to highlight lessons learned from one urban hospital-based human trafficking response program. Kate Lawler, director of the violence prevention program at Swedish Covenant Hospital in Chicago, will share important topics for health care leaders to consider when assessing how their organizations can play a greater role in this issue and learnings around staff resilience. For additional information and to register, please [click here](#).



Nov. 21 webinar on improving hospital-community partnerships

The American Hospital Association's Health Center for Innovation will host a webinar on Nov. 21 at 1 p.m. on how health care providers, public health agencies and community-based organizations can effectively coordinate efforts to move toward healthy communities. As part of the Partnership for Public Health project, a joint effort between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, AHA and the National Association of County and City Health Officials, this webinar will explore key insights, tips, advice and leading practices from program participants on coming together as a cross-sector collaborative. For additional information and to register, please [click here](#).

Dec. 4 Nursing Reception at Hard Rock Stadium

The Miami Dolphins are inviting all South Florida nurses to a cocktail reception at the fabulously remodeled Hard Rock Stadium on Wednesday, the 4th of December from 6:00-9:30 pm; with check-in beginning at 5:30 pm. Make *Scrubs, White Coats & Cocktails* your first holiday party this year and check out the site of the next Super Bowl. Attendees will receive one (1) complimentary ticket to the Dolphins vs. Cincinnati Bengals football game on the 22nd of December which will be Nursing Appreciation Night. For additional information and to register, please [click here](#).



SCRUBS, WHITE COATS AND COCKTAILS

Dec. 11-13 Nurse Leader Institute in Orlando

American Organization for Nursing Leadership (formerly AONE) will host its Emerging Nurse Leader Institute to prepare staff nurses with leadership responsibilities, assistant managers or nurses who aspire to leadership roles to be leaders of tomorrow. The three-day, interactive program scheduled for Dec. 11-13 in Orlando will combine lecture, discussion, experiential learning and self-assessment. For additional information and to register, please [click here](#).

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