

LAC+USC MEDICAL CENTER

DEPARTMENT OF NURSING SERVICES POLICY

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Subject: NURSING QUALITY MANAGEMENT		Original Issue Date: 08/91	Policy # 300
		Supersedes: 12/18	Effective Date: 04/22
Departments Consulted:	Reviewed & Approved by: Professional Practice Committee Nurse Executive Council	Approved by: (signature on file) Nancy Blake Chief Nursing Officer	

PURPOSE

To ensure that a system exists to review, monitor and maintain the quality of nursing care that is provided to all patients within the LAC+USC Medical Center.

POLICY

Nursing Quality Management (NQM) under the guidance of the Nurse Clinical Council (NCC) provides a written plan for directing the quality control and improvement activities of the Department (refer to Nursing Policy, “*Quality Control/Improvement Plan*”). Nursing Quality Management also approves and assists with the application of nursing research as it affects the LAC+USC Medical Center, and reviews and approves articles for publication that reference the Medical Center (refer to Nursing Policy, “*Nursing Research/Grants*”).

RESPONSIBILITY

Oversight

- The overall responsibility and authority for assuring that quality nursing care is provided resides with the Chief Nursing Officer.
- The Clinical Nursing Directors (CND’s) are responsible for area quality assurance/improvement activities. The CND’s report to NCC findings which may include but are not limited to:
 - Addressing corrective actions
 - Unusual occurrences
 - Quarterly reports
 - Safety Intelligence events including falls, pressure injuries, assaults, and harm scores of 6 or higher.
- The NCC has the responsibility for developing and directing the Nursing Department Quality Management Plan and for evaluating the Quality Assurance/Improvement activities of the Department of Nursing. The Chief Nursing Officer delegates to the Chairperson.

This council is a standing council of the Department and provides representation to the Quality Improvement Committee (QIC).

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Nursing Quality Management Responsibilities

- Assist clinical areas in completing quarterly reports for NCC
- Provide data for nursing quality reports.
- Assist units in performance improvement projects
- Produce reports for Clinical Nursing Directors so they can direct their department's quality improvement projects or develop corrective action plans
- Complete audits identified by the Clinical Nursing Directors to assist in evaluating compliance of their departments
- Work with the Clinical Nursing Directors to assist in educating staff in areas determined as deficient based on audits or citations

REFERENCE

LAC+USC Medical Center Nursing Policy, *Quality Control / Improvement Plan*
LAC+USC Medical Center Nursing Policy, *Nursing Research / Grants*
The Joint Commission Standards (Improving Organizational Performance)

REVISION DATES

1992, 1993, 1995, 1996, 1997, 05/98, 01/05, 6/06, 09/08, 02/09, 11/13, 01/14, 12/18, 04/22