

# NURSING NEWS



Western Area CTC LPN Newsletter

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## CPR Certification

On Monday, November 20, our part-time, year 1 evening class had their BLS CPR training and certification.

Thank you to JT Morgan from Canonsburg Ambulance for organizing this training, and to all of the instructors who gave of their time this evening to train these nursing students in proper CPR procedure.



## NCLEX Knowledge Test

1. Select the criteria that is accurately paired with its indication of birth weight or gestational age.

- A. Low birth weight: neonate's weight is less than 1,500 g at the time of delivery
- B. Appropriate for gestational age: neonate's weight ranges from 10th to 90th percentile
- C. Large for gestational age: neonate's weight is above the 99th percentile
- D. Small for gestational age: neonate's weight is below the 20th percentile

2. The client has been diagnosed with giant cell arteritis. The nurse knows that this client will most likely be given which medication?

- A. High doses of aspirin
- B. High doses of prednisone
- C. Methotrexate
- D. Albuterol



3. A nurse is caring for a client who has no cognitive functioning by only basic human functions such as opening the eye and the sleep—wake cycle. The nurse recognizes what level of consciousness in this client?

- A. Obtunded
- B. A persistent vegetative state
- C. Locked in syndrome
- D. Brain death

4. Which healthcare associated infection is the greatest risk for patients?

- A. Pneumonia
- B. Catheter related infections
- C. Intravenous line infections
- D. C. difficile



5. A nurse is working on a pediatric unit. Which toy or other diversional item or activity is most appropriate for an 18-month-old patient?

- A. A story book
- B. A beach ball
- C. An interactive play session with other children of the same age
- D. Pickup sticks

6. Which option is a myth or falsehood relating to pain, pain management and addiction?

- A. Addiction can be accurately predicted
- B. Withdrawal, drug tolerance and physical dependence do not indicate addiction
- C. Pain medications can be used with clients who have a substance abuse history
- D. Addiction is signaled when the client employs deception and stockpiling



<https://www.facebook.com/westernareactc/>

## New LPNs

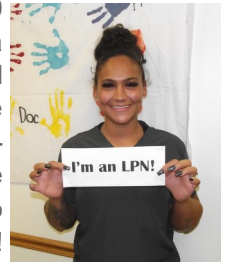
Congratulations to Katie Dunn, Payden Brown, and Shonia Hinton who all took the NCLEX exam in November. All 3 passed on the first attempt and within 3 months of graduation, therefore, they will all receive a check for \$200 to reimburse the cost of the exam.

Here are some words of advice from the graduates regarding the exam.



Katie says to Practice!! Use the exams that Mrs. Morelli creates to review and use uWorld! I figured out what my weaknesses were with Mrs. Morelli's exams and then created custom exams on uWorld to focus my studying on those things. I thought for sure that I failed when the exam cut off at 86-but I did it, and so can you!

Payden used uWorld. She did 100 questions every day, and created a study plan. She watched the uWorld videos that break down the disease processes and used Mrs. Morelli's review exams. When it comes to the exam itself, she says its important to read the rationales and don't wait! Take the exam while it's still fresh in your mind.



Shonia wants everyone to know that no 2 NCLEX exam questions are alike, and that she ended up with a majority of scenario questions, so make sure you know what to do in situations. She said that Mrs. Morelli's SIM labs really helped with that, and so did the uWorld videos, study plans and exams.



## Nurse Aide Completion Ceremony

On Monday, November 20, our second Nurse Aide cohort celebrated completing the 8 week course here at WACTC.

Congratulations to these 6 students who are ready to take the Credentia PA State Licensure Exam: Kierra Ballard, Joanna Diaz, Skylar Kaufman, Amaiya Lewis, Heba Nammias, and Christopher Peterson



## AHN Talent Attraction Program

During our Advisory Committee Meeting, a new member of our committee, Carolyn Doubt, Program Coordinator of the AHN Talent Attraction Program for Canonsburg and Jefferson Hospitals presented to the attendees.

The Talent Attraction Program (TAP) supports students interested in pursuing careers in Allied Health. There are over 24 Allied Health professions available to students, ranging from imaging and surgical technologists to medical lab technicians and paramedics. Allegheny Health Network (AHN) is investing in the future Allied Health employees with tuition support, uniforms, and transportation, along with mentors who will support you through your education and beyond.

Program Opportunities include: Central Sterile Technician, Patient Care Technician, Facilities Technician, Imaging Technologist, Medical Lab Technologist, Pharmaceutical Technologist, Physical Therapy Assistant, Occupational Therapy Assistant, Dietary Technician, Phlebotomist, Respiratory Therapist, Registered Nurse, Radiation Therapist, Emergency Medical Technician, Paramedics, Medical Assistant, Surgical Technician, Anesthesia Technician and Imaging specialties such as MRI, CT and Nuclear Medicine. We are open to discussing all options with you.

For more information contact Carolyn Doubt at 412-485-9365 or [Carolyn.doubt@ahn.org](mailto:Carolyn.doubt@ahn.org)



### AHN Talent Attraction Program

**Connect with us today**

Scan the QR code to see all the Allied Health options.



# Adopt a Grandparent Outreach

As we approach the holiday season, we want to remind our students that nursing is more than the knowledge and training you receive while in school. Being a nurse, is a sacrificial occupation that involves heart!

In that vein, we are again asking our students to "Adopt a Grandparent". Five of the facilities that we partner with to hold clinicals and other training opportunities have kindly given us a list of names from their resident population who would welcome a visit from a nurse in training. From these lists, our students will be assigned a "grandparent" to spend an hour with sometime in the month of December.

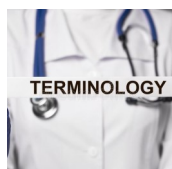


Some residents have included gift ideas in their contact information, but our students are not required to give anything monetary, unless they so choose. They are simply asked to spend time with the resident doing something that they enjoy, be it conversation, a game, reading, looking at photographs, or simply being present.

Thank you to Country Meadows, Friendship Village of South Hills, McMurray Hills Manor, Presbyterian Senior Care, and Transitions Healthcare for partnering with us in this fun outreach opportunity for our students!



Orders due: 12/11  
Delivery: 12/19



## Medical Terms

January 9, 2024

We are excited to announce that we are now enrolling for our 12 week Medical Terminology Course! This course will be held every Tuesday from 9 AM until 1:30 PM Contact Jessica at [jpettigrew@wactc.net](mailto:jpettigrew@wactc.net) or by calling 724-746-0467 for more information or to enroll.

## Advisory Committee Meeting

On Thursday, November 2 the Health Sciences held their biannual meeting here at the school. The purpose of these meetings is to strengthen the career & technical education programs of practical nursing, phlebotomy technician and nurse aide by making recommendations for program improvement and providing technical assistance to assure the most up-to-date curriculum content and appropriate applications of technology.

Thank you to all of the, clinical facility staff, faculty, students and members of the community who took time out of their day to attend, in person and via video conferencing.

With your input and suggestions, our programs continue to grow, develop, and attract new students.

## Student Spotlight

On Thursday, October 26, during the 2nd day of Fundamentals clinical rotations Jessica Ahl received a compliment from a nurse practitioner and wound care nurse for reporting very early signs of developing pressure wounds on her patient's feet/ankles to the nurse practitioner (NP).



The patient was seen by the NP and wound nurse for the issue. The NP told our clinical instructor, Madison Washabaugh that Jessica's exam must have been very thorough because it was very early signs, and most nurses would have missed it upon assessment.

Great job Jessica!



### No Classes for the Christmas Holiday

Thursday, December 21— Monday, January 1  
Classes will resume on Tuesday, January 2

Enjoy your time with family and friends!

## NCLEX Knowledge Question Answers:

1. **B.** Appropriate gestational age is when the neonate's weight ranges from the 10th to 90th percentile
2. **B.** Giant cell arteritis is an inflammatory condition that affects medium and large vessels and is treated with low doses of aspirin and high doses of prednisone
3. **B.** Persistent vegetative state leaves a client with no cognitive functioning only basic functions. Locked in syndrome is characterized with retained cognitive functioning by absent motor functioning. Brain death is defined as the state where there is a known irreversible cause of the coma. Obtunded clients respond slowly to stimulation.
4. **B.** Catheter related infections are the most commonly occurring, therefore, indwelling urinary catheters are only used when necessary, and only remain in place for the briefest period of time possible
5. **B.** The ball is safe for this child. It is too large for the child to put in their mouth and is not sharp like pick up sticks
6. **B.** Withdrawal, drug tolerance, and physical dependence do not indicate addiction as many people believe.