

Kayla C. Berrios

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Professional Summary

Experienced Registered Nurse with passion for the nursing profession and motivating nursing students through education. Experience with adult health nursing, including medical-surgical nursing, critical care nursing, hospice care, palliative care, and long-term care. Extensive experience with caring for the veteran population. Excellent interpersonal communication skills. Focus on accomplishing positive student outcomes, therefore ensuring high-quality care to patients.

Skills

- Group and One-on-One Instruction
- Providing Constructive Feedback
- Supervising and Evaluating Student Performance
- Positive Reinforcement Strategies
- Operating Simulation Equipment
- Facilitating Debriefing Experiences
- Utilizing New Technology to Supplement Instruction

Related Experience

University of South Carolina Beaufort, 08/2022- Present

Instructor of Nursing

- Course coordinator and Instructor for Care of Adults with Acute and Chronic Health Conditions
- Course coordinator and Instructor for Clinical Care of Adults with Acute and Chronic Health Conditions
- Open Lab faculty member

Hospice Registered Nurse Case Manager, 05/2021 to 07/2022

Friends of Caroline Hospice - Beaufort, SC

- Developed and implemented individualized care plan for each hospice patient while following physician instructions.
- Established and maintained successful relationships with patients, families and physicians by utilizing exemplary communication and active listening skills.
- Taught family members and caregivers various ways to manage patients' pain, how to check for vital signs and proper methods for dressing changes.
- Provided high level of quality, compassionate care to patients and caregivers during each nursing shift.
- Teaching with patients and their family members regarding medication regimen, plan of care, and prioritizing patient wishes for end-of-life.
- Administered medications and treatment to patients and monitored responses while working with healthcare teams to adjust care plans.
- Continuous collaboration with all members of the interdisciplinary team to ensure patient comfort and high-quality care being provided at end-of-life.
- Managed palliative care patient case-load, following patients and providing extra needed support to ensure healthcare needs met.

Nursing Lab Skills & Simulation Coordinator, 08/2018 to 05/2021

Technical College Of Lowcountry – Beaufort, SC

- Mentored and tutored individual students needing additional help with hands-on skills and materials
Taught make-up labs for students who were absent from scheduled labs
- Facilitated open-lab time with additional skills and simulation practice to build confidence of students
- Encouraged small groups to discuss topics and explore concepts through hands-on activities.
- Developed materials to support instruction and engagement during simulation, including debriefing exercises and case studies
Maintained simulation equipment, including maintaining and programming of Laerdal high-fidelity manikins
- Setting up scenarios for meaningful low and high-fidelity simulation experiences for students
- Operation of simulation manikins, including conversing with students to develop communication skills

Health Sciences Clinical Liaison, 01/2019 to 05/2021

Technical College Of The Lowcountry – Beaufort, SC

- Collaborated with faculty members and facility staff to reserve clinical spaces at local healthcare facilities used for health sciences students, including nursing, radiology, surgical technology, physical therapy, and medical assisting,

- Notified students of their clinical assignments and provided all needed documents to students
- Processed completed student documentation, including adding student health records, drug screens, and background checks needed for clearance to each healthcare facility per that facility's policy.

Intensive Care Unit Clinical Nurse, 03/2018 to 12/2018

Coastal Carolina Hospital – Hardeeville, SC

- Monitored patients' respiratory status and ventilator operation and made adjustments to promote stabilization.
- Observed patients' vital signs and administered physician-prescribed medications and treatments.
- Developed and implemented patient care plans based on physicians' instructions and generally accepted nursing practices.
- Maintained respectful treatment environment that honored patients' and families' cultural and religious traditions and preferences.
- Explained health care issues and ramifications to patients and families to promote informed medical care choices.
- Coordinated patients' post-discharge treatment plans with physicians and other nurses to promote continuity of medical care.
- Educated family members and caregivers on patient care instructions.

Registered Nurse, Float Pool, 01/2017 to 04/2018

Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center – Charleston, SC

- Oversaw delivery of care for patients on medical-surgical unit, providing direct care, delegating nursing assignments, and supervising team comprised of nurses, LPNs, technicians and unit clerks.
- Audited charts and reviewed clinical documents to verify accuracy.
Advised patients and caregivers of proper wound management, discharge plan objectives, safe medication use and disease management.
- Monitored patient condition by interpreting and tracking EKG readings, identifying irregular telemetry readings and updating team members on changes in stability or acuity.
- Educated patients, families and caregivers on diagnosis and prognosis, treatment options, disease process and management and lifestyle options.
Advocated for patients by communicating care preferences to practitioners, verifying interventions met treatment goals and identifying insurance coverage limitations.

Medical-Surgical Registered Nurse, 06/2015 to 01/2017

Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center – Charleston, SC

- Educated patients and families on medical-surgical procedures, therapeutic regimens and pain management techniques.
- Started intravenous fluids, administered medications, and documented patient charts by recording food and fluid output and intake.
- Managed patients' pain by implementing pharmacological and non-pharmacological pain management interventions.
- Managed patients recovering from medical or surgical procedures.
- Communicated with healthcare team members to plan, implement and enhance treatment strategies.
- Accurately documented treatment, medications and IVs administered, discharge instructions and follow-up care.
- Administered medications and treatment to patients and monitored responses while working with healthcare teams to adjust care plans.

Registered Nurse, 09/2014 to 06/2015

Syracuse VA Medical Center – Syracuse, NY

- Collaborated with physicians to quickly assess patients and deliver appropriate treatment while managing rapidly changing conditions.
- Educated patients, families and caregivers on diagnosis and prognosis, treatment options, disease process and management and lifestyle options.
- Trained new nurses in proper techniques, care standards, operational procedures and safety protocols.
- Provided direct patient care, stabilized patients, and determined next course of action.
- Supervision of Licensed Practical Nurses and Certified Nursing Assistants

Certified Nursing Assistant, 03/2011 to 09/2014

Syracuse VA Medical Center – Syracuse, NY

- Answered call lights and supported patient comfort and safety by adjusting bed rails and equipment.
- Promoted good oral and personal hygiene by aiding patients with shaving, bathing and teeth brushing.
- Checked patient vitals such as temperature, blood pressure and blood sugar levels.
- Assisted with feeding and monitored intake to help patients achieve nutritional objectives. Obtained biological specimens for ordered tests and prepared for laboratory transport.
- Supported ambulation and physical therapy needs by conducting planned exercise routines.

Education

Master of Science: Nursing Education, 12/2020

Aspen University - Denver, CO

Magna Cum Laude graduate

Capstone Project: Developed virtual escape room case study to provide interactive learning experience for nursing students and practicing nurses during COVID-19 pandemic

Bachelor of Science: Nursing, 01/2018

Aspen University - Denver, CO

Magna cum laude graduate

Associate of Science: Nursing, 05/2014

Onondaga Community College - Syracuse, NY

Graduated summa cum laude

Affiliations

Camp Mak-A-Dream: Volunteer Medical Staff