

Rosenwald ICU Nurse Example

Name: John Smith

Credentials MSN, RN, CCNS, CNRN

Title: Clinical Nurse Specialist

Department: Neurosciences

Years in nursing: 20

What makes this nominee worthy of recognition?

Ms. Smith is a Clinical Nurse Specialist in the NCCU consulting with nurses, providers, pharmacists and therapists daily on complex care issues. She teaches formally and informally at the bedside. Ms. Smith consults with other care areas regarding neurologic questions and concerns. She also participates in unit based and hospital-wide quality improvement activities such as infusion pump utilization and allocation and preventing wrong insulin pen-to-patient errors. She has a strong interest in early rehabilitation in neurosciences patients and co-leads a multidisciplinary taskforce in the NCCU to accomplish this task in new and innovative ways.

Additional information

John had an unexpected opportunity to assist a new RN through her first situation where life support was being withdrawn. The nurse first asked about what was expected of her in this situation and John remembers first reacting by listing the order sets, documentation and medications she might need when she quickly realized the question behind the question - "...what do I do when I have never had an experience with a patient dying- how will I know what to do?" The pair then stayed in the room, knelt down next to the family around the patient's bed quietly talking and normalizing signs of dying. The anxiety of the family seemed to decrease in time and they chose to stay in the room when in the beginning they didn't think they could bear to stay. When asked if the family wanted the pair to give them privacy the family said no "you can stay right here." The nurse thanked John for staying late and suggested that John had done all the work, but the nurse was assured that it was presence of both of them that had made the difference. This is just one example of how John shines!