

## Be Aware of Changes to ACLS/BLS Policy

Volume 1– Standards of Governance, LC-4 Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) Training Certification/Recertification Process is in the process of being revised.

### What does this mean?

The nurse is responsible in ensuring that his/her certificates are current and not expired. Revisions to the policy are as follows in red print.

#### I. Protocol

E. Recertification must be obtained prior to expirations. If certification lapses the nurse will not be allowed to work until he/she provides proof of recertification. **The nurse will be required to obtain recertification at his/her own expense and on his/her own time. The nurse may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension and termination. If the nurse is placed off work as a result of failure to obtain certification, the nurse may use appropriate paid leave balances or leave without pay (sick leave**

**must be supported by a doctor's note).**

#### V. Process

F. The Nurse Manager or designee will enter the date ACLS class was completed into One Staff. Failure to obtain recertification as described in section I.E. will result in **the nurse not being permitted to work and may result in the nurse being subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension and termination.**

LC-3 Basic Life Support (BLS) Training, for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)

#### I. Policy

E. Any employee who fails to attend a BLS "Health Care" Provider class, as scheduled, will be required to obtain **an approved Course Completion Card outside of VMC within four weeks at his/her own expense and on his/her own time.** An exception to this will be made for excused illness, bereavement leave, or for inability to attend due to emergency staffing needs. In each of these cases, the responsible manager will notify Educational Services. In the event of an excused absence, the Nurse Manager will be responsible for rescheduling BLS with Educational Services. **If any employee fails to obtain certification within four weeks he/she will**

**not be permitted to work and may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension and termination. If any employee is placed off work as a result of failure to obtain certification, the employee may use appropriate paid leave balances or leave without pay (sick leave must be supported by a doctor's note).**

#### B. Current Employee

1. The employee is responsible :

- a. Maintaining active BLS certification at all times.
- b. Notifying his/her Nurse Manager at least 30 days prior to expiration of certification about the need to attend a recertification class.

2. The Nurse Manager is responsible for:

- a. Verifying that BLA "Health Care" Provider or SCVMC-specific documentation on employee unit inservice record is current on all the coded, extra help, and per diem personnel assigned to their unit.
- b. **Posting a list of unit employee BLS certification expiration dates.**
- c. Scheduling the unit's coded, extra help, and per diem employees for the BLS class.

### **RNPA Class**

### **Pain: Concepts and Interventions**

Tuesday, February 28, 2006

8:30 AM-3:30 PM

David's Restaurant

***Last day to register 2/23/06***

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# Paychecks

Are you having problems with your paycheck? If so, please, review your paycheck thoroughly and collect the appropriate documentation prior to contacting Timekeeping. You may contact Timekeeping at 885- 6725. RNPA has met with representatives from Timekeeping Department as well as Nursing Administration to discuss the current paycheck discrepancies. RNPA has been assured that every effort is being made to correct the continuous problems.

If you are unable to resolve a paycheck discrepancy. Please contact the RNPA office, 292-6061.

# Reminders

- Did you remember to submit your Authorization for Cash Out of PTO and Sick Leave Conversion to PTO? The deadline is closely approaching. You have until 5:00 pm on Tuesday, February 28, 2006 to submit your form to SCVHHS Human Resources.
- There is a new Objection to Assignment form. Look for a peach colored form on your unit.
- Tuition Reimbursement now includes approved home study courses.
- Tuition Reimbursement (TR) is exhausted for the third quarter. Professional Development funds are available. A new window for TR will be open for the fourth quarter on April 1, 2006.
- New RNPA contracts are going to print. RNPA anticipates that they should be available at the end of March.

## ***Professional Practice Corner*** **Court Decides that LVNs Cannot Give IV Medication**



### **Excerpt from California Nurse Sept. 2005**

Licensed vocational nurses are flatly prohibited from administering intravenous medication in any setting, a Sacramento court decided in July 2005 after a six-year fight by CNA against the Board of Vocational Nurses and Psychiatric Technicians. The Board has said it will not appeal the ruling.

Sacramento Superior Court Judge Judy Hersher found that the Board's adoption in January 2003 of regulations allowing LVNS to give IV drugs in hemodialysis, blood bank, and pheresis settings illegally expanded the LVN scope of practice. As Hersher concluded, "the Board's interpretations of Section 2860.5 is erroneous. As construed by this Court, section 2860.5 prohibits the Board to adopt a regulation authorizing LVNs to administer intravenous medications."

## **Area Rep Corner**

The following units need an Area Representative

- ◆ 2 Center
- ◆ EAU
- ◆ MICU
- ◆ Cardiac Cath Lab
- ◆ GI
- ◆ Urology
- ◆ MICC
- ◆ Ranches



### **WELCOME!!!**

***Exciting news! There are 2 write-in candidates that have been appointed to the RNPA Board of Directors (BOD). RNPA would like to welcome to the BOD, Lindsay Brown, OR, Negotiating Team Member and Zeniah Andres, NICU, Publications Chair.***

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