

GRAND ROUNDS

It is not unusual for our many professionals at RVH to go above and beyond the requirements outlined in their job descriptions to provide exceptional, compassionate, quality care to our patients.

One way in which our professionals go that extra mile behind the scenes is by devoting their time and energy to additional education, training and specialized certification to enhance their current skills.

As all of the local students head back to school, it is reassuring for our community to know that our team at the hospital is constantly learning, too. From understanding new technological advances in the field to implementing new testing and procedures, our nurses and staff embrace specialization to better meet the unique needs of Renfrew and area.

For instance, RVH pharmacist Anna Campbell recently earned her Doctor of Pharmacy degree to complement her existing high-level of professional qualifications.

Campbell notes that things change rapidly in the field of medicine through research and the development of best practice guidelines. “We continue to share our experiences and the learning continues,” she says.

Earlier this year, 10 of our nurses obtained Canadian Nurses’ Association (CNA) certification and a special event was held on June

28 in their honour and appreciation of their dedication to excellence.

“This (certification) is a big deal—staff members have shown a huge commitment to their professions in taking the extra step to become certified, says Chris Ferguson, RVH Vice President of Patient Care Services.

Lynn Campbell, Nurse Manager of the continuing care unit, proudly notes that all four full-time nursing staff are certified in her department.

“These nurses have shown a lot of commitment to make this happen—in the year(s) before, not just at exam time,” notes Campbell, who is CNA certified in Gerontology.

She points out that it is difficult for part-time staff, since nurses must first have accumulated a specified number of hours in the specialty before they are allowed to write the exam.

Phil Crozier, Lead Hand of diagnostic imaging, notes that with many certifications there is an expectation to maintain continuing education hours (CMEs). “To work in our accredited programs in mammography and bone mineral densitometry, you must be certified and submit proof of CMEs every three years.”

Nurses must renew their certification every five years—either by earning continuing education hours by, for example, attending conferences, writing articles, or taking online learning modules—or by writing a recertification exam.

“The profession of nursing is a lifetime commitment to learning,” comments Jessica Gilbert, Nurse Manager of the active care unit, adding, “In order to optimize patient outcomes, all health care professionals need to keep up to date as to the latest technologies, treatments and advancements in best practice standards. The fact that the Education Fund at RVH is completely supported and endorsed by the hospital’s administration allows for positive differences in the careers of our staff, and encourages participation in specialized training. Achieving certification is a great accomplishment for staff members and one that is celebrated through the positive impact on our patients’ outcomes.”

DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING

Deb Tiernay, Debbie Howes and Susy Campbell—*Certified Bone Densitometrist*, and *Certified Breast Imaging*; Sarah Anderson Brisco—*Certified Breast Imaging*

NURSING

RVH nurses have attained certification in a number of specialties including *Cardiovascular, Critical Care, Emergency, Gerontological, Palliative Care, Medical-Surgical, Nephrology* and *Oncology*

PHARMACY

Anna Campbell—*Doctor of Pharmacy*, and *Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist*

RESPIRATORY THERAPY

Maureen Magill—*U of T Intensive Tobacco Cessation Counselling Certificate*, and *ACSM Certified Clinical Exercise Specialist*

SLEEP LAB

Kim Yakaback—*Clinical Sleep Educator* from the Board of Registered Polysomnographic Technologists



Chris Ferguson, VP of Patient Care Services (seated centre), hosted a celebration for nurses who have achieved CNA certification. In attendance were: (seated) Valerie Buttle—*Nephrology*, and Cindy Walker—*Gerontology*. Standing: Jessica Gilbert—*Critical Care, Medical/Surgical*, Grace Leavoy—*Medical/Surgical*, Joyce Mulvihill—*Nephrology*, Lisa MacKillop-Daub—*Nephrology*, and Lynn Campbell—*Gerontology*. Also certified in 2012 and missing from photo: Jeanette Lingley—*Medical/Surgical*, Tricia Stafford—*Emergency Nursing*, Terri-Lynn Sukkel—*Emergency, Gerontology*, Raven Robertson—*Medical/Surgical*, and Sandra Robertson—*Medical Surgical*.