

CURRICULUM VITAE

Sandra J. Higelin, M.S.N., R.N., C.S., CWCN, CLNC
1717 E. Vista Chino Ste A7 PMB 213
Palm Springs, Ca. 92262
Phone # (760) 895-4047
Email: sjhhcp@yahoo.com

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION

1993 Medical University of South Carolina
Charleston, South Carolina
Bachelor of Science, Nursing

1996 Medical University of South Carolina
Charleston, South Carolina
Master of Science, Nursing

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

Registered Nurse Licensure: California
Clinical Specialist Gerontological Nursing
Certified Wound Care Nurse (CWCN)
Certified Legal Nurse Consultant (NACLNC)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

11/2003- Sandra Higelin Nurse Consulting Services
Current Healthcare Consultation,
Wound Care Consultation
Educational Programs
Legal Nurse Consultation
Patient Advocacy

12/06-11/30/09 Redlands Community Hospital, Redlands, Ca.
Home Health and Hospice, Wound Consultant
Provided wound care consultation for the home health patients with complex wounds. Provided educational programs for the hospital, home health, and hospice health care team which included nurses, home health aides. Developed policies and procedures for pressure

ulcer prevention and management and other wounds for the hospital, home health and hospice.

- 3/2/06-12/08 Desert Career College, Palm Springs, Ca.
Vocational Nurse Instructor
Provided didactic and clinical instruction to students in the LVN program per state requirements.
- 6/12/05-12/29/05 Huntleigh HealthCare, Eatontown, New Jersey
Clinical Support Associate
Provided general clinical support for all Huntleigh Healthcare product lines as directed.
Worked closely with sales team in to provide clinical field support and clinical expertise to interdisciplinary healthcare team. Developed and presented approved continuing education programs.
- 8/02/04-5/20/05 Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, Ca.
Clinical Nurse Specialist/Medical-Surgical and Geriatrics
Established standards for patient care and evaluation of interventions to improve care through the development, implementation, and evaluation of policies and procedures, protocols and programs. Assessed and met the learning needs for specific patient populations/families. Developed and implemented system and unit based educational, training, and orientation programs meet needs of nursing staff. Mentored new orientees and assured competencies. Managed service lines and populations of patients to improve clinical and financial outcomes. Collaborated with Unit Director/Nurse Manager in establishing cost-effective systems for the delivery of quality patient care and the appropriate utilization of resources. Worked in an interdisciplinary model of care providing specialized knowledge and skill to assist staff with management of complex patient/family problems. Utilized theory, research and evidenced-based practice recommendations in performance improvement processes to improve clinical practice.

9/2000-
6/4/04

Desert Regional Medical Center, Palm Springs, Ca.
Geriatric Clinical Specialist Post Acute
Wound Care Consultant

Developed and implemented orientation, educational programs, and training programs for the Skilled Nursing/Subacute units and the hospital system. Acted as a consultant for Clinical Issues, Risk Management, Patient Relations, and Regulatory Compliance. Developed Policies & Procedures for the health care system. Mentored nursing students and helped develop and implement educational and training opportunities for employees of the health care system. Participated in Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement activities.

Developed and implemented the Skin/Pressure Ulcer Prevention/Management program and Policies & Procedures for wound prevention and management. Acted as Wound Care Consultant for Health Care System. Acted as the Liaison representing the hospital for the Workforce Development Center, Cal State University and College of the Desert working on the Nurse Work Force Initiative educational programs for professional growth and development

9/2003-11/003 Adjunct Professor: Cal State University, Dominguez Hills, Ca. Class: Health Promotion Strategies Through the Life Span.” Program: BSN. Satellite Campus at Desert Regional Medical Center, Palm Springs, Ca.

11/99-9/2000 South East Georgia Regional Med. Center Brunswick, Ga.
Case Manager/Resource Manager (Acute Care Hospital)
Responsible for planning, organizing and implementing discharge planning/case management services to defined and referred patients. Communicated with commercial payers and Medicaid as required. Performed chart reviews to ensure compliance with all regulatory policies, including Medicare

Conditions of Participation. Worked to provide quality, cost-effective health care while maintaining the maximum of patient outcome. Developed and implemented Admission Case Management Services.

1996-1998 Baptist/St. Vincent's Health System Jacksonville, Florida
Geriatric Clinical Specialist
Responsible for the development, marketing, implementation and coordination of an older adult community outreach program providing short-term case management services. Responsible for interdisciplinary consultations, staff educational inservice, Consultation for discharge planning needs from acute care and sub-acute care setting. Developed and presented Community educational programs.

1997-1998 Hospice of Northeast Florida
Jacksonville, Florida
Field Nurse-On Call
Responsible for assessment, care plan implementation, pain management, counseling of Hospice patients and their families.

1994-1996 Medical University of South Carolina
Charleston, S. C.
Acute Care Rehabilitation Staff Nurse
Responsible for patient care delivered through an interdisciplinary model on an acute rehabilitation hospital unit.

1990-1994 Charleston Nursing Center
Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina
MDS Care Plan Coordinator/Inservice Coordinator
Responsible for the coordination and implementation of the

MDS process and care plan provided through an interdisciplinary model as mandated by federal and state guidelines for residents in the nursing home. Responsible for staff in-service education, QA documentation and the MDS process and supervision of staff. Previous to that worked as an LPN charge nurse.

1992-1998: Additional Experience
Per diem Staff nursing for medical units at various hospitals.
Charge nurse in various Nursing Homes, ADON (Life Care Center, Corona, Calif.)

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Nursing Association/California Nurses Association
Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society (inactive)
MUSC Alumni Association
Wound Ostomy Continence Nursing Association (WOCN)
National Alliance of Certified Legal Nurse Consultant
American Association of Legal Nurse Consultants
Southern California Association for HC Risk Managers
San Diego Chapter for Healthcare Risk Management
National Gerontological Nursing Association

Professional Awards & Recognition

- **Recognized as a Leader in 1999 by Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nurses
- **Outstanding Employee of the Year for 2002, Tenet Health System/DRMC
- **Inclusion into Manchester Who's Who Registry of Executives and Professionals
- **Inclusion into the Biographical Institute: Great Women of the 21st Century

ABSTRACTS, PUBLICATIONS AND ORAL PRESENTATIONS

1. Burnett, S. H. 'Adult Failure to Thrive,' (Approved for taxonomy by North American Nursing Diagnosis Association), April 1998.

2. Higelin, Sandra “Legal Nurse Consulting Principles 3rd Edition, 2010. Chapter 23: Evaluating Forensics (Elder Abuse pa. 638-640).
3. Professional and community educational seminars on geriatric health and wellness issues, skin care: prevention and management of pressure ulcers and other types of wounds

CONSULTANT/ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

1. Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nursing Association (WOCN) Educational Committee (currently inactive)
2. Sigma Theta Tau international Honor Society-Mentor
3. European National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel: Stakeholder: development of pressure ulcer prevention and management guidelines

