

National Student Nurses' Association, Inc.
RESOLUTION ABSTRACTS 2009

**A) IN SUPPORT OF HEALTH PROMOTION, EDUCATION, AND
VACCINATION OF ADULTS OVER 60 YEARS OF AGE WITH THE
HERPES ZOSTER VACCINE**

SUBMITTED BY: Emory Student Nurses Association, Atlanta, GA

This resolution seeks to raise awareness about the presence of a newly developed vaccine for herpes zoster; encourage healthcare providers to utilize this vaccine in patients over 60 years of age; and advocate that such vaccinations are covered by Medicare. It is also intended to promote public and professional interest concerning herpes zoster vaccination and its effects on the health and well-being of older populations. These purposes will help to promote *Healthy People 2010* by decreasing disability from a vaccine-preventable infectious disease.

**B) IN SUPPORT OF ADVOCATING NATIONWIDE CONTINUING
EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR NURSES**

SUBMITTED BY: Mineral Area College Student Nurses Association, Park Hills, MO.

This resolution advocates for mandatory continuing education for registered nurses in relation to patient safety and competence in practice. It promotes awareness in nursing students, faculty, and registered nurses about the importance of continuing education and seeks to obtain support for mandatory nationwide continuing education requirements.

**C) IN SUPPORT OF REQUIRING SHARED ELECTRONIC HEALTH
RECORDS IN THE UNITED STATES**

SUMMITTED BY: Grand View University, Des Moines, IA

This resolution advocates for implementing requirements for shared Electronic Health Records. The resolution promotes awareness that Shared Electronic Health Records can facilitate communication between primary care providers and other health care professionals, thus promoting better patient care and safety and reducing the cost of healthcare.

**D) IN SUPPORT OF INCREASING AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER
AWARENESS IN PARENTS, TEACHERS AND NURSES**

SUBMITTED BY: Maryland Association of Nursing Students

This resolution advocates for more comprehensive education of nursing students, faculty, registered nurses and the public related to autism spectrum disorders. It also encourages nursing students to promote autism awareness through NSNA chapter activities.

**E) IN SUPPORT OF AWARENESS AND PREVENTION OF ELDER ABUSE
IN NURSING HOMES**

SUBMITTED BY: University of South Carolina Student Nurses Association,
Columbia, SC

This resolution supports increased awareness and prevention of elder abuse in nursing homes; advocates for legislation to increase the educational and salary requirements for nursing home workers; and promotes quality care for the elderly.

F) IN SUPPORT OF VAGINAL MICROBICIDE DEVELOPMENT

SUBMITTED BY: Student Nurses At Penn, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia,
PA

This resolution supports increasing awareness of research and advocates for education on the use of vaginal microbicides as a product women could use to prevent infection of HIV and other sexually transmitted pathogens.

**G) IN SUPPORT OF THE ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD (EHR):
MAINTAINING A PATIENT-CENTERED FOCUS AND INCORPORATING
EHR CONTENT AND HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES IN NURSING EDUCATION**

SUBMITTED BY: National Student Nurses' Association Board of Directors

This resolution supports use of the electronic health record (EHR); advocates for maintaining a patient-centered focus; and promotes incorporating EHR content and hands-on experiences in nursing education. It calls on NSNA to advocate for support of patient centered EHR and for educational content in nursing education.

**H) IN SUPPORT OF HOSPITALS ADOPTING PROGRAMS WHICH EDUCATE
NURSES ABOUT THE IDENTIFICATION AND PREVENTION OF PRESSURE
ULCERS**

SUBMITTED BY: Maurine Church Coburn School of Nursing- Monterey Peninsula
College, Monterey, CA

This resolution seeks to reduce the incidence of pressure ulcers by encouraging healthcare facilities to authorize and implement pressure ulcer prevention programs.

**I) IN SUPPORT OF INCREASING EDUCATION AND AWARENESS OF
PREVENTABLE DECUBITUS ULCERS AMONG REGISTERED NURSES,
NURSING STUDENTS, AND OTHER HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS.**

SUBMITTED BY: Salisbury University Student Nurses' Association, Salisbury, MD

This resolution supports increasing awareness of preventable pressure ulcers through advocating for more educational programs, further research, and increased awareness among nursing students, faculty, registered nurses, and other health professionals to decrease the incidence of pressure ulcers and the time and money spent on preventable injuries.

**J) IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR PREVENTION,
SURVEILLANCE, AND REPORTING OF METHICILLIN-RESISTANT
STAPHYLOCOCCUS AUREUS (MRSA)**

SUBMITTED BY: Saddleback College California Student Nurses' Association,
Mission Viejo, CA

There are currently no national standards for prevention, surveillance, and reporting of MRSA infections. This resolution advocates for legislation to provide a way to track evidence-based practice nationally to prevent MRSA infections, provide surveillance and report incidence.

**K) IN SUPPORT OF INCREASING STUDENT NURSES' AWARENESS AND
KNOWLEDGE ABOUT GLOBAL HEALTH**

SUBMITTED BY: Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing, City University of New
York, New York, NY

This resolution advocates for better support and educational experiences to prepare nursing students and registered nurses to practice in a globally diverse world, through increasing their exposure to global health education.

**L) IN SUPPORT OF INCREASING AWARENESS FOR THE PREVENTION OF
MENTAL HEALTH DISPARITIES IN YOUTH**

SUBMITTED BY: Iowa Association of Nursing Students

This resolution increases awareness that mental health screening and access to mental health resources can reduce suicide rates and prevent mental health disparities in youth. The resolution advocates for improved access to information about mental health assessment, services, and resources for teachers, students, counselors, nurses, parents, school administrations, and the public.

**M) IN SUPPORT OF INCREASING AWARENESS AND PROMOTING THE
PREVENTION OF METHICILLIN-RESISTANT STAPHYLOCOCCUS AUREUS
(MRSA).**

SUBMITTED BY: Student Nurses' Association of Pennsylvania Board of Directors

This resolution advocates for evidence-based practices to prevent the transmission of MRSA among hospital patients; and advocates that NSNA members help educate nursing students, faculty, registered nurses, and other health care professionals about the transmission and prevention of MRSA infections in hospital settings.

**N) IN SUPPORT OF INCREASING AWARENESS REGARDING COMMUNITY
ACQUIRED MRSA**

SUBMITTED BY: New Jersey Nursing Students, Inc.

This resolution increases awareness related to Community Acquired Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (CAMRSA) infection and transmission. It also advocates for community-based education on appropriate hygiene measures and wound care for the prevention of CAMRSA; and encourages hospitals and clinics to implement surveillance programs for multidrug-resistant organisms.

O) IN SUPPORT OF TAKING CONTROL OF NOISE IN HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

SUBMITTED BY: Felician College, Lodi, NJ

This resolution increases awareness about the negative impact that high noise levels have on quality care; and on patient and staff wellness. It advocates that noise control measures be implemented in hospital environments to provide healthier environments for patients and health care staff.

P) IN SUPPORT OF REDUCING BARRIERS FOR THE UTILIZATION OF EVIDENCE-BASED NURSING RESEARCH IN THE CLINICAL SETTING

SUBMITTED BY: North Carolina Association of Nursing Students Board of Directors

This resolution encourages the utilization of evidence-based practice by registered nurses in clinical settings. It encourages the identification of perceived and actual barriers to evidence-based practice; and advocates work towards the elimination of these barriers.

Q) IN SUPPORT OF INCREASED AWARENESS AND UTILIZATION OF CHILD LIFE SPECIALISTS TO REDUCE STRESS AND ANXIETY IN HOSPITALIZED CHILDREN.

SUBMITTED BY: Oregon Health and Sciences University Student Nurses Association, Portland, OR

This resolution supports increased awareness of certified child life specialists (CCLS) and the services they provide. It calls for NSNA constituents to utilize and advocate for child life services in situations where a child is undergoing medical care.

R) IN SUPPORT OF THE STATE GOVERNMENTS INTRODUCING LEGISLATION THAT WOULD INCREASE PENALTIES FOR ASSAULT AGAINST HEALTHCARE WORKERS

SUBMITTED BY: Georgia Association of Nursing Students

This resolution raises awareness about the prevalence of workplace violence in healthcare settings. It advocates that NSNA join other nursing organizations in calling for increased penalties for assaults against nurses through legislative action.

S) IN SUPPORT OF INCREASED AWARENESS OF AND ADVOCACY FOR

EMERGING ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ISSUES AND THE ROLE OF THE
NURSE IN PROMOTING HEALTH AND MITIGATING HEALTH
DISPARITIES

SUBMITTED BY: Oregon Student Nurses' Association

This resolution increases awareness of the relationship between the environment, healthcare systems, and health disparities. It advocates for the involvement of nursing students and registered nurses in environmental health advocacy.

T) IN SUPPORT OF ENDING NURSE-TO-NURSE HOSTILITY

SUBMITTED BY: East Carolina University Association of Nursing Students,
Greenville, NC

This resolution encourages the elimination of nurse-to-nurse hostility to create a healthier work environment for nursing students and registered nurses and to increase job satisfaction and improve retention of new and experienced registered nurses.

**U) IN SUPPORT OF ADVOCATING FOR AWARENESS ABOUT THE
NEED FOR EDUCATIONAL INTERVENTIONS FOCUSED ON SUN SAFETY
FOR THE ADOLESCENT POPULATION IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE
INCIDENCE OF SKIN CANCER**

SUBMITTED BY: Georgia Baptist College of Nursing of Mercer University,
Atlanta, GA

This resolution advocates that skin cancer prevention and sun safety education be targeted towards adolescent populations to provide information minimizing the short and long-term health consequences of unsafe sun exposure.

V) MULTIPLE CHEMICAL SENSITIVITY AWARENESS

SUBMITTED BY: The University of Texas at Tyler College of Nursing, Tyler, TX

This resolution increases awareness about Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS) due to chemical exposure in indoor air. It seeks to educate nursing students and registered nurses to complete thorough patient allergy assessments including sensitivity to environmental substances; to advocate for legislation to support safe indoor work and health care environments; and to become aware of the effects of everyday chemical exposure in their own lives and the life of their community.

**W) IN SUPPORT OF INCREASING AWARENESS AMONG NURSING
STUDENTS ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE JOINT**

COMMISSION'S REQUIREMENT FOR A STANDARDIZED
PATIENT CARE HANDOFF

SUBMITTED BY: Ohio Nursing Students' Association

This resolution increases awareness about the Joint Commission's requirement of a standardized patient care handoff in healthcare facilities. It advocates for ongoing research in this area; and encourages NSNA constituents to support the implementation and consistent use of a standardized patient care handoff in health care facilities.

**X) IN SUPPORT OF STANDARDS FOR SPANISH AND INTERPRETER
COMPETENCY IN BSN PROGRAMS**

SUBMITTED BY: University of Alabama Huntsville Student Nurses'
Association, Huntsville, AL

This resolution increases awareness of expanding Hispanic and other minority patient populations; and the resulting need and requirements for culturally and linguistically appropriate nursing care. It advocates that nursing programs provide content and objective assessment of student's cultural competency including language competence; and that health facilities provide nursing students and registered nurses access to resources to meet the communication needs of patients with limited English proficiency (LEP).

**Y) MUSIC AS THERAPY: IN SUPPORT OF INCREASING EDUCATION AND
AWARENESS OF THE BENEFICIAL EFFECTS MUSIC HAS ON
ALLEVIATING PAIN AND ANXIETY**

SUBMITTED BY: Villanova University Student Nurses' Association, Villanova,
PA

This resolution increases awareness of the beneficial effects music therapy has on alleviating pain and anxiety in patients. It advocates that nursing students become more aware of research on music therapy; and how to incorporate music therapy into nursing practice.

**Z) IN SUPPORT OF ADVOCATING THE NEED FOR COHESIVE RAPID
RESPONSE TEAMS IN HEALTHCARE FACILITIES**

Submitted by: Barry University Nursing Student Association, Miami Shores, FL

This resolution advocates for the development, initiation and use of rapid response teams in healthcare facilities when patients show signs and symptoms of decline. It raises awareness of outcomes research on the use of cohesive rapid response teams; to reduce waiting time for care, and to decrease ICU admissions, thereby decreasing the cost of care.

**AA) IN SUPPORT OF THE USE OF LICENSED PERSONNEL
TO ENSURE SAFE MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION**

SUBMITTED BY: Colorado Student Nurses' Association

This resolution supports the use of licensed personnel for the purpose of administering medications in assistive living centers. It advocates that members of NSNA support policies and initiatives to assure safe medication administration in nonacute settings.

BB) IN SUPPORT OF LIABILITY PROTECTION FOR HEALTH CARE PERSONNEL DURING A DECLARED DISASTER AND/OR STATE OF EMERGENCY

SUBMITTED BY: Arkansas Nursing Students' Association

This resolution is intended to foster support for state legislation that would provide liability protection for health care personnel during a declared disaster and/or state of emergency.

CC) IN SUPPORT OF INTERDISCIPLINARY EDUCATION AS A MEANS TO IMPROVE PATIENT OUTCOMES

SUBMITTED BY: Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing, Baltimore, MD

This resolution advocates for interdisciplinary education as a means to improve patient outcomes. It supports NSNA and its constituents participation in educational and program initiatives to foster interdisciplinary collaboration in nursing and other health professions education.

DD) IN SUPPORT OF THE AMERICAN NURSES' ASSOCIATION POSITION ON NURSING WORKFORCE DATA COLLECTION WITH REGARD TO RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF NURSES

SUBMITTED BY: Florida Nursing Students Association Executive Board

This resolution raises awareness that nursing workforce data collections are utilized to gather information and statistics to forecast nursing needs for the future and supply and demand. It advocates for NSNA member support of federal and state legislation to increase funding for nursing workforce centers, and for education and development of nursing students and nursing faculty.

EE) IN SUPPORT OF UTILIZING RECENT FEDERAL STIMULUS MONIES TOWARD NURSING RESIDENCY PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS THE NURSING WORKFORCE SHORTAGES AND EXPENSES

SUBMITTED BY: Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Anita Thigpen Perry School of Nursing, Lubbock, TX

This resolution advocates that the Federal stimulus funds administered to the states be directed towards nursing residency programs to address the nursing workforce shortages and expenses. It seeks to engage NSNA member support in advocating for nurse residency programs as an effective tool to increasing retention rates of new registered nurses.

FF) TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF THE NEED TO INCREASE USE OF AVAILABLE RESOURCES FOR MAINTAINING CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY APPROPRIATE SERVICES (CLAS) STANDARDS.

SUBMITTED BY: Texas Nursing Students' Association

This resolution advocates for increased use of and broader access to culturally and linguistically appropriate services by nursing students, registered nurses, and health care organizations when providing care to ethnically and racially diverse patients and patients with limited English proficiency; as mandated by federal regulatory and accreditation standards.

GG) ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY

SUBMITTED BY: Nursing Students Association of South Dakota

This resolution advocates for health education to address growing concerns for adolescent populations related to pregnancy. The intended outcome is to increase awareness to NSNA constituents and relevant associations related to the health and wellbeing of the adolescent population.