



Nursing Informatics Panel

A Vital Bridge Across Clinical Leadership, Organizational Structure, and Strategy

Cheri Warren, MSHI, RN, RN-BC, Manager, Nursing Informatics, Oregon Health & Science University

Cheri Warren, MSHI, RN, RN-BC, is the Manager for Nursing Informatics at Oregon Health & Science University. Cheri's clinical background includes Family Practice and Women's Health in ambulatory settings, and Cardiac Cath Lab and Adult Critical Care in the hospital. In her current role, she provides clinical leadership within the Department of Clinical Informatics, and formulates clinical information system vision and strategy for nursing across OHSU's Healthcare Mission. Her experience in application management, IT best practice, process improvement, and project management informs the informatics perspective that she lends to nursing operations and to project sponsorship. Cheri's team of nurse informaticists partners with interprofessional informaticians and EHR analyst teams, to provide support and solutions for clinical disciplines across the enterprise. Recent initiatives include optimization of medication ordering, dispensing, and administration documentation for hospital patients, implementation of barcode scanning for breastmilk, and evangelizing the benefits of cross-encounter information flow.

Toia Norris, BSN, RN Nurse Informatics Specialist, Nursing Informatics, Oregon Health & Science University

Toia Norris BSN, RN is a Nursing Informatics Specialist at Oregon Health & Science University. Toia's clinical background is primarily in Inpatient Labor & Delivery nursing. With twenty years of experience providing nursing care, Toia's roles have included charge nurse, nurse educator, assistant nurse manager and application manager. Toia has worked in nursing informatics at Oregon Health & Science University since 2014. In her current role, she collaborates with informaticians and EHR analyst teams to provide support and solutions for inpatient nurses and ambulatory women's health clinics. Toia recently completed the implementation of barcode scanning for breastmilk across the women's and children's inpatient division project.

Nancy Yates, MS RN, RN-BC, Chief Nursing Informatics Officer, Providence Health and Services

Mrs. Yates is the Chief Nursing Informatics Officer at Providence Health and Services, supporting Epic across 36 hospitals and over 300 clinics in five states. She was the regional director of informatics in the Montana region prior to assuming the role of CNIO for the system in June of 2014. Mrs. Yates came to Providence in February of 2013 from Oregon Health and Science University where she led the clinical informatics division. Her clinical expertise is in Pediatrics, where she worked as a staff nurse, nurse manager, and director in a 23-bed pediatric acute care and 5 bed PICU for over fifteen years. Her informatics career started in the early 90's when as a bedside clinician she became a super user when the organization implemented Clinicom with full electronic documentation for nursing. She led the conversion of the system in the late 90's. Mrs. Yates obtained her MSN with a minor in clinical system management in 2003, her certificate in informatics in 2005, and became ANCC certified in 2015. Mrs. Yates has also served as a CNE and Regional Informatics Director for SCLHS. She has worked in and implemented McKesson, GE Centricity Enterprise, and Epic.



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Tennille Gifford, RN MSN PHN, Director of Clinical Informatics, Portland St. Vincent Medical Center and Oregon Seaside Hospital

Tennille Gifford, RN MSN PHN is currently the Director of Clinical Informatics at Portland St. Vincent Medical Center and Oregon Seaside Hospital. She also is an Adjunct Professor for University of San Diego. Her experience is in both Cerner and Epic and has implemented EHRs to many hospitals in California and Oregon. Mrs. Gifford utilizes Lean Six Sigma skills for change management and also works with litigation requests for EHR management. Tennille was able to be the lead informaticist for the open medical record program for Planetree re-designation with distinction (2013). She also loves working as the co-chair for the system order set workgroup and spends her time outside of work with her family.

Jessica Alexander, RN, MSN Director, Clinical Informatics Kaiser Permanente

Jessica M. Alexander MSN, RN, RN-BC, is the Director of Clinical Informatics for Kaiser Permanente NW Hospitals. She has been a nurse for 17 years and has been with Kaiser (this time around) since 2012. Her clinical nursing background is in acute care medical surgical nursing with an emphasis on patients with Diabetes and renal failure. Jessica has been working in informatics for 13 years, and has touched all along the spectrum from system design, implementation, and support through ongoing maintenance. Much of Jessica's current work is focused on developing a strong team of informaticists to cover all the caregivers in the hospital setting and surgical services. Together the team maintains the critical relationships with users to provide forums for them to be engaged and involved in continuing to improve the tools and technology they use every day. Team highlights from the past year include implementing Epic's Cardiac Cath Lab module, Cupid, redesigning the hospital discharge process, and implementing Capacity Management Dashboards at each hospital.

Meredith Farrell, MSN, RN, RN-BC, Nurse Informaticist, Clinical Informatics, Kaiser Northwest Hospitals

Meredith Farrell, MSN, RN, RN-BC is a Nurse Informaticist for Kaiser Permanente Northwest (KPNW). Her clinical background is adult Intensive Care nursing, and she is entering her sixth year in the field of informatics and her fourth year with KPNW. Meredith finds the mentoring aspect of the informatics field most rewarding, and works to develop a newly hired team of informatics nurses at Kaiser, speaks to student nurses each quarter about their involvement with health care technology and served as a standard setter for the most recent edition of the ANCC certification test for Informatics, as well as a reviewer for HIMSS presentations in 2017 and 2018. Meredith implemented blood product scanning across KPNW and is always working to bring the newest and best informatics solutions to KPNW.