



News Release

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Registered nurses complete specialty certifications to further patient care

For Immediate Release

(COLUMBUS, Neb.) – Four registered nurses at Columbus Community Hospital recently completed specialty certifications to provide their patients with the highest level of care.

Tanya McKeen and Michele Smith, registered nurses in the hospital's Wound, Ostomy and Continence (W.O.C.) Health Center, completed the Wound Treatment Associate program through the National Wound Ostomy and Continence Nursing Society.

The University of Nebraska Medical Center conducted the online program, composed of modules regarding preventive practice, patient outcomes, comprehension and wound care. McKeen and Smith completed the course with a virtual hands-on simulation session. After completing the course, both nurses sat for and passed an exam provided by the Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nursing Certification Board.

In addition to McKeen and Smith's wound certifications, two registered nurses in the hospital's cardiopulmonary department also completed cardiac and pulmonary rehab certifications.

Rebecca Micek, RN, completed a cardiovascular nursing certificate accredited by the Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association and Global Cardiovascular Nursing Leadership Forum. The online professional certificate program focuses on the cardiovascular system and several specific diagnoses, prevention and lifestyle changes. After completing the program, Micek passed a competency-based certification exam to obtain her certificate.

Ginger Westfall, RN, completed a pulmonary rehabilitation certificate accredited by the American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation. The online course consisted of 12 modules on preventive practices, patient outcomes and collaborative self-management. Upon completing the required modules, Westfall passed the final exam to receive her certificate.

"I am very proud of all four nurses," said Jen Fjell, director of cardiac rehab and the W.O.C. Health Center. "They each took the initiative to complete the certifications independently. Their dedication to our ICARE values (Integrity, Compassion, Accountability, Respect and



Excellence), especially excellence, shows through their continued dedication to advancing their education.”

To learn more about how the hospital supports continued employee education and training, visit columbushosp.org.

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