

# GERIATRIC NURSING

VOL. 31, NO. 3 □ MAY/JUNE 2010

## EDITORIAL

### FROM THE EDITOR

- 157 The Difference Nurses Are Making to Improve Quality of Care to Older Adults through the Interdisciplinary Nursing Quality Research Initiative**  
*Barbara Resnick*

## FEATURE ARTICLES

- 165 The Impact of Worker Health on Long Term Care: Implications for Nursing Managers**

*Susan Letvak and Christopher J. Ruhm*

The purpose of this article is to discuss the issue of worker presenteeism (reduced productivity due to health problems) and how this may be impacting quality of resident care. Strategies for nurse managers to recognize and address presenteeism will also be discussed.

- 170 SPEACS-2: Intensive Care Unit "Communication Rounds" with Speech Language Pathology**

*Mary Beth Happ, Brooke M. Baumann, Jennifer Sawicki, Judith A. Tate, Elisabeth L. George, and Amber E. Barnato*

The goals of Study of Patient-Nurse Effectiveness with Assisted Communication Strategies (SPEACS-2) are to explore the impact of an innovative, web-based instructional package for ICU nurses. We hypothesize that this intervention will: (a) improve nurses' skills in assessing and communicating with ICU patients who are unable to speak; and (b) increase the collaboration between nursing and speech-language pathology in addressing complex patient communication needs in the ICU.

- 178 Age-Related Differences in Perception of Quality of Discharge Teaching and Readiness for Hospital Discharge**

*Kathleen L. Bobay, Teresa A. Jerofke, Marianne E. Weiss, and Olga Yakusheva*

The purpose of this study was to investigate differences in perceptions of quality of discharge teaching and readiness for hospital discharge, and their relationship to post-discharge utilization of Emergency Department (ED) visits and readmissions across the older adult age spectrum. Of particular interest is the applicability of quality of discharge teaching and discharge readiness assessment tools for the older adult population.

- 188 Nurse Identified Hospital to Home Medication Discrepancies: Implications for Improving Transitional Care**

*Cynthia F. Corbett, Stephen M. Setter, Kenn B. Daratha, Joshua J. Neumiller, and Lindy D. Wood*

The purpose of the analyses reported here is to describe the most common medication discrepancies identified by nurses during patients' transition from hospital to home. Based on these findings, the implications of medication discrepancies for patient safety and care outcomes will be discussed, and evidence-based best practices to reduce medication discrepancies during the hospital to home transition will be presented.

- 197 Satisfaction with Assisted Living: The Unexplored Role of Physical Activity**

*Barbara Resnick, Elizabeth Galik, Ann L. Gruber-Baldini, and Sheryl Zimmerman*

The purpose of this paper is to evaluate life satisfaction of residents in Assisted Living with a focus on the impact of physical activity.



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