

## **Bon Secours Mary Immaculate Hospital Encourages the Advancement of Nursing Professional Practice to Evolve the Patient Experience**

As a Pathway to Excellence® hospital, Bon Secours Mary Immaculate Hospital recognizes the value of American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) accreditation programs. When a team from the hospital learned about ANCC's Practice Transition Accreditation Program™ (PTAP), they saw an exciting opportunity.

"It seemed like the perfect fit for us, as we had programs in place and this would allow us to leverage our hospital to serve as leaders in a growing area of nursing education," said Lynn Newberry, administrative director of critical care services and professional practice at Mary Immaculate Hospital. "This accreditation allows us to communicate to the public and to the medical community that we value the patient experience, and because of this, we encourage the advancement of nurses in their professional practice. Our CNO and director of Professional Practice helped to support the vision and was a driving force for the programs."

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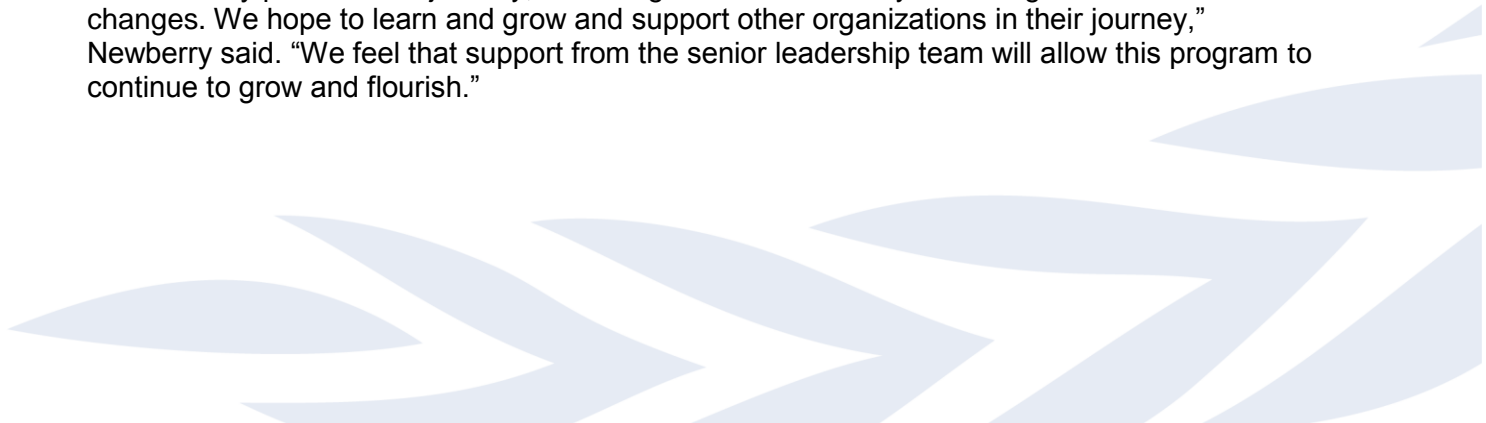
The leadership at Mary Immaculate feels it's important to give all employees the tools and equipment to do their jobs, including providing the opportunity for nurses to advance their skill set in a new practice area and encouraging professional growth and development. Each area of nursing practice has unique skills that must be fine-tuned in a safe learning environment, and PTAP was the perfect accreditation to validate the hospital's nurse residency and transition in practice programs.

"The education department designed the program using evidenced-based literature, and it has gone through several iterations to improve the program based on stakeholder feedback and new literature," Newberry said. "The PTAP application manual is a great guide for any hospital that is interested in designing a program."

Since achieving PTAP accreditation, Newberry said, the practice transition programs at Mary Immaculate are much more purposeful in gathering data from Human Resources and working with a statistician to address survey results. They plan to go through an institutional review board and begin a research study to assess the program, addressing work satisfaction and practice transitions.

Looking toward the future, the Bon Secours health system is interested in applying for accreditation at its other sites, and Mary Immaculate will serve as the best practice example.

"We are very proud of our journey, but recognize that it is always evolving as health care changes. We hope to learn and grow and support other organizations in their journey," Newberry said. "We feel that support from the senior leadership team will allow this program to continue to grow and flourish."



**For more information about PTAP and to read about other PTAP organizations, visit [www.nursecredentialing.org/CaseforPTAP](http://www.nursecredentialing.org/CaseforPTAP).**

### **About Bon Secours Mary Immaculate Hospital**

In 1952, Bon Secours Mary Immaculate Hospital opened its doors to provide exceptional medical care as the only faith-based hospital on the Virginia Peninsula. Since then, their mission has evolved and grown, but they have kept a focus on providing the highest-quality care through innovative procedures delivered by highly skilled and caring health care professionals.

### **About the ANCC Accreditation Program**

The ANCC Accreditation program recognizes the importance of high-quality continuing nursing education (CNE), skills-based competency, and nurse practice transition programs. Around the world, ANCC-accredited organizations provide nurses with the knowledge and skills to help improve care and patient outcomes. Accreditation by ANCC validates that a nursing residency or fellowship program has been operationalized to meet ANCC standards, regardless of whether the curriculum is developed in-house or purchased from a provider. Use of any course/material/service does not imply eligibility for or successful performance in the submission of credential applications, nor is it a requirement to qualify for accreditation. ANCC does not endorse any products or services.

### **About ANCC**

ANCC is the world's largest and most prestigious nurse credentialing organization. ANCC's internationally renowned credentialing programs certify nurses in specialty practice areas; recognize healthcare organizations for promoting safe, positive work environments through the Magnet Recognition Program<sup>®</sup> and the Pathway to Excellence<sup>®</sup> Program; and accredit providers of continuing nursing education, skills competency programs, and transition-to-practice programs. ANCC provides leading-edge information and education services and products to support its core credentialing programs. ANCC continues to drive nursing excellence, quality care, and improved outcomes globally through innovation, research, and operational positive practice.

ANCC is part of the ANA Enterprise. The ANA Enterprise comprises American Nurses Association, the American Nurses Credentialing Center, and the American Nurses Foundation.