

Karen Denier, RN

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US Citizen
Current GS/Band: N/A
Veteran's Preference: N/A
Federal Civilian Employee: N/A

Job Title: Registered Nurse, Emergency Room
Department: Department of Veteran Affairs
Job Announcement Number: MEM 203033

SPECIALTY / EXPERIENCE AREAS

Triage; Emergency Room; Telemetry; Pediatric; Trauma Care; Cardiology; Intensive Care; Psychiatric; Critical Care (2 years in ICU); Orthopedic Care

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Staff Nurse, Emergency Department, 8/2007-Present; 3/2007-8/2007
Lodi Memorial Hospital, 331 Sunset Drive, Lodi, CA 94525
Hours Per Week: 36; Salary: \$69.00/hr.
Supervisor: Delia James, 209-637-5711, May Contact

PROVIDE PRESCRIBED MEDICAL TREATMENT AND PERSONAL CARE SERVICES. Initially hired through temporary agency MedStaff and earned subsequent full-time employment. Assigned to the patient care/triage area or critical area as needed within a 50-bed hospital (average of 50 patients per week in the Emergency Room). Greet each patient, assess severity of condition, and send them to the appropriate area, including orthopedic, lacerations, and non-trauma areas all the way to fast-tracked situations. Coordinate care between receiving nurses and ensure their presence in the area indicated for the patient.

COLLABORATE WITH HEALTH TEAM MEMBERS TO FACILITATE POSITIVE PATIENT CARE OUTCOMES. Assist with intubations, conscious sedations, sutures, chest tube placement, orthopedic procedures, trauma care, "code blue" services, pacemaker placement, and various other procedures. Work directly with the physicians on surgical care patients.

ESTABLISH EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION WITH PATIENTS, FAMILIES, AND VISITORS. Educate patients prior to discharge on steps they need to take beyond hospital care.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Provided high level of care to patients within a small community hospital, receiving letters of recommendation and recognition from patients for level of care and compassion.

- Established solid rapport and working relationships with the physician and the nursing staff; functioned as the point of contact for death notifications to family members.

Charge Nurse/Assistant Manager, Emergency Department, 5/2003-11/2006
 The Valley Hospital, 24 E. First Street, Woodbridge, CA
 Hours Per Week: 36; Salary: \$__/hr.
 Supervisor: Personnel, 209-470-4141, May Contact

PROVIDE THE FULL RANGE OF NURSING CARE TO PATIENTS WITH A VARIETY OF PHYSICAL AND/OR BEHAVIORAL PROBLEMS. Supplied patient care within high-volume, inner city Emergency Department, including triage, fast-track and critical care. Dealt with heavy trauma situations, including knife and gun, motor vehicle accident, and recreational trauma incidents.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Reduced the wait time from 3 hours to 45 minutes based on leadership.
- Coordinated efforts with hospital staff to process admissions faster.
- Worked with the Nursing Supervisor and brought on extra medical/nursing staff.

Charge Nurse/Additional Positions, 7/1980-7/2006
 The Medical Center, 46 Ellis Avenue, Elk Grove, CA 95624
 Hours Per Week: 40; Salary: \$25.00/hr.
 Supervisor: Pat Jones, 916-528-5000, May Contact

** Worked within 2 different hospitals: 2025 Morse Avenue, Sacramento, CA location from 7/1980 to 1/1991 (Assistant Clinical Coordinator/Step Down Unit/ICU/Staff Nurse, Emergency Department; and the abovementioned 4647 Zion Avenue, San Diego location from 1/1991 to 7/2006. **

PROVIDED PRESCRIBED MEDICAL TREATMENT AND PERSONAL CARE SERVICES. Within the Sacramento location, maintained nursing ratios to ensure appropriate patient care. Monitored employee performance and behavior, conducted performance reviews, and maintained staffing levels through the hiring process. Supervised staff of 30 full-time RNs, LVNs, and Ward Clerks. Worked with the Clinical Coordinator on various initiatives.

ASSUMED LEADERSHIP WITHIN A PATIENT-CENTERED PROGRAM. As a Charge Nurse within the San Diego location, maintained ER flow and staffing while providing continuing education for staff of up to 80, including full-time RNs, LVNs, Ward Clerks, Cath Technicians, Emergency Room Technicians, and Patient Transporters. Functioned as a primary, active liaison between physicians and staff members; additionally coordinated activities between hospital administration to main hospitals. Conducted employee performance evaluations.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Achieved exemplary results with critical care patients, particularly children that requires very strong emotional control and meticulous attention to detail.
- Provided high level of comfort to family members, including extra-special attention to parents when their child passed away.
- Championed teamwork among the staff and influenced a positive overall environment, leading to positive outcomes and improvements in care.
- Strengthened relationship between Intensive Care and Emergency departments through continual communications, implementation of meetings, and development of positive working relationships with the staff.

Charge Nurse, 7/2002-1/2003

Wilcox Memorial Hospital, 3420 Kuhio Highway, Lihue, HI 95766

Hours Per Week: 40; Salary: \$20.00/hr.

Supervisor: Personnel, 808-245-1100, May Contact

ESTABLISHED EFFECTIVE CARE AND COMMUNICATION WITH PATIENTS, FAMILIES, AND VISITORS. Provided patient care and other assistance in triage, fast-track, and critical care areas. Interacted with a broad range of patients, including family-oriented, native populations. Dealt with a broad range of incidents that included home accidents, victims of drowning, and others.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Built positive relationships within the Hawaiian culture.

Flight Nurse/Critical Care Transfer Nurse, 1/1993-1/2003

Air Care Medicine, 8722 Dream Drive, Suite 235, Elk Grove, CA 95632

Hours Per Week: 20; Salary: \$20.00/hr.

Supervisor: Personnel, 209-300-0224, May Contact

PROVIDED PRESCRIBED MEDICAL TREATMENT AND PERSONAL CARE SERVICES. Responded to ER requests for transport. Assisted in stabilizing patients, with full responsibility for patients en route. Worked under the direct care of the Flight MD by phone. Maintained intubation, drips, and other procedures. Demonstrated familiarity with ACLS drugs.

ESTABLISHED EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION WITH MEMBERS OF THE INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM. Maintained communications between the sending and receiving hospitals. Oversaw transfer between fixed wing or rotor aircraft.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Completed required Flight Nurse training and learned First Responder skills, utilizing skills frequently in numerous situations.
- Demonstrated proficiency in providing top-quality patient care within environment with unique logistical factors.

EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

Bachelor of Science Degree (BSN)

Illinois State University, Hills, IL

Area of Concentration: Nursing

Dates Attended: 9/1981-5/1986

Date of Graduation: 5/1986

Hours Earned: 90

Studies: Physiology, Biology, Pharmacology, Nursing

Associate of Science Degree

San Joaquin Delta College, Stockton, CA

Area of Concentration: General Education

Dates Attended: 9/1975-5/1978

Date of Graduation: 5/1978

Hours Earned: 90

Marriage and Family Therapy Studies

Folsom University, Folsom, CA

Hours Earned: 12

High School Diploma

Lodi High School, Lodi, CA

Date of Graduation: 1975

Training, United States Army

Corpsman/Clinical Specialist, 1-Year Program- Fitzsimmons Army Medical Center, CO

Combat Medic, 3-Month Program- San Antonio, TX

Job-Related Affiliations

Member, California Nurses Association, 2007

Community Involvement

Volunteer, Earthquake Relief in Japan, Salvation Army, 1995

Volunteer, Relief for Katrina Disaster, 2005

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Extensive experience in the field of nursing as a Charge Nurse, Staff Nurse, Flight Nurse, Critical Transport RN, Correctional Nurse, Assistant Clinical Coordinator, and other roles, including leadership and non-leadership positions. Consistently maintain the highest level of quality care for patients from diverse populations and background, ranging from pediatric to geriatric patients. Provide the full range of nursing care to patients with a variety of physical

and/or behavioral problems. Meet and maintain the required qualification standards and functional skills for each assigned position.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Skilled in and ability to: Manage overall patient care and support; Direct day-to-day medical care; Calculate and administer medications; Assess patient vital signs; Insert and monitor intravenous treatments; Perform physical assessments; Change patient dressings; Administer and monitor GT/NGT tube feedings; Perform holistic nursing care; Assist in surgical procedures; Assist physicians with cardiac placements; Perform tuberculosis testing; Maintain external/internal pacemakers; Take vision and hearing tests; Handle traumas and cardiac arrest patients; Perform EKGs; Coordinate patient transfers to other institutions; Prioritize patients' needs; Assist physicians with patient sedation; Perform routine laboratory tests; Provide post-operative care & assessment; Attend to patients in critical care; Perform chest compressions on cardiac arrests; Conduct triage assessment & treatment; Handle pain management and wound care monitoring/management; Schedule and supervise nursing staff; Monitor cardiac patients; Handle emergent & non-emergent situations; Maintain chest tube placements; Apply activating agents; Establish critical drips to maintain IV stability; Regularly update patient charts; Order medications for in-house pharmacy; Coordinate bed assignments; Handle recordkeeping and documentation; Monitor lab values