

RUTH PIERCE MBA, MHA, RN, CCRN-CMC, CPHQ

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

1/2013 – present Windward Cove Consulting Charlotte, NC

Legal Nurse Consultant, Expert Witness

Transplant Quality Specialist

Windward Cove Consulting, LLC

- Expert Witness – Cardiac and Critical Care
- Consultant for Transplant Quality and FQAPI CMS regulations
- 30 years experience bedside nursing in critical care units.

3/2013 – present Piedmont Medical Center Rock Hill, SC

CVICU Staff Nurse

- PRN staff nurse in 8 bed CVICU in local 200 bed hospital.
- Hospital performs open heart surgeries, the catheterization lab manages STEMI patients and post cardiac arrest hypothermia program, in addition to expected ICU patient population.
- Manage ventilators, invasive lines, chest tubes, hemodynamic monitoring, etc.

1/2013 – present Carolinas Healthcare System Charlotte, NC

Outcomes Specialist

Corporate Quality Department

Service Lines include Transplant Center, Lifeshare and Trauma Services

- Developed and implemented a quality assessment and performance improvement program for the Transplant department that includes all solid organs, adult and pediatric.
- Work with the following adult and pediatric transplant programs: Heart, MCS program, kidney, liver, and pancreas.
- Work with CHS Lifeshare (organization's organ procurement organization) to monitor, evaluate and assist with advancing the program's quality assessment and process improvement program and comply with numerous regulatory requirements.
- Assist all programs in monitoring and tracking patient outcomes, patient and graft survival rates, complications, length of stay, 30 day readmission rates, etc.
- Developed a post transplant QA meeting for all organs to track patients at specific intervals throughout the first year post transplant (1, 3, 6 and 12 month intervals) so as to identify, track and trend any noted complications or issues.
- Developed and implemented monthly Adult and Pediatric Quality Assessment and Performance meetings for all programs that are multidisciplinary and focus on PI projects with data driven measures that address high risk, high volume and problem prone areas in each program.
- Assist the department in meeting the new focused quality conditions of participation and regulations from CMS, UNOS and other government entities.
- Updated the Transplant Quality Steering Committee to more inclusive and multidisciplinary and to focus on the requirements to steer and lead the individual program quality meetings.

- Updated the Steering Committee's dashboard to be more inclusive and and effective in viewing all programs metrics and trends.
- Developed scantron process and forms for all programs to identify process improvement areas during patient hospitalization. This data is collected monthly for all organs, and populated into a dashboard to review yearly goals. Developed monthly multi-disciplinary meetings for all programs to review data and dashboards.
- Expert user of Premier Quality Advisor.
- Expert user of Excel and Office Products
- Assists with other quality projects for the department.

1999 – 2013 Carolinas Medical Center Charlotte, NC

Assistant Nurse Manager/Staff Nurse – Dickson Heart Intensive Care Unit

- Managed daily operations of a twenty bed CCU. Interfaced routinely between bed management, cardiac catheterization lab, surgery, cardiac telemetry units, medical intensive care, physicians, and many more.
- Assisted with the management of over 90 employees.
- Committees:
 - CHS Critical Care PEPS committee
 - CHS Critical Care Policy and Procedure committee (chairperson)
 - CHS Policy committee
 - CMC Code Cool committee
 - Inpatient Diabetes Certification committee (chair of subcommittee)
 - Nursing Evaluation of Residents
- Responsible for department's equipment and supplies. This involved all ordering, stocking, evaluating new supply components and new equipment, maintenance and accountability of all equipment. Contact person for all vendors contacting the department. Worked with other departments to facilitate ordering necessary supplies and equipment
- Advocate and promote national certification for fellow nursing staff.

5/2010 – 11/2012 MD Scientific Charlotte, NC

Staff Clinician, Clinical Trial Coordinator, Research Monitor

11/2012 – present Consultant for MD Scientific

- Performed co-monitoring duties for data collection and study oversight at all sites involved with the study.
- Ensured sites performed in accordance with GCP and FDA regulations.
- Assist with enrollment for FDA clinical trial – involved 20 hospitals through out the country.
- Liaison between study coordinators, sponsor and contract research organization.
- Provide nursing aspect and insight to the clinical trial that was currently in progress.

1998 – 2004 Carolinas Medical Center Charlotte, NC

Assistant Director of Sports Medicine / Special Events

- Managed daily operations of two departments – 3 CMC Health Centers at the YMCAs and

the Sports Medicine/Special Events department. Reported directly to a VP.

- Managed budget for two departments that total \$750,000, six full time employees, and 125 PRN employees.
- Coordinated the planning, organizing and strategizing for all special events medical coverage for spectators and participants at local sporting events in the Charlotte Metropolitan area – Ericsson Stadium, Lowe’s Motor Speedway, Hornets, WNBA, ACC events, UNCC men’s and women’s soccer and basketball, Eagles men’s and women’s soccer, Knights stadium, high school football, Charlotte Convention Center and more.
- The CMC Health Centers are staffed with a full time nurse in each YMCA, located in the Dowd, Johnston and McCrorey YMCA. Each Y has a medical director and the health centers see over 3,500 people in a year.
- Responsible for all accounts payable, accounts receivable, of revenue within department, all payroll and human resource components of the department as well as interfacing with the numerous contacts at each venue location.
- Personally functioned in medical role at numerous events but also coordinated all supply, equipment and staffing components.

1989-1990, 1991 – 1999 Carolinas Medical Center

Team Leader and Flight Nurse

- Supervised daily operations of large air ambulance program that includes three air ambulance airplanes, two helicopters and eight ground ambulances. Continued to fly and care for patients.
- Department included over 100 full time employees.
- Cared for critically injured patients, primarily trauma and cardiac patients and performed advanced skills such as endotracheal intubation, needle chest decompression, femoral and jugular cannulation, and more.
- Transported patients via helicopter, fixed wing and ambulance.

1990-1991 George Washington Hospital Washington, DC
Staff Nurse – Level I Emergency Department

1988-1989 Carolinas Medical Center
Staff Nurse – Coronary Care Unit

1986-1988 Carolinas Medical Center
Staff Nurse – Level I Emergency Department

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Association of Critical Care Nurses, 2004 - present

- CMC/CSC Practice Analysis Task Force Committee, 2015-2016
- Beacon Reward Review Panel, 2015-present
- NTI Planning Committee chairperson, 2013 - 2014
- NTI Planning Committee member, 2012 - 2013

- AACN Ambassador, 2009 – present
- CMC-CSC virtual exam development committee, 2013 - 2014
- Chapter Poster Abstract Review Panel, 2011-2012
- Evidence-Based Poster Abstract Review Panel, 2011-2012
- Chapter Awards Review Panel, 2009-2010
- Continuing Education Review Panel, 2007-2012
- NTI Exhibit CE Quality Surveyors, 2007-2008

Piedmont Carolinas AACN Chapter, 2004 - present

- President, 2012 - present
- Treasurer, 2010 – 2012
- Board Member, 2007-2010

North Carolina Association of Healthcare Quality, 2014 – present

- Conference planning committee, 2015 - present

American Society of Quality, 2014 – 2015

National Association of Healthcare Quality, 2014 – 2015

EDUCATION

1998 - 2001	Pfeiffer University	Charlotte, NC
	<i>Masters Business Administration/Masters Health Administration</i>	
1986-1987	Queens College	Charlotte, NC
	<i>Bachelor of Science in Nursing</i>	
1983-1986	Presbyterian Hospital School of Nursing	Charlotte, NC
	<i>Diploma of Nursing</i>	

LECTURES

‘Palliative Care in the ICU’

- May 2013 NTI – National Conference for Critical Care Nursing, Boston, MA

‘The Silent Killer – Contrast Induced Nephropathy’

- May 2012 NTI - National Conference for Critical Care Nursing, Orlando, Florida

‘Hypothermia in Post Cardiac Arrest Patients’

- 2010 Gold Award for CMC

- Presented presentation at the 2010 Day of Sharing Quality Day

‘Are You Prepared? The Crash of USAIR 1016’

- June 1998 Paris, France International Air Ambulance Conférence
- Oct 1995 Long Beach, California National Air Ambulance Medical Conference

AWARDS

Improving Outcomes for Kidney Transplant Recipients

- 2014 Gold Touchstone Award for Carolinas Medical Center
- Presented at Carolinas HealthCare System Corporate Quality and Service Sharing Day

Hypothermia in Post Cardiac Arrest Patients

- 2010 Gold Touchstone Award for Carolinas Medical Center
- Presented at Carolinas HealthCare System Corporate Quality and Service Sharing Day

CERTIFICATIONS

CPHQ	Certified Professional in Healthcare Quality	Sept 2014
CCRN	Critical Care Nursing Certification	May 2006
CMC	Cardiac Medicine Subspecialty of CCRN	May 2011

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Health Ministry – Christ the King Church, Charlotte NC

- First aid station for Vacation Bible School
- Health checks at quarterly Kings’ Closet – clothing for needy
- Church attendees BP checks between church services

Men’s Homeless Shelter Food Preparation Group – Christ the King Church, Charlotte NC