

PHH NEWSLETTER

November 2015

Happy Thanksgiving



Social Media Buzz!!!!



<https://www.facebook.com/PHHcare/>

Please like us on FB!!!



LinkedIn

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/pediatric-home-healthcare/>

<https://www.pediatrichomehealthcare.com>

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From the desks of:

Account Manager

Hello Pediatric Home Healthcare!

I cannot believe it is already November. Just a reminder that cold and flu season is upon us... Remember, we provide gloves and germ-x. If your supply is running low, please let us know! Furthermore, if there are any trips you are planning on taking for the holidays let us know as soon as you can. This will allow us to plan for nursing coverage or to find your nurses work elsewhere. We really appreciate each and every one of you and are so happy to have you part of our team! If you have any questions or concerns please let us know.

Our company is constantly trying to improve, and any suggestions will be greatly appreciated!

Mike Stine
Account Manager
Fort Worth

Quality Assurance

Just a few reminders from QA:

Please ensure that your narrative charting reflects a nursing action/skill every 2 hours. While turning a patient and cleaning syringes and equipment is part of providing good nursing care, it is not considered a nursing level skill but more of an attendant activity. The narrative portion of the note must clearly demonstrate a need for nursing: those tasks that only a nurse would be certified to do.

An example would be charting an assessment of a GB site, residual amounts, color, and smell.

Ensuring placement of the GB would be critical to a successful outcome. While parents and caregivers are taught the basics, these tasks cannot be adequately performed by an attendant or unlicensed personnel without the required education. State will not pay for private duty nursing hours unless we can validate the need for a nurse.

Key phrases that show nursing actions include: GB site CDI, Trach stoma intact with no S/S of infection, Lungs clear to auscultation, no S/S of pain as evidenced by....., GB placement confirmed by....., no S/S of skin breakdown, no S/S of aspiration noted, tolerated without difficulty or complaint. Make your actions patient specific: a patient with a GB who is at high risk for aspiration should have something about the condition of the GB and respiratory status every 2 hours.

D'Ann Cobb, LVN
Quality Assurance
Fort Worth

Clinical Corner

Note from the Directors:

HAPPY THANKSGIVING from our PHH family to ALL of your families. I am truly Thankful for all of our wonderful Special Patients and Nurses! All are a blessing in my life. Thank you, to all for making a difference in our patient's lives and mine.

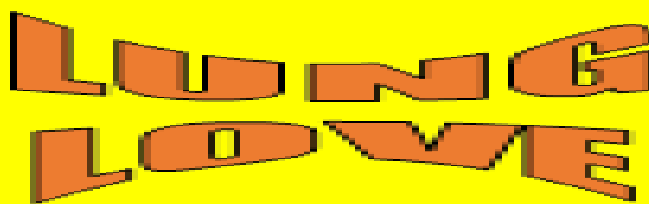
Cold and flu season is upon us again. To help reduce your risks, prevention is the key to staying healthy for our patients and nurses.

- Wash your hands frequently during the cold and flu season. This helps prevent the spread of a virus that may cause a cold or influenza.
 - Avoid people who have a cold or influenza if possible.
- Don't smoke or use other forms of tobacco. A dry, hacking "smoker's cough" means your lungs are constantly irritated.
 - Avoid exposure to secondhand smoke, both at home and in the workplace.
- Increase your fluid intake. This helps keep the mucus thin and helps you cough it up. It also helps prevent dehydration.
 - Get a flu shot (influenza vaccine) each year.

Most of our patients have compromised immune systems and we need to be extra vigilant with our hand washing. If we are around sick children please shower and change your clothes as not to spread infection. Nurses, if you have a fever, vomiting or have green secretions call us as soon as possible, so we can cover your shift. Remember, you must be free of fever, vomiting, and on antibiotics for 24 hrs before returning to your patient's home. So let's remember when receiving orders for Antibiotics, Antivirals, and Steroids then an infection control report must be completed and turned in with the physicians order.

We have so many awesome nurses who daily do for our patient's things that are above and beyond their duties. Our nurse high integrity and high standard is what makes a difference in our patient's lives. Thank you nurses, for all that you do! I am very blessed and privileged to have the opportunity to serve as your Director.

Director Of Nurses
Stephanie & Heidi



Attention all nurses caring for ventilator dependent patients:

The heater that provides the humidity for the ventilator patient, should never be turned off! If you have the waterfall to below the black line and need to transport the patient there is still no need to turn off the heater. A full water chamber will not evaporate and the 6 to 8 to 10 hours you may be gone from the home. You also do not turn off the heater during breathing treatments. There is no scenario that allows you to turn off the heater and be in compliance. When we turn off the heater, we forget to turn it back on! Pumping dry cold air into the lungs of our ventilator patients will create thick sticky tenacious plugging secretions. This in turn will lead to atelectasis and pneumonia! Remember do not turn off the heater. If you have questions or concerns you may reach me, Candace Lockhart respiratory therapist at 972-935-3323 or candice@phhctx.com.



RECOGNITION



Nurses of the Month:

Tyler: Arnett Patterson
Houston: Shely Van Dyke
Dallas: Monica Dianga
Plano: Victoria Adegbenro
Fort Worth: Diana Fain

RIVERKIDS PEDIATRIC HOME HEALTH HAS THE FOLLOWING OPENINGS!!!



Speech

- Flower Mound/Justin/Argyle
- Plano/Richardson
- McKinney/Frisco

Occupational Therapy

- Burleson/Crowley
- Red Oak/Waxahachie/Ennis



If you refer a nurse to PHH and they work 160 hours, you can receive a referral bonus of \$400 for RNs or \$200 for LVNs. The staffing coordinators can provide job applications and answer any questions. We have part-time, full-time, and PRN work available. If you are looking to work any additional hours or have any schedule changes, please notify the office.

We are in need of nurses all over North Texas & Houston, but have a special need for Nurses' in the south Dallas region, Lancaster, Mesquite, Balch Springs, and Duncanville. Our Plano office has needs from Lewisville to Sherman and surrounding cities. PHH Fort Worth has needs in Granbury, Burleson, Haslet and surrounding areas. Our East Texas office is in need of night and weekend nurses in Tyler, Kaufman, Forney, and surrounding areas. PHH Houston is looking for nurses in Sugarland, Baytown, Galveston, and surrounding areas. If you know of any great nurses that are looking for work please send them our way. At PHH we know that if we have happy nurses we have happy patients!

Note from the HR Dept.

At PHH we do our best to make sure that all credentials and annual in-services are up to date. Please come into the office as soon as you are notified of an expiring credential, so we may update your file accordingly.

Not receiving our notifications? This could be due to a change in cell phone providers, as our system uses your provider to send text messages.

If you have recently changed cell phone providers, please notify us as soon as possible. Thank You!

Vanessa Ramirez
Credentialing Supervisor

Events

Tyler

Helping Hands Toy Run

Saturday, November 14 (7-4pm)

For more info please visit FB Helping Hands Toy Run

Houston

Santikos Theaters- Sensory Friendly Films

TXU Energy Zoo Lights at the Houston Zoo

November 20, 2015 - January 9, 2016

