

Office of Nursing Policy Launches New Series of Training Courses

MDHHS' Office of Nursing Policy has launched the first of its online transition to practice modules in conjunction with the Michigan Public Health Institute.

Each training course provides support for newly licensed nurses transitioning to practice or to licensed nurses transitioning to a new practice setting. The course was developed in response to the primary needs for nurses transitioning to practice as identified by focus groups of chief nursing officers and nursing executives from acute, sub-acute, long term and community based care settings.

The goals of these courses are to:

- Improve retention of new nurses.
- Improve patient safety by assisting new nurses in transitioning from task orientation to critical thinking.
- Increase new nurses' comfort level with prioritizing care and applying the techniques introduced in their educational programs.

Participants successfully completing each module may choose to earn free continuing education units (CEU).

The first module is Communication in Healthcare. This course describes the importance of effective communication in healthcare settings and provides critical thinking exercises that allow nurses to practice applying a variety of communication techniques, including SBAR, OARS, TeamSTEPPS[®], and DESC.

The next module, Safety in Healthcare is expected to be available in early 2017. The Safety in Healthcare course describes the importance of safe patient care, offers strategies for engaging patients and families in care processes, and provides critical thinking exercises that allow nurses to practice identifying examples of adverse situations, human factors associated with errors and safe team practices.

The training modules can be found on the [Michigan Professional Nursing Development website](#).