

Safe Nurse Staffing

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Safe Staffing Advisory Council

- **VNA convened with stakeholders in 2007**
- **Reviewed three general approaches:**
 1. Mandated specific nurse to patient ratios
 2. Nursing staffing committees
 3. Publish staffing levels



Outcomes of SSAC Initiatives

- **Focus on education and collaboration**
- **Education day in 2008 jointly hosted by VHHA and VNA**
- **White paper published jointly by VHHA, VNA and VONE in 2009**
- **Monitoring proposed Federal: RN Safe Staffing Act of 2010 (S 3491 & HR 5527)**



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Safe Staffing Policies in a Constantly Changing Environment

- **Patient Care Unit:** type, age, functional level, acuity/stability; supplies, pharmaceuticals, ancillary services available; record keeping
- **Staff related:** experience, knowledge, management
- **Institution related:** organization of services around patient care



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