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**NEWS RELEASE**



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**January 28, 2008**

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**THE AMERICAN NURSES ASSOCIATION HOSTS CONFERENCE ON THE  
NATIONAL DATABASE OF NURSING QUALITY INDICATORS**

**SILVER SPRING, MD** – The American Nurses Association (ANA) announces its annual National Database of Nursing Quality Indicators (NDNQI®) conference “Workforce Engagement in Using Data to Improve Outcomes” January 30-February 1, 2008. Staff nurses, nurse executives, NDNQI site coordinators, hospital chief executive officers and quality improvement professionals are encouraged to attend to identify how over 1200 hospitals use NDNQI reports to improve nursing practices and patient outcomes.

“Nurses have a history of taking the lead in improving patient care and ensuring patient safety. Our Code of Ethics calls on nurses to participate in establishing, maintaining, and improving health care environments,” remarked ANA President Rebecca M. Patton, MSN, RN, CNOR. “This conference provides an opportunity for conscientious health care professionals committed to quality improvement to discuss NDNQI’s uses and successes.”

Over 1200 hospitals currently participate in NDNQI, and the accumulated data from those institutions serve to provide attendees insight on nursing workforce and patient outcomes that can be related to nursing care. Among the findings this year, are new data on pediatric pain relief, a key responsibility of RNs. The newest NDNQI research stresses the importance of the pain assessment cycle (assessment, intervention, and reassessment). The latest NDNQI research also provides valuable insight into the growing trend of foreign educated nurses, which

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according to the latest data; make up nine percent of the nursing workforce. Foreign educated nurses tend to have more experience than their U.S. educated counterparts, and work more demanding schedules. NDNQI is committed to examining the relationship between the prevalence of foreign educated nurses and patient outcomes.

This year, the conference will feature the first presentation of the NDNQI Award for Outstanding Nursing Quality™. The new ANA recognition program acknowledges the NDNQI participant that has achieved sustained overall excellence in nursing-sensitive quality indicators. Poudre Valley Hospital (PVH) will be recognized for its efforts toward performance and quality improvement. PVH is a locally owned, private, not-for-profit organization in Fort Collins, Colorado that provides a full spectrum of medical care to residents of Northern Colorado, Nebraska, and Wyoming.

ANA President Rebecca M. Patton will be among the conference's distinguished speakers. She will be joined by Nancy Dunton PhD, the Director of the NDNQI and Research Associate Professor at the University of Kansas School of Nursing, Mary Beth Farquhar, RN, MSN, CAGS from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Barry Straube, MD from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and Mary Naylor, PhD, FAAN, RN from Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Interdisciplinary Nursing Quality Research Initiative.

NDNQI was established in 1998 as part of ANA's Safety and Quality Initiative. The program collects nursing-sensitive data affecting patient outcomes with the goals of providing comparative information to health care facilities, and developing national data on the relationship between nurse staffing and patient outcomes. Since its formation, over 1,200 hospitals nationwide have joined the program. NDNQI reports on indicators such as staff mix, patient falls, pain management, and nurse satisfaction on a unit-by-unit basis. NDNQI is managed by the University of Kansas School of Nursing under contract to ANA.

For conference details, go to

<http://www.nursingworld.org/HomepageCategory/UpcomingEvents/NDNQI2008.aspx> .

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*The ANA is the only full-service professional organization representing the interests of the nation's 2.9 million registered nurses through its 54 constituent member nurses associations. The ANA advances the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting the rights of nurses in the workplace, projecting a positive and realistic view of nursing, and by lobbying the Congress and regulatory agencies on health care issues affecting nurses and the public.*