Public Ranks Nurses as Most Trusted Profession

11th Year in Number One Slot in Gallup Poll

SILVER SPRING, MD - For the 11th year, nurses were voted the most trusted profession in America in Gallup's annual survey that ranks professions for their honesty and ethical standards. Eighty-one percent of Americans believe nurses’ honesty and ethical standards are either "high" or "very high."

“It’s extremely gratifying to know that the public continues to hold the profession in such high esteem,” remarked ANA President Karen J. Daley, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN. “The public’s high regard for the profession, coupled with nurses’ education and skills, makes nurses well positioned to play a major role in the transformation of the nation’s health care system.”

Both the Accountable Care Act and the Institute of Medicine’s recently released report on the Future of Nursing call for a larger role for nurses in providing patient-centered care in a reformed health care system.

Since being included in the Gallup poll in 1999, nurses have received the highest ranking every year except in 2001, when fire fighters received top honors. Results were based on telephone interviews with more than 1,000 adults.

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The ANA is the only full-service professional organization representing the interests of the nation’s 3.1 million registered nurses through its constituent member nurses associations, its organizational affiliates, and its workforce advocacy affiliate, the Center for American Nurses. 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.