

ing practice for APNs, 2) transforming education, 3) transforming leadership, 4) workforce data and 5) transforming nursing practice. Academic practice models were funded to help transform education with Dr. Maria Torchia LoGripippo taking the lead with our academic partners.

In 2021, a second report was released from the National Academy of Medicine's Future of Nursing 2020-2030: Charting a Path to Health Equity. Based on this report, NJ identified several key areas as a focus. Dr. Nina Raoji led the 4 pillars that partners prioritized for NJAC which were 1) workforce focused on health equity and areas of shortage 2) strengthening nursing education, 3) emotional health

and well-being which supports the work of NJ-NEW and 4) policy for modernizing full practice authority.

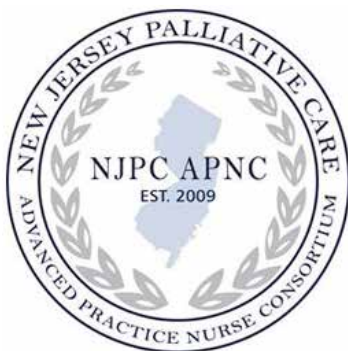
Some of the accomplishments led by NJCCN in collaboration with our partners over the years include: 1) transition into practice programs for new graduates in acute care, long term care, and Advanced Practice Providers, 2) supporting NJ NEW initiatives to reduce stress and burnout for nurses, 3) establishment of a tri-council of all deans and directors across programs to share best practices, 4) advocating for policy changes to modernize APN legislation and other workforce bills, 5) representing Nurses on Boards Coalition and 6) publishing workforce data at a

state and national level.

While the Campaign for Action and Center for Champion Nursing in America sunsets the work will not be lost but transitioned to the National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers and the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN). Work will be archived on the RWJF site. Our state work through NJCCN and our partners will continue to focus on recruitment and retention of nurses across settings, policy changes for the nursing workforce, and emotional health and well-being to meet our obligations for the residents of NJ and our nursing workforce. ■

Addressing New Jersey's Serious Illness Needs Through Palliative Care: The Impact of the New Jersey Palliative Care APN Consortium (NJPC APNC)

Yusimi Sobrino-Bonilla, MSN, APN, ANP-BC, CCRN, ACHPN



As New Jersey's population ages, more residents are living longer while managing multiple chronic conditions. This increases the need for comprehensive, supportive care. An estimated 400,000 people in New Jersey are currently living

with serious illnesses, a number that is expected to grow in the coming years. Palliative care plays a vital role in addressing the complex physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of these individuals and their families. Integrating palliative care into routine practice ensures patients receive compassionate, coordinated care aligned with their goals and values.

The New Jersey Palliative Care Advanced Practice Nurse Consortium (NJPC APNC) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to expanding access to high-quality, evidence-based palliative care for residents across New Jersey. Founded with a commitment to collaborative practice, mentorship, and advocacy, NJPC APNC

serves as a resource for APNs and the broader healthcare community to enhance the delivery of compassionate care to individuals with serious illnesses.

NJPC APNC's work aligns with state health initiatives and broader goals for healthcare improvement. One of its core efforts is to promote palliative care awareness and knowledge among healthcare professionals throughout New Jersey. By collaborating with healthcare professionals across all disciplines, the Consortium helps foster an integrated, team-based approach to palliative care delivery. Key activities include:

- Mentoring new and emerging palliative care providers and members of the

interprofessional team.

- Offering interprofessional education opportunities.
- Engaging in the development of health policy and providing content expertise to state and private constituents.
- Advocating healthcare quality and access to palliative care for New Jersey residents.
- Leading community support and educational sessions.
- Connecting healthcare professionals with a shared vision.

NJPC APNC remains committed to mentoring professionals interested in palliative care principles, promoting

healthcare equity, and enhancing the quality of life for patients and families facing serious illness. As a leader in palliative care advocacy and education, NJPC APNC plays a key role in shaping the future of palliative care in New Jersey and beyond.

Are you interested in incorporating palliative care principles into your daily practice? Connect with us by joining one of our meetings or visiting our website! <https://njpcapnc.enpnetwork.com/>

References

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During the preparation of this work, the author utilized generative AI to enhance the clarity and structure of the article. After using the tool, the content was reviewed and edited as needed and take full responsibility for the content of the publication. ■

Protecting Patient Information in the Age of AI and Social Media

John Estrella, BSN, RN

Social media is deeply embedded in both our personal and professional lives as nurses. It enables hospitals to expand telehealth services and promote patient engagement, while individual nurses use it to connect, learn, and share experiences. However, as the digital world expands, so does the responsibility to protect patient privacy. The rapid adoption of artificial intelligence, or AI, in healthcare presents new opportunities—but also new ethical challenges. Nurses must stay informed and vigilant about how these technologies influence confidentiality and professionalism.

AI refers to computer systems that simulate human intelligence. In healthcare, AI helps analyze clinical data and personalize education, but it also collects sensitive patient information, which increases the risk of privacy breaches. This makes it essential for nurses to understand how to use AI responsibly while upholding ethical and legal standards.

That is where “e-professionalism” must be maintained. Simply put, it means acting professionally when communicating within any digital space—whether you are using social media or interacting with AI platforms. A post about a touching patient moment or a difficult shift might feel harmless, but it can unintentionally reveal protected health information. Unfortunately, many nurses feel underprepared in this area and may make avoidable mistakes without proper guidance. Learning your workplace’s digital communication policies and HIPAA standards is critical to staying compliant and protecting both your patients and your career.

AI can also support nurses in learning and practicing professionalism. For example, some platforms use AI to tailor educational content and simulate clinical situations, helping nurses practice skills safely. These tools can also teach privacy protocols and model appropriate digital

behaviors. By incorporating AI into educational initiatives, nurses can become more confident in managing technology while safeguarding patient data.

While AI has a lot of potential, it also raises significant privacy and ethical concerns. AI systems can unintentionally collect personal health information during user interactions. If it is not properly secured, this data could be misused or exposed. AI can also reflect the biases of its developers, leading to skewed or unethical outcomes. As nurses, we must ask questions when new technology is introduced in the workplace and understand how AI systems gather their information. Supporting transparent privacy policies and advocating for regular audits are further steps to ensure responsible technology use.

As a nursing leader, I have seen firsthand the consequences of social media misuse. A nursing student in my facility once posted a dancing video with a