

**University of Rochester Medical Center**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Critical Care Nursing Symposium**  
**September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009**

*Call for Posters Abstracts*

University of Rochester Medical Center, Strong Memorial Hospital presents its third annual Critical Care Nursing Symposium dedicated to bringing you the most current research and evidence based practice information related to critical care nursing.

**Subject Matter:**

This year we are inviting you to submit your *Research Posters* and/or *Innovative Best Practice Posters* demonstrating changes in practice or creative solutions to improve nursing care or practice in the critical care environment. This is a great opportunity to showcase and share successful critical care nursing initiatives from your institution!

**Poster Proposal Format Requirements**

Submit a proposal by e-mail to [Nancy\\_Freeland@URMC.rochester.edu](mailto:Nancy_Freeland@URMC.rochester.edu)

**Proposals must include the following: (see exemplar below)**

- Abstract title & author(s)
- Purpose statement
- Abstract (250 word limit) - statement of the problem, description, methodology (if applicable), results and evaluation/outcomes.  
*Note: When presenting a product, you must use the generic name.*
- Recent references/supporting research
- Include primary author contact information at the bottom of the abstract (name & credentials, e-mail, institution, contact number)
- Poster size limited to **4' X 4' or 4' X 6'**

**Deadline for Submission: July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

**Notification of Acceptance via e-mail by: July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009**

***NOTE: Poster Abstracts that are accepted will receive a FREE registration. This discount applies to primary author only.***

## Abstract Sample Exemplar

**“Keep the Pressure Off! Pressure Ulcer Prevention and Treatment Strategies in the Intensive Care Unit”** Freeland, N.; Atkinson, M; Witscheber, C.; Kiseleski, C.; Pavlik-McGowan, B.; Williams, D.; VanHouten, C. University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, NY

**Purpose:** Pressure ulcer management consumes a large percentage of healthcare time and resources in the ICU and can be financially and emotionally costly to patients. Pressure ulcer prevalence in the Adult Intensive Care Units (ICUs) at the University of Rochester Medical Center was consistently higher than comparable hospital benchmarks. A multidisciplinary Pressure Ulcer Task Force was formed to develop evidence-based standards and a consistent approach to prevention and treatment of pressure ulcers for complex ICU patients. **Description:** After comprehensive review of literature for evidence of best practice protocols, an ICU Service action plan was developed that focused on six areas for improvement. These areas included a shift in focus to prevention, development of ICU skin care specialists, implementation of standardized treatment options, improved documentation forms, competency-based education plan and a consistent process for data collection. The competency-based education plan incorporated all the various elements of the performance improvement initiative and was mandatory for all ICU nursing staff to complete. An ICU Pressure Ulcer Flowsheet was developed to improve documentation and provide better ulcer progression tracking. ICU skin care specialists and nursing leadership on each of the ICU's were empowered to enforce staff compliance with completion of education and accurate pressure ulcer documentation. **Evaluation/Outcomes:** Development of an ICU specific pressure ulcer prevention and treatment plan that focused on the six areas for improvement significantly increased staff awareness of patients at risk for developing pressure ulcers, provided standardized evidence-based strategies for treatment of pressure ulcers and improved documentation of pressure ulcer risk, treatment, and progression tracking.

### References:

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