



# THE CORRECTIONAL NURSE

Inspiring

## Professional Correctional Nursing Practice

June 2025

### Why I Stay: Finding Purpose in Correctional Nursing

Some days, we have to dig deep to remember why we chose correctional nursing. Maybe it's after spending half the morning convincing laundry staff—again—that, yes, we *do* need clean sheets in the infirmary. Or perhaps it's when we hear the medical officer has been pulled for a contraband sweep, and now med pass is delayed...again. And let's not forget the "emergency" chest pain patient who admits, after a full evaluation, that he's actually just out of Tums and needed something to tide him over until his sick call appointment tomorrow.

Working in corrections is not for the faint of heart. It can be chaotic, unpredictable, and often frustrating, and yet, there's something deeply grounding that keeps us here. On days when the noise and demands feel overwhelming, I turn to the *Correctional Nurse: Scope and Standards of Practice* to reconnect with my purpose. I encourage you to do so as well.

At the heart of it all is *patient-centered* care. Even in a secure facility, our patients deserve dignity, respect, and culturally competent care. We navigate a unique environment, balancing clinical judgment with strict security measures—but that doesn't make our commitment to quality care any less important.

The nursing process is our compass. It demands critical thinking, careful assessment, and intentional decision-making. We uphold professional boundaries, collaborate with colleagues across disciplines, and advocate for care even when resources are tight and systems are strained.

Most importantly, we don't lose our compassion. We listen—really listen—to our patients. We communicate with honesty and empathy, even when trust is hard-earned.

Being a correctional nurse isn't about having easy days. It's about showing up—consistently, ethically, and with purpose. It's about remembering that each patient, regardless of circumstance, deserves care.

So, when we're buried in red tape or facing another curveball shift, remember: **this work matters**. Correctional nursing is challenging, yes—but it's also meaningful. And that's more than enough reason to stay!

### Newsorthy Notes

#### Upcoming Conferences

[NCCHC](#) Mental Health Conference July 20-21, 2025 in San Francisco, CA.

[American Correctional Association](#) 155th Congress in Denver, Colorado, August 21-26, 2025.

The [Western American Correctional Health Services Association](#) (WASCHA) will hold its Fall Conference "Shaping the Future of Healthcare in Carceral Settings" October 22 - 24, 2025 in Sacramento, CA.

[NCCHC](#) Fall Conference in Baltimore, MD will be held November 1-5, 2025.

## CorrectionalNurse.Net

This month at [CorrectionalNurse.Net](#) we will be discussing the clinical topic of our aging patients and professional topics like the new Nursing Code of Ethics from the ANA.

As always, announcements for new blog posts will be posted on our FaceBook pages and on Instagram.

Please [FOLLOW US](#) and check back often to ensure that you get notification of new posts!

VISIT CORRECTIONALNURSE.NET NOW

## Correctional Nurse Educator

The [2025 Nurses' Week Bundle](#) is still available for \$149.95, which is still deeply discounted from the individual class cost of \$240.00. This Bundle includes 8 classes and awards 20 continuing education hours that are applicable to your nursing license renewal and the NCCHC and the ACA Correctional Nursing certifications.

Our 50% off featured class this month at [The Correctional Nurse Educator](#) is *Basic Abdominal Assessment for the Correctional Nurse*. I hope you enjoy it!

Remember, The Correctional Nurse Educator will work with your group to provide quality, accredited continuing education classes at a discounted and affordable cost that are specifically for Correctional Nurses.

VISIT THE CORRECTIONAL NURSE EDUCATOR NOW

## Nursing Behind the Wall

This month at [Nursing Behind the Wall](#) you will meet Ms. Henson, a patient with right hand pain.

VISIT NURSING BEHIND THE WALL NOW

In closing, I appreciate you taking the time to read this newsletter, and I hope that you will find our sites interesting and educational. Our profession of Correctional Nursing is unique and sometimes challenging, but always very important to our patients. The impact we make is far-reaching, even if it is not always evident as we care for our patients. I have ALWAYS been proud to say that I am a Correctional Nurse – I hope that YOU are as well!

Lori

## Inspiration



"THE MEANING OF LIFE IS TO FIND

*Your gift.*

THE PURPOSE OF LIFE IS  
TO GIVE IT AWAY."

-WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

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