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# Nursing Education, Empowering the Next Generation of Oklahoma's Elite Nurses



For nearly 50 years, the University of Central Oklahoma (UCO) has provided Oklahoma with well-qualified and educated nurses. Graduates of Central's nursing programs are known for being some of the best nurses in the state of Oklahoma and around the nation, and the UCO Department of Nursing is proud to continue this tradition.

Central's bachelor's and master's programs prepare tomorrow's leaders in nursing through

which settings, helps the demand at all levels of services nursing

needed in Oklahoma. Central offers traditional and nontraditional programs that fit the needs of anyone

See UCO Page 2

As featured in Oklahoma's Education Guide for Nursing 2021 edition



# Covid-19 looks like it's here to stay



OMRF physician-scientist Hal Scofield, M.D., displays his bandaged arm following the first dose of his Covid-19 vaccine on Dec. 20, 2020.

Although roughly half the U.S. population has received at least one Covid-19 shot, new cases are still averaging more than 50,000 daily nationwide. It's a sign the virus isn't going away, according to experts at the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation.

"Some have the idea that we can still reach 'Covid zero,'" said OMRF immunologist Eliza Chakravarty, M.D. "Unless close to 100% of the population gets vaccinated, that's unlikely."

Nevertheless, she said, "It doesn't mean that we can't get back to something that looks like normal."

Covid-19 seems poised to join "endemic" viruses like influenza and chickenpox, which remain in perpetual circulation. "These kinds of viruses are always present but not in huge, pandemic-level outbreaks," said OMRF physician-scientist Hal Scofield, M.D.

Scofield said the best-case scenario is that with widespread vaccination and growing

See COVID Page 3

#### **UCO**

#### **Continued from Page 1**

wanting to pursue a career in nursing or further their nursing education. Accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, Central offers the traditional BSN program with courses offered at the conveniently-located Edmond campus; the fully online RN to B.S. in nursing track; the fast-track B.S.; and, the fully online master's degree in nursing, which includes two tracks.

#### Traditional BSN Program

The traditional nursing program is for someone who has not yet obtained a license to practice nursing as a registered nurse. This may be a student who is attending college for their first degree or someone who has already earned a degree in another field and has decided that nursing is in their future

#### Online RN to B.S. in Nursing Track

Central's RN to B.S. track is available 100% online for registered nurses who are interested in furthering their nursing education. Upon successful completion, nurses will have earned a Bachelor of Science in nursing. Central's commitment to providing registered

nurses with quality, convenient, studentfocused curriculum and a cost-effective baccalaureate nursing education is the inspiration for the track.

With both part- and full-time options available and for as low as \$8,500, Central's track is designed to provide flexibility for students, with the option to complete the track in as little as 10 months.

"The RN to B.S. in nursing track at UCO takes the flexibility, affordability and convenience of an online degree with the recognized quality provided by our faculty to provide an experience students are looking for," said Barbara Arnold, Ed.D., RN, chairperson and associate professor of nursing at Central.

#### Fast-Track BS

Central's Fast Track in nursing is for those students who have earned a traditional bachelor's degree in another field and would like to change to the profession of nursing. Upon successful completion, a Bachelor of Science in nursing will be awarded. The fast-track program can be completed in just 16 months and provides the flexibility of hybrid courses.

#### Online M.S. in Nursing

The Master of Science in nursing

degree at UCO will help to provide for the increasing global need of health care practitioners with expanded nursing knowledge. The program offers working RNs flexibility through fully online courses with both part- and full-time options available. The program can be completed in as little as 16 months, if pursued full time. Students are required to also complete 100 clinical hours. The online Master of Science in nursing can be completed for as little as \$15,000.

Nursing graduate students have the ability to choose from two tracks, the nursing education track or the specialty nursing track. A master's degree in nursing education will prepare students for academic positions in nursing education or for a position in hospital staff education. The specialty nursing track allows students to meet individual goals in areas such as leadership or administration.

#### **Next Generation of Nurses**

All UCO nursing programs offer real-world instruction from supportive nursing faculty who are experts in their field of nursing. Graduates from UCO nursing programs are recognized within the health care community for their knowledge, professionalism and leadership potential. Central prides

itself as a smart investment for success and for preparing future leaders in an opportunity-rich environment.

"I have to thank UCO's online RN to BS program for giving me courage, skills and knowledge, I have learned so much in the program already. I have found great love and passion for evidence-based practice, quality management and nursing research," said Vicena Skelton, a current Central RN to BSN student.

"This program has fantastic faculty, staff and educators that are understanding and caring. They have helped make pandemic online learning doable and your degree achievable."

The UCO Department of Nursing has degree programs that can help you achieve your career goals, whether you are new to health care and are seeking your first degree in nursing or are a registered nurse interested in advancing your current career.

For more information about nursing programs offered at Central, visit **www.uco.edu/nursing**.







Our son, Curtis, wasn't breathing when he was born. The first 30 days of his life in the hospital were a fight for survival. As his little body began to 'wake up', he finally came out of the coma.

Curtis defied all the odds. We watched him grow and develop. We remember when he ran on the field with his glove for his first t-ball game.

But Curtis' kidneys eventually failed, and he started dialysis when he was 12 years old. He was at the top of the transplant waiting list when we got the call in October 2009.

When he received his new kidney, it saved his life and now he has been crowned Prom King and is graduating from High School!



We learned that his donor was Mariee, a softball star from the University of Oklahoma. Mariee's donation not only saved Curtis, but she also saved the lives of five others.

Organ, eye and tissue donation saves lives. Please make your decision to donate life and tell your family. Register to be an organ, eye and tissue donor on your Oklahoma driver's license or state ID card or register online at www.LifeShareRegistry.org. If you don't have a license or state ID card and do not have internet access, call 800-826-LIFE (5433) and ask for a donor registration card.







## **COVID**Continued from Page 1

natural immunity Covid-19 cou

natural immunity, Covid-19 could resemble measles.

"Like Covid-19, measles spreads easily through the air and once wreaked havoc on our communities," he said. "But thanks to vaccination, it went from being common to just a few hundred cases most years in the U.S."

However, because of vaccine hesitancy, Chakravarty predicts Covid-19 incidence in the U.S. will more likely resemble the flu.

In 2017-18, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates the country experienced 45 million cases of influenza and 61,000 flu-related deaths. "Despite these statistics, the flu doesn't bring life to a halt," said Chakravarty.

Although Covid-19 does not mutate as rapidly as influenza does, the dominant variants that have emerged appear more contagious than the original strain. That's not surprising, said Chakravarty, and another clue that the virus is here to stay.

"The virus wants to survive, so becoming more contagious and, we hope, less lethal is helpful from an evolutionary perspective," said Chakravarty. "The effects of this coronavirus will likely grow milder over time, and our immune systems should develop 'memories' of the virus that will better protect us when exposed."

Still, said Scofield, the best way to take the bite out of the virus is widespread vaccination.

"Recent CDC shows that infections among the fully vaccinated are rare, but have been reported," said Scofield, noting that the chance of serious illness and death when fully vaccinated is near zero. "Whether vaccinated people can spread the virus is still not known. That means that in addition to rolling up our sleeves for a shot, following masking and social distancing practices remains critical."



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# CAREERS IN NURSING

### FEELING AT HOME: ADON SHARES COMFORT OF LIFE

by James Coburn - staff writer

Willow Creek Healthcare is a second home for Heather Chbouki, LPN, and assistant director of nursing. Willow Creek offers longterm care and rehabilitative skilled nursing services for senior adults in Guthrie.

"These are my grandmas and grandpas. Actually, my grandpa is here," she said. "He's my step grandpa, but he sees me all the time and says, 'There's my granddaughter.'"

Chbouki earned her nursing license in 2013 after graduating from nursing school at Ozarka College in Melbourne, Ark. A year later she moved to Guthrie where she has All of them have big hearts that worked at Willow Creek for seven years. She was a home health aide before joining all of her cousins going to nursing school. Upon graduation she enjoyed going into home to care for the elderly. She had been very close with her grandmother before she passed away in 2016.

"There was a nurse that kept coming in and I adored her. She made people who came in feel so good and I was like, 'I want to be her. I want to care for the elderly like she does," Chbouki said. "She was so compassionate."

It is compassion that she most admires in the nursing staff at Willow Creek. She sees them take extra time to be with someone who is having a bad day. Sometimes it's as simple for going for a walk with a resident. Sometimes it's as simple as holding their hand, she explained.

"I have a big staff, I really do. really care. And they do go that extra mile to sit with that person, or talk to them about their family," she said. "Right now, it's really hard. Some of them are really missing their families. It's getting better now with COVID that we've got to open a little bit. We've had to step up and

show a little bit more compassion."

Family members are able to see their loved one's inside Willow Creek for the first time since restrictions were set due to the pandemic.

"It makes me happy that my step grandmas get to see their loved ones," she said.

One family member at a time can make an appointment to sit in the front lobby with their loved one. They can enter the facility wearing a mask and sterilizing their hands in order to sit with them and give them a hug.

"Just holding their hands, I've seen daughters just cry for the first 10 minutes because they haven't been able to do that in over a year," Chbouki continued.

She has teared up a few times, herself, when seeing reunions in a more intimate setting.

"The smile on the resident's face when they get to see them touches

my heart," she said. "We do that twice a week now. And it's usually full for all scheduling. We still have our outdoor visits, but of course it's behind plexiglass."

Seeing family members has reenergized the residents as they look forward to regular visits. Joy has returned. For a while some of the residents had entered a depression, Chbouki said.

Residents are coming out of their rooms more for activities.

One of the perks of working at a long-term care center is that history comes alive. Chbouki gets to listen to residents tell stories about their lives through the years, adding dimension to life.

"Some of it is amazing. You see this person who barely comes out of their shell, but when you start talking to them about their life -

See CHBOUKI Page 5



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#### **CHBOUKI**

**Continued from Page 4** 

they light up."

Something as simple as trinket may have a story behind it. She learns they were teachers, doctors, housewives or professors. One resident had been a scientist.

Chbouki recalls how she would sit with her grandmother going through shoe boxes of photos.

"She would tell me about the favorite things in her life. That's my favorite part," Chbouki said.

She brings a bevy of special qualities to her profession. Geriatric care requires a strong will and good work ethic, she said. The nurses must be kind with a blend of compassion and abundant patience, she added.

"This is slow paced. It's the same routine every day. So, if you don't want the same routine every day — you don't want to be with the same people every day — this is not for you," she said. "There are different types of nurses and you can try other things. When I did clinicals I tried other things, but geriatrics is where I want to be. That's what I love." For more information visit: http://www.willowcreekhealthcare.net/



Heather Chbouki, LPN, and assistant director of nursing at Willow Creek Health Care, enjoys the sense of family she found to be so evident in the Guthrie home.



Thank you, healthcare workers, for your hard work in these trying times.

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### klahoma's Nursing Times

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#### 140 GENERAL NURSING

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care clinic. Purcell Municipal Hospital located at 1500 N Green Ave, Purcell, OK 73080 is in need of a PRN, or as needed, Clinic Nurse/LPN for the after hours / urgent care clinic. Monday-Friday 8a-7p, varied weekends: Saturday 10a-6p, Sunday 10a-4p. No holidays. Openings are for evening shifts and weekend days. The Clinic Nurse/LPN must perform the functions of a licensed practical nurse or registered nurse in assessing, planning, implementing, and

evaluating all assigned patient care in collaboration with Physicians and Physician Assistant(s). They are responsible for adhering to all Standards of Nursing Practice, for managing supplies and equipment with the direction of the Clinic Physician Assistant and/or Physicians. Must have current Oklahoma LPN license and prior work experience in clinic setting.

#### 140 GENERAL NURSING

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#### 140 GENERAL NURSING



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#### We are seeking **Director of Clinical** Services/Director of Nursing

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#### 161 LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSING

#### We are seeking Licensed **Practical Nurse**

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Qualifications: Graduate of an accredited school of vocational nursing. Current state license as an LPN, Current State's Driver's License. Two year experience as an LPN, home health preferred. Proof of current CPR and Hepatitis profile.

#### 204 REGISTERED NURSE

#### We are seeking Registered Nurse -**Full-time Days**

located at 3219 S 79th E Ave, Tulsa, OK 74145. In order to work at our facility, our RN's need: To hold a current license as a RN by the Board of Nurse Examiners of the State in which the facility is located. To have and maintain a current CPR and ACLS certification. \*New team members will have 6 months from date of hire to obtain an ACLS certification if they do not currently have one.

#### 204 REGISTERED NURSE

#### We are looking for **Registered Nurse Admission Nurse**

Grace Hospice of Oklahoma LLC located at 6218 S Lewis Ave, Tulsa, OK 74136

#### We are seeking **Full-Time Night Shift Registered Nurse**

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204 REGISTERED NURSE

#### We are seeking **Registered Nurse** Case Manager

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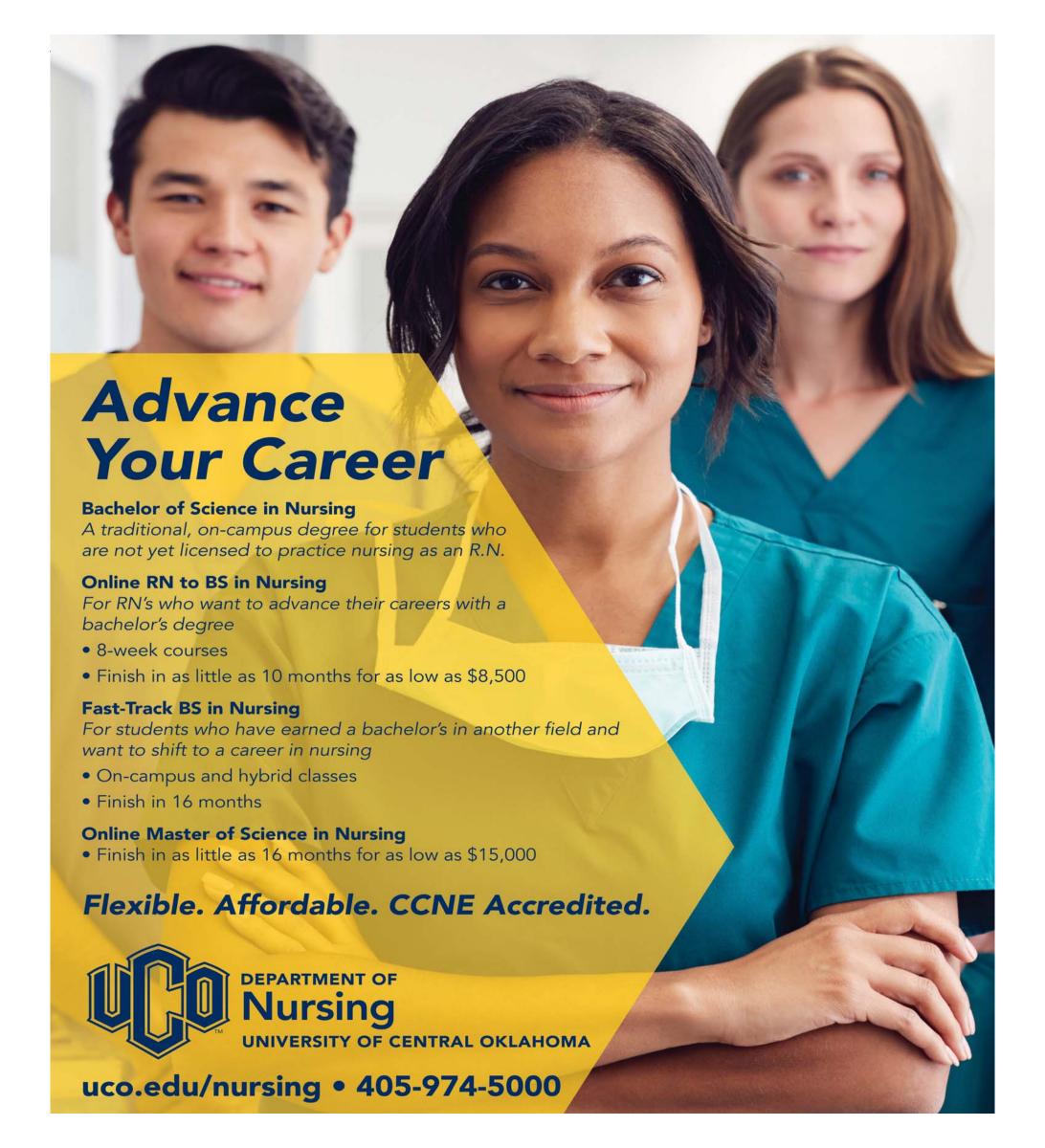
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(AS PUBLISHED IN THE 2021 EDUCATION GUIDE TO NURSING)

# **NOC** offers nursing program at three locations

The Northern Oklahoma College Nursing Program plays a vital role in the delivery of health care services to the citizens of Oklahoma, especially in rural areas.

The NOC program, headed by Division Chair Dr. Nikole Hicks, is future-oriented, learning-focused, connected, and distinctive. Hicks started as NOC Division Chair last

"This is a transformational time in academic nursing education," "I am excited to Hicks said. work with the excellent faculty and staff at NOC to prepare the next generation of nurses to improve

the health of Oklahomans in our region."

NOC's program focuses on preparing students for the work force. Over 90 percent of NOC students are employed before they graduate with 94 percent staying in Oklahoma after graduation.

NOC nursing students recently assisted with vaccinations at the NOC Tonkawa campus gaining valuable real-life experience. NOC nursing students and faculty have also been assisting county health departments administer vaccines within the communities they serve.

Hicks oversees 11 full time

faculty members at three locations. The NOC program is approved by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing and is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing.

NOC has nursing facilities at nursing, call 580.628.6679. Tonkawa, Stillwater, and Enid.

mannequin that mimics real-life human functions and at least four midfidelity simulators including an adult, a birthing simulator that provides students with the ability to experience labor and delivery, a pediatric client and a neonate. The mid-fidelity simulators give the student the ability to assess vital signs, master nursing skills and identify changes in a client's

NOC also provides health fairs, vital sign and handwashing clinics, health education to public and volunteer hours in the Tonkawa, Enid, and Stillwater areas.

Technology Centers to provide LPNs

master's and doctoral prepared the opportunity to further their education.

> Northern offers 14 scholarships available specifically for nursing students along with many other scholarship opportunities.

For more information about NOC

NOC, a public two-year community All nursing locations have a college, serves nearly 5,000 students high-fidelity computerized simulation on the home campus in Tonkawa, branch in Enid, NOC/OSU Gateway Program in Stillwater, online, and the University Center in Ponca City. Of these students about 60% receive financial aid and/or scholarships. Over 80% of NOC students complete their degree with zero debt.

> NOC is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and offers associate degrees in three general areas: Arts, Science and Applied Science. The associate degree fulfills lower-division course work which is applicable towards a bachelor's degree.

more information about NOC also works with Career Northern Oklahoma College visit www.noc.edu.



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# TSET HPRC Researcher Receives Federal Grant to Help Low-Income Oklahomans Quit Smoking

Darla Kendzor, Ph.D., co-director of the TSET Health Promotion Research Center, was recently awarded a 5-year, \$3.1 million grant from the National Cancer Institute to evaluate the effectiveness of an automated, smartphone-based approach to incentivizing smoking cessation among low-income adults in Oklahoma.

Kendzor's past work has uncovered the detrimental impact that financial stress, neighborhood problems, and discrimination can have on smoking cessation. Recently, her work has focused on developing and evaluating practical and effective smoking cessation interventions for vulnerable Oklahomans.

Lung cancer, primarily caused by smoking, is the leading cause of cancer death in the U.S. and is far more prevalent among lower income adults. Kendzor and others have shown that offering small monetary incentives for quitting smoking can dramatically increase smoking cessation rates among socioeconomically disadvantaged adults, especially when incentives are paired with clinic-based treatment. However, many adults are unable or unwilling to attend regular clinic visits, particularly those who live in rural areas; thus, innovative approaches are needed to reach people outside of the clinic setting.

"My team has developed an automated, smartphone-based approach to rewarding smoking cessation that will allow us to reach people across the state with an effective intervention, regardless of their proximity to the clinic," Kendzor explained. "Our hope is that this treatment will help to reduce the high rate of smoking in Oklahoma and prevent tobaccorelated diseases."

This study will enroll 532 low-income Oklahomans. Participants

will be randomly assigned to either standard care - telephone counseling and mailed nicotine patches/lozenges - or standard care plus monetary payments for abstinence. All participants will be followed from one week before quitting, through 26 weeks after the quit date to determine the longer-term impact of the intervention on smoking cessation. No office visits are required, since all participants will receive counseling by telephone and nicotine replacement therapy by mail.

"Our smartphone app will ask participants to provide breath samples to verify smoking abstinence, and facial recognition software will be used to verify participant identity when they provide breath samples," said Kendzor. Incentives will be automatically added to the participant's reloadable credit card when smoking abstinence and identity are verified. The cost-effectiveness of this approach will be evaluated to determine whether this

# **U**Health

approach should be disseminated throughout the United States via smoking cessation helplines and other venues.

This innovative study could increase the reach of a potentially effective and cost-effective smoking cessation intervention to those who need it most. To find more information about the study, call (405) 271-QUIT or visit 271quit.com

This research was primarily supported by National Cancer Institute (NCI) grant R01CA251451

(to D.E. Kendzor). Additional support was provided by Oklahoma Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust Grant R21-02, and the Mobile Health Technology Shared Resource, which is a component of the NCI Cancer Center Support Grant P30CA225520 awarded to the Stephenson Cancer Center







JOINANA.ORG

# OMRF President Prescott to Retire

Stephen M. Prescott, M.D., who led the largest expansion in the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation's history, will retire as president.

Prescott, 73, made the announcement Tuesday at a meeting of OMRF's board of directors. Prescott was diagnosed with cancer in 2017 and said he was stepping down for health reasons. Since 2006, he has led the Oklahoma City-based nonprofit, which will mark its 75th anniversary later this year.

"The time I've spent at OMRF has been the capstone to a scientific career that has been immensely rewarding," said Prescott, a physician and medical researcher. "I've been lucky enough to help guide this wonderful institution for 15 years. And nothing makes me happier than knowing the scientists of OMRF will continue the tradition

Stephen M. Prescott, M.D., who led of biomedical research excellence long largest expansion in the Oklahoma after I've gone."

Under Prescott, OMRF has three times earned designation by the National Institutes of Health as an Autoimmunity Center of Excellence, one of only 10 in the nation. Three life-changing drugs born at OMRF have earned FDA approval, including the first treatment for pain crises caused by sickle cell disease.

With the addition of a 186,000-square-foot research tower that included a multiple sclerosis clinic in 2011, Prescott engineered the largest campus expansion ever at OMRF. He also successfully completed a \$100 million fundraising initiative that paid for that growth, then spearheaded the recruitment of more than 30 new principal scientists to fill the new labs

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# RISE ENGINEER OF THE PARTY OF T

What inspires your nursing career?



Wildewood
Skilled Nursing
& Therapy

"I like taking care of my residents and interacting with my coworkers. I've been doing it for 11 years."



Senaka Wynn, LPN

"I like taking care of people. That's my passion. I love taking care of everyone's needs and making them happy."



Angela Grant, LPN

"I like my residents. It's a challenge and I learn something different everyday."



Sherice Randle, LPN

## PRESCOTT Continued from Page 10

and clinic space.

In rankings based on employee surveys, OMRF has earned a designation as one of Oklahoma's Top Workplaces every year since the contest began in 2013. That includes a pair of blue ribbons among large employers in 2017 and 2019. During Prescot's tenure, the foundation also received more than a dozen four-star rankings – the highest possible – from Charity Navigator, the nation's largest evaluator of nonprofits.

"Dr. Steve Prescott's leadership of OMRF has been transformative," said Len Cason, chair of OMRF's board of directors. "As a scientist and as a person, he dared not just to think big, but to transform those ideas into action. He challenged everyone at OMRF to reach new standards of excellence, and then he followed through and made sure it happened."

Prescott was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame in 2020. In his acceptance speech, he recalled how he'd been recruited to Oklahoma from the University of Utah's Huntsman Cancer Institute, where he'd served as executive director. "Len Cason told me that OMRF was the right place for me. He was right."



President Stephen M. Prescott, M.D., announced his retirement as the leader of the Oklahoma Citybased nonprofit on Tuesday, April 27.

The executive committee of OMRF's board of directors will name an acting successor to Prescott soon. A nationwide search for a permanent replacement will follow.

"I've had the great fortune to live a charmed life. I've spent each day immersed in medical research," said Prescott. "When you do something you love, you don't work a day in your life."



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# Perception of nursing profession since start of pandemic

For National Nurses Month (May), University of Phoenix surveyed nurses across the nation to better understand their perception of the nursing profession since the start of the pandemic. Among the findings:

- 78% of nurses say that working during the pandemic has been the most challenging time in their careers.
- Nurses reported feeling exhausted (65%), fearful (49%) and underappreciated (36%).
- Many said they were concerned about their risk of exposure to COVID-19 (88%) or their organization's ability to keep up with a surge of COVID-19 patients (63%).
- 46% of nurses thought about quitting their job at some point during the pandemic.
- But despite the challenges, 99% of nurses are proud of the work that they do and 87% say their job is more important than ever right now.

# Eighth Urgent Care Opens

Mercy-GoHealth Urgent Care, serving the community with on-demand care as well as COVID-19 rapid testing, opened a new location on Northwest Expressway in Oklahoma City this week. The new urgent care center is located at 8500 N. Rockwell Ave., next to Starbucks, and features an award-winning design that puts patients at the forefront.

The new location provides state-of-the-art services for non-life-threatening illness, injury care and seamless integration with Mercy in a convenient location in northwest Oklahoma City near Warr Acres, Bethany and Yukon.

"We introduced this new model of urgent care to serve Oklahomans three years ago and we're excited it's been very well received," said Dr. Jesse Campbell, community president of Mercy Clinic in Oklahoma. "This high quality, efficient urgent care model integrates seamlessly with our Mercy primary care physicians and specialists for patients who need follow-up care."

"We are pleased to support our community through this new center," said Sherry Buebendorf, regional president of Mercy-GoHealth Urgent Care.

The health and wellness of our patients is our top priority, and we are honored to serve our neighbors through our consumer-focused care model."



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# Oklahoma City Hospital Named a Top 100

## Watson Health

# 100 Top Hospitals<sup>®</sup>

For the fourth consecutive year, Mercy Hospital Oklahoma City has been named to the Fortune/IBM Watson Health 100 Top Hospitals list. Published today in Fortune, the honor designates Mercy among the top hospitals based on a balanced scorecard of publicly available clinical, operational and patient satisfaction metrics and data.

Watson Health has IBM identified the top hospitals from a rigorous evaluation of 2,675 short-term, acute care, non-federal hospitals in the U.S. The annual list recognizes excellence in clinical outcomes, operational efficiency, patient experience and financial health. IBM Watson Health established the list to help identify best practices that may help other health care organizations achieve consistent, balanced and sustainable high performance.

"Awards and recognitions aren't why our co-workers do what they do every day to care for our patients," said Jim Gebhart, community president of Mercy Hospital Oklahoma City. "For most at Mercy, health care is a calling, but it's both rewarding and humbling to be recognized for the fourth consecutive year for our excellence in care and best practices that ensure the best outcomes for our patients."

Mercy Hospital Oklahoma City is a 379-bed, faith-based nonprofit hospital offering a 24-hour emergency department, oncology services at the Coletta Building, neurology services featuring an advanced comprehensive stroke center, women and children's

services, Level II neonatal intensive care unit, inpatient and outpatient general and orthopedic surgery, and more.

This year's ranking of top hospitals introduces a measure of hospitals' contributions to community health developed by a team of experts at Johns Hopkins Center for Health Equity and the Bloomberg American Health Initiative at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. For the ranking, hospitals were surveyed across three components:

- Assessing hospital contributions to community health as a provider of critical services for community health and preventive care.
- Identifying ways that hospitals contribute to community health as a community partner teaming up with local organizations to implement critical programs.
- Focusing on ways that hospitals promote community health through their practices as anchor institutions supporting local economic and social progress.

Hospitals received credit for meeting a certain number of best practice standards in each component as part of the survey scoring and the new measure led to a change in ranking for more than one-third of the 100 hospitals.

According to IBM Watson Health, as compared to similar hospitals, the hospitals on the Fortune/IBM Watson Health 100 Top Hospitals list had better results on key clinical and operational performance indicators. These include survival rates, patient

complications, health care associated infections, 30-day mortality and 30-day hospital-wide readmission rates, length of stay, throughput in emergency departments, inpatient expenses, profitability and ratings from patients.

"We are proud of all of the hospitals, health systems and their dedicated clinicians and staff included among the Fortune/IBM Watson Health 100 Top Hospitals," said Irene Dankwa-Mullan, M.D., chief health equity officer and deputy chief health officer at

IBM Watson Health. "From small community hospitals to major teaching hospitals, organizations on this list demonstrate a relentless commitment to high value, patient-centered care and innovation. They also recognize the importance of contributing to the health of their communities and we applaud them for their programs that help provide equitable quality care and address health disparities."

For more information, visit <a href="http://www.100tophospitals.com/">http://www.100tophospitals.com/</a>.

#### **SITUATION UPDATE: COVID-19**

COVID-19 Cases	449,648
New Cases	234
New Cases 7 day Average	192
Active Cases	1,855
CDC/NCHS Provisional Deaths	8,327
Acute Care OSDH Licensed Facilities/Location*	Recent 3 day Ave. Hospitalizations
	Cases (ICU)
Region 1 (NW)	2 (1)
Region 2 (NE)	7 (3)
Region 3 (SW)	11 (2)
Region 4 (EC)	3 (2)
Region 5 (SE)	5 (4)
Region 6 (Central)	12 (7)
Region 7 (Tulsa)	61 (24)
Region 8 (OKC)	77 (26)
Total	178 (69)
Other Types of Facilities	
Focus Facilities	7 (2)
Rehabilitation Facilities	0 (0)
Tribal Facilities	5 (1)
Other Facilities Total	12 (3)

Focus, Rehabilitation and Tribal Facilities numbers are not assigned to a specific region as their patient populations reside across the state. Information provided through survey of Oklahoma hospitals as reported to HHS as of the time of this report. Response rate affects data. Facilities may update previously reported information as necessary.

Data Source: Acute Disease Service, Oklahoma State Department of Health. \*As of 2021-05-07 at 7:00 a.m.



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