

Rogers State University and Saint Francis Health System Partner To Offer BSN



Dr. Carla Lynch, department head of health sciences at RSU says this partnership will allow RSU to admit an additional 32 students every year, allowing students to complete their goal of being a nurse sooner. It also means more registered nurses to care for our family, friends and community."

Story and photo by Kenny Day, Rogers State University

Saint Francis Health System and Rogers State University announced a partnership April 3 to educate nursing students at Saint Francis Hospital in Tulsa starting in August. The announcement was made Monday afternoon

during a news conference held in the main lobby of Saint Francis Hospital at 61st and Yale.

Saint Francis will serve as an extended campus of RSU, and Rogers State University

will award the Bachelor of Science in Nursing upon students' graduation.

The extended campus will open in fall 2023 for students who have been accepted into the Rogers

PARTNERS

Continued from Page 1

State University nursing program. Applications for the spring 2024 semester began April 1.

The Saint Francis extended campus has been generously underwritten for the first three years by a grant from The William K. Warren Foundation.

To be eligible for the program, students must apply for acceptance to Rogers State University and complete the program prerequisites. As juniors, students will be able to choose either nursing classes in Claremore on the RSU campus or at Saint Francis Hospital. Classroom instruction at Saint Francis will be presented via video simulcast with instructors in Claremore and live with facilitators in Tulsa. More information about the nursing program and how to apply is available at rsu.edu/bsn.

Saint Francis Hospital is renovating a 6,000-square-foot area within the hospital that will house a state-of-the-art simulation center and classrooms designed to educate the next generation of healthcare professionals. The new simulation center will include

four high-fidelity simulation suites designed to replicate Saint Francis inpatient rooms. The suites will include medical/surgical nursing, critical care, labor and delivery, trauma and pediatrics settings complete with sophisticated manikins that simulate breathing, sweating, talking and even giving birth. There will be additional spaces for task and skills training, along with future plans for virtual reality simulations.

Saint Francis will hire two coordinators for the Saint Francis extended campus and simulation center and two full-time nursing instructors who will have an academic appointment at Rogers State University.

The Saint Francis extended campus will accept 16 juniors in fall 2023 and add 16 more each semester, ultimately with 64 nursing students—32 juniors and 32 seniors—each year at Saint Francis.

The new partnership allows Rogers State to expand its nursing graduates by more than 50%.

"RSU nursing is thrilled to be partnering with Saint Francis Health System," said Dr. Carla Lynch, department head of health sciences at RSU. "Every admission

cycle, we have had to turn away qualified applicants because of lack of clinical space, classroom space and faculty. This partnership will allow us to admit an additional 32 students every year, allowing students to complete their goal of being a nurse sooner. It also means more registered nurses to care for our family, friends and community."

Dr. Larry Rice, president of Rogers State University, is excited for this partnership and for the opportunity it will provide for future RSU nursing students to complete nursing school in Tulsa.

"Rogers State University has a long history of excellence in nursing education and RSU nursing graduates are always in high demand," Rice said. "Our goal is to help meet workforce needs by educating more nurses. In fact, we recently expanded our capacity for nursing students at our Claremore campus by adding a spring cohort each year in addition to our fall cohort."

"This partnership with Saint Francis will not only allow us to educate even more nurses, but it will also help RSU nursing to have a direct presence in Tulsa at Saint Francis, one of the leading

hospitals in the state of Oklahoma. We are extremely grateful for this partnership and for the enthusiasm and excitement shown by the team at Saint Francis who helped make this possible."

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, more than 275,000 additional nurses are needed between 2020 and 2030, and employment for nurses will grow at a rate of 9% annually, which is faster than all other occupations.

"Saint Francis has a strategic initiative to recruit registered nurses by developing academic partnerships with area nursing programs," said Cindy Leathers, Chief Nursing Officer for Saint Francis Health System. "The RSU extended campus at Saint Francis will increase enrollment, enhance learning with the culture of Saint Francis, and help the students engage in our vision, mission and values. Our goal is for these students to become career nurses at Saint Francis."

As the largest health system in Oklahoma, Saint Francis Health System needs to hire more than 600 nurses each year to account for retirements and future growth. Having students in-house for two

Turning 65 this year? – Retiring with or without a healthcare plan in place? A Veteran with VA care or Tricare for Life? Are eligible for Medicare and Medicaid? Have questions about your Medicare plan? Please call us for the information you need to know. There's no charge, no pressure, just help.

YOUR TRUSTED MEDICARE RESOURCE

INCREASE BENEFITS • REDUCE COSTS • NO COST CONSULTATION



Christina Sibley, EMT/RMA

Medicare Specialist

405-655-6098

csibleyinsures@gmail.com

BS Health Studies-Gerontology

Steven Sibley, RET/DAV

Life, Health, LTC, & Disability

405-850-1569

ssibleyinsures@gmail.com

MBA - Healthcare Administration



Steven and Christina Sibley are licensed, independent Insurance Brokers. Their focus is finding the best products to insure their client's Life, Health, Long Term Care and Medicare insurance needs are fully and affordably met, both now and in retirement. With her 20 years of healthcare experience and his 20 years of financial services experience, they are ready to offer you the information and personalized service you expect and deserve. There's never any pressure, or any charge, just help.



sibleyinsures.com



We offer Healthcare in Retirement Planning

Disabled Veteran | Native American | Woman owned company

SERVING OK, KS, TX, AZ, & NM

Required disclaimer: We do not offer every plan available in your area. Any information we provide is limited to those plans we do offer in your area. Please contact Medicare.gov or 1-800-MEDICARE to get information on all of your options.



Dr. Larry Rice, president of Rogers State University, says the goal is to help meet workforce needs by educating more nurses. RSU has recently expanded capacity for nursing students at the Claremore campus by adding a spring cohort each year in addition to our fall cohort.

PARTNERS

Continued from Page 2

years will be a way to recruit and retain the future workforce at Saint Francis.

For more information about the BSN program at Rogers State

University, visit <https://www.rsu.edu/bsn>. For more information about the RSU Nursing at Saint Francis extended campus and earning a BSN at this extended campus location in Tulsa, visit <https://www.rsu.edu/sfh>.



Become
A Healer
We Are Hiring

INTERACTIVE AD

- Registered Nurse (RN) - 4N MedSurg/Tele - PRN - Days - Short Term Staff Assignment - **\$50/hr**
- Registered Nurse Flex Pool MC Tier I - PT – Nights
- **Sign On Bonus Up To \$10,000** - Registered Nurse (RN) I - Night shift (7p-7a) - Emergency Department Porter Campus

CLICK ON THE POSITION TO APPLY

Join our team. See all our opportunities at careers.normanregional.com



NORMAN
REGIONAL
Health System

Oklahoma's
Nursing Times

Locally Owned
and Published
Weekly

Editor/Owner/Publisher - Steven R. Eldridge

Writers: Darl Devault - Contributing Editor, Bobby Anderson, RN - Staff Writer and James Coburn - Staff Writer, Van Mitchell, Staff Writer

Email submissions or requests for advertising info to:

news@oknursingtimes.com

For Advertising email: Advertising@okcnursingtimes.com or call

405-631-5100 ext 6

To request advertising rates, subscribe to our digital edition or get more

Phone: (405) 631-5100 Fax: (405) 631-5103

P.O. Box 239, Mustang, Ok 73064

Serving Nurses for more than 23 years!

RECRUITING NURSES IS OUR SPECIALTY!

OKNT provides nurses a fresh weekly publication filled with news and features with resources for the Healthcare reader. Articles and advertisements in Oklahoma's Nursing Times do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper or Metro Publishing, L.L.C. it's Ownership, Management or employees. We do not assume responsibility for statements made by writers or advertisers. The acceptance of advertising by Oklahoma's Nursing Times does not constitute and endorsement of products, services or information. We do not knowingly present any product or services which is fraudulent or misleading in nature. Opinions expressed in columns and letters to the editor are not necessarily the opinions of the newspaper or Metro Publishing, L.L.C. it's Management or employees. We reserve the right to refuse any advertisement. COPYRIGHT © 2022-2023 METRO PUBLISHING L.L.C. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED



TAKE YOUR NURSING CAREER
TO THE NEXT LEVEL!

Find out how Kramer School of Nursing can prepare you for each step of your nursing career.

- RN-BSN
- BSN
- MSN
- PhD
- DNP

UNDERGRAD
405-208-5000
admissions@okcu.edu

GRAD
405-208-5094
gadmissions@okcu.edu



Oklahoma City
UNIVERSITY

Kramer School of Nursing

okcu.edu/nursing

CAREERS IN NURSING:

OFFERING FLEXIBILITY - CONFIDENCE BUILDS IN PERSONALIZED INSTRUCTION

story and photo by James Coburn, Staff Writer

Meridian Technology Center has a mission to educate, enrich lives and secure economic futures. Adult students from 10 area school districts may apply for the practical nursing program, said Charlotte Prewitt, a practical nursing instructor at Meridian Technology Center in Stillwater where she has worked since 2007.

"We have a really flexible program that allows adult students who are working to get an education," Prewitt said. "Meridian's administration is very supportive with whatever resources we need to help educate. It makes it a really well-rounded and affordable program for an adult to come to if they want to become a practical nurse."

Nursing student Audra Staires said she enjoys the reward she gets from helping people. The Flex program helps make that possible for her.

"Coming here is very convenient. I am able to be close

to home and to my job," Staires said. "I get to pick the hours that I'm here, and I know how many hours I need. It's flexible around my personal life and my work life."

Meridian Technology Center is a 12-month program that teaches all aspects of being a safe and confident LPN. A new cohort begins every six months. Some schools offer 18-month programs.

Students in the Stillwater 12-month program need to complete prerequisites before enrolling at Meridian Technology Center. The faculty consists of three instructors and the LPN nursing coordinator who pool their resources to support their students.

"It depends on how many qualified applicants we have, but we can accept up to 18 students every six months," Prewitt said.

There are nine theory classes and four clinical classes. Students are eligible to take the licensure exam upon their completion of

the program. Graduates earn the credential of LPN after passing the test.

Prewitt earned her Master of Science degree in Nursing in 2009 from Regis University, located in Denver.

She received her associate degree in 1991 from Northern Oklahoma College. In 2006 she earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Graceland University in Lamona, Iowa.

Prewitt began her career as a medical surgical nurse for one year on the post-op floor of Stillwater Nursing Center before transferring to the emergency room for several years. She completed her 16 years of nursing at Stillwater Nursing Center by serving in the outpatient infusion clinic before she began teaching.

Prewitt was also a CPR instructor when she worked in the ER. She enjoyed the one-on-one interaction with the community, and ENT students extending their

knowledge base in an emergency setting.

"It further triggered a little spark to want to teach. A few years before that I decided that was the path I wanted to go and furthered my education to do that," she said.

The nursing programs work with several clinical locations to secure their students' job placement. Once students have experience at a given facility, even before they finish with the program, they are often invited to come back for an interview after completing the practical nursing program. Job leads are also posted for their graduates via emails or on Meridian's Facebook website. Most of the students who graduated recently have found jobs or have good prospects.

"Getting to see them get into a practice as a calling is very satisfying," Prewitt said.

See YOUNG Page 5



LIVING IS NOT ONE-SIZE FITS ALL. SO, HOW CAN ASSISTED LIVING AND MEMORY CARE BE?

We serve the individual's need for purpose, independence and dignity. Our loving, expert staff improves life with innovative, individual programs and therapies. You really must see Legend® at Rivendell for yourself.

Call now and join us for lunch and a tour. **Discover the Legend Senior Living® difference today.**

Call to learn more: **(405) 703-2300**



Voted 2019 Best
Memory Care Community

LEGEND®
ASSISTED LIVING & MEMORY CARE
at Rivendell

LegendSeniorLiving.com
A Residence of Legend Senior Living®



Charlotte Prewitt has abundant nursing experience to share with students as a practical nursing instructor at Meridian Technology Center in Stillwater.

YOUNG

Continued from Page 4

The average nursing student is in their mid to late 20s and comes with a diverse range of life skills and experiences. One of Prewitt's favorite things is witnessing her students become more confident as she coaches them for their clinicals. Afterwards, she hears them say, "That wasn't half as bad as I thought it was going to be."

A past graduate student of Meridian Technology Center's nursing program will mentor students during the clinicals.

Instructors often find opportunities to attend student graduations when earning advanced nursing degrees.

"We've had several students who have gone on to become nurse

practitioners," Prewitt said.

More nurse educators are needed in the profession, Prewitt continued. More nurses are needed to bridge the gap of a long-time nursing shortage. But the nursing shortage will not be resolved without more nurse educators to teach them, Prewitt explained.

"I love what I do. I loved taking care of patients and I did that for years. But as a nurse educator, you get to add to that level of satisfaction by putting more nurses out into the world and it's just like that little ripple," Prewitt said. "When you are at the bedside with a patient, you can make a difference with that one patient. But when you have 15 students go out into practice, whoever they're taking care of just gets bigger."

Coffee with a Recruiter Event

7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m., Thursday, April 13

3408 36th Ave NW Suite 124 Norman, OK 73072

For: RN, LPN, RN students, LPN students

Interested in a nursing career at Norman Regional? Stop by our Coffee with a Recruiter event to learn what it's like to be a healer! The event will take place at the Westside Beanstalk Coffee and Sno from 7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m., Thursday, April 13. Enjoy free refreshments and find out why Norman Regional is a special place to work.





NORMAN
REGIONAL
Health System



Got a Special Nursing Job?
LET US FEATURE IT!

Your Job will appear in our DIGITAL DESKTOP EDITION
EVERY WEEK, OUR JOB BOARD AND OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

For more details on Specialized jobs appearing in this issue
visit our **Job Board** at www.oknursingtimes.com/jobs

To get your Special Nursing job posted call
405-631-5100 ext 6 or email
advertising@okcnursingtimes.com

We do what no other recruitment vehicle does - **LET US
ASSIGN A WRITER TO FEATURE YOUR FACILITY** AT NO
CHARGE AND FIND THAT PASSIVE NURSE RECRUIT!





Immediate Openings

We're interviewing for:

- Emergency department RN
- Inpatient RN (telemetry, step-down, PCU)
- ED technicians/paramedics
- CT/radiology technologists



- 1 COUNCIL CROSSING**
9417 N. Council Rd., Oklahoma City, OK 73162
405-500-3280
- 2 DEL CITY**
4801 SE 15th St., Del City, OK 73115
405-500-3380
- 3 MOORE**
1401 SW 34th St., Moore, OK 73160
405-500-3330
- 4 OKC WEST**
300 S. Rockwell Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73128
405-500-3430



For a full list of positions or to contact a recruiter directly, please visit [integriscommunityhospital.com/careers](https://www.integriscommunityhospital.com/careers) or reach out to **CJ Alston** | Chandra.alston@emerus.com | **724-558-8119**.

NURSE TALK



What are
your
hobbies?



Oklahoma
Allergy &
Asthma Clinic

"Mostly right now I'm raising a toddler. So, chasing around a toddler and dogs in the house."



Chelsea Robinson, RN, nurse practitioner

"Currently I've got two young girls and play with them. We also like being outside and have two dogs we like to walk and take to the park."



Carolyn Hoggett, RN

"I like to hang out with my family and do outdoors stuff. We should be outside in warm weather."



Emily Kendall, LPN

MAY 2023 NATIONAL NURSES MONTH

Special Print & Digital Edition

JOIN US IN SUPPORTING
EDUCATORS, STUDENTS AND NURSES
DURING NATIONAL NURSES MONTH!

LET US TELL FOR
YOUR STORY!
FREE FEATURE
FOR QUARTER PAGE OR LARGER!

National Nurses Month Special Section

Join us in supporting nurses as we publish our annual National Nurses Month special section designed to highlight how essential nurses are in the health care system. This is a great time to show your appreciation for the nurses that work at your facility or organization.

THIS IS OUR LARGEST EDITION OF THE YEAR! YOU WANT TO BE INCLUDED!



To Reserve Space or for more information,
email us: advertising@okcnursingtimes.com
or Call us directly: (405) 631-5100
Amanda at Ext. 6 • Steve at Ext. 4

Your
Healthcare
Starts Here
cvtech.edu



FULL-TIME ADULT PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

PRACTICAL NURSING SURGICAL TECH VISION CARE TECHNICIAN MEDICAL ASSISTING
MEDICAL CODING SPECIALIST PATIENT ACCOUNT REPRESENTATIVE

Find More Programs:



FLEXIBLE AND SHORT-TERM CLASSES AND CEUs INCLUDE:

CPR CERTIFICATION EMT NCLEX PREP NURSE REFRESER MONITOR TECH CNA
CMA CE PHLEBOTOMY TECH ADMINISTRATIVE DENTAL ASSISTANT

Find More Classes:



CV//TECH

Canadian Valley Technology Center



POWERED BY
OKLAHOMA
CareerTech

YUKON (COWAN) CAMPUS

1701 S Czech Hall Rd, Yukon, OK 73099

CHICKASHA CAMPUS

1401 W Michigan Ave, Chickasha, OK 73018

Canadian Valley Technology Center does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Title IX Coordinator: ridgewayt@cvtech.edu; 504 Coordinators, 504@cvtech.edu, 405-262-2629, 6505 E Hwy 66, El Reno, OK 73036

AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE EDUCATION

Many health care industry jobs are in high demand. **Canadian Valley Technology Center** is keeping pace by providing top-notch instruction and the skills education required for a wide array of careers within the industry. CV Tech has trained hundreds of nurses and surgical technologists. New in 2023 is Vison Care Technician. CV Tech has lots of options for adults seeking a good-paying job or a high school student planning a career.

CV Tech Health Care Options

Accounting & Business Management

*Yukon-Cowan Campus
(Adults & High School)*

In-program options:

- Accounting
- Administrative Assistant
- Medical Office Assistant.

Use Microsoft Office Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook to prepare for success in business careers and college.

Biomedical Sciences

*Yukon-Cowan Campus
(High School only)*

- College-prep
- STEM-based curriculum

Students utilize hands-on activities in anatomy, cell biology, genetics and diseases prior to advanced medical studies.

Business & Medical Administration

*Chickasha Campus
(Adults & High School)*

Program options:

- Accounting Associate
- Administrative Assistant
- Medical Office Assistant

Students develop managerial skills and utilize technology needed for successful careers in the business world or a medical office setting.

Health Careers

*Chickasha or Yukon
(High School only)*

- Lab and clinical practice
- Earn Certified Nurse Aide (CNA)
- Earn Long-term Care Nurse Aide
- Earn Home Health Nurse Aide & AUA certifications (Yukon)

Students learn high quality patient care through advanced health care and diagnostic techniques.



MORE INFORMATION

www.cvtech.edu

Call a career counselor:

Chickasha Campus, (405) 224-7220

Yukon-Cowan Campus, (405) 345-3333

CVTECH

Canadian Valley Technology Center

Medical Assistant

*Yukon-Cowan Campus
(Adults only)*

- Leads to Registered Medical Assistant (RMA) certification
Administer injections, EKGs, draw blood for testing, provide wound care, obtain vital signs and track patient history. Assist physicians with minor procedures and surgeries. Graduates sit for the AMT Registered Medical Assistant exam or national certified Phlebotomy Technician exam.

Medical Coding Specialist

*Yukon-Cowan Campus
(Adults only)*

- No direct patient care
- No needles ... No blood

- 1,000 hours in length
- Prep for the Certified Professional Coder exam
Students perform patient check-ins and assist outpatients with billing. Students learn medical anatomy and terminology, administrative medical assisting, coding for inpatients and outpatients and medical insurance.

Patient Account Representative

*Yukon-Cowan Campus
(Adults only)*

- No direct patient care
- Just 624 hours in length
Discover the proper way to greet patients at reception and how to correctly schedule appointments.

Students also learn about computers for medical office, administrative medical assisting, medical insurance and electronic health records.

Practical Nursing

*Chickasha or Yukon
(Adults only)*

- Year-round, self-paced program
- E-books and virtual simulation

- Required clinical rotations
- Complete in 18 months
- Approved by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing

- Pass rates hovers near 100%
Graduates can pursue a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree in the online LPN-to-BSN program provided by Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford.

Surgical Technology

*Chickasha or Yukon
(Adults only)*

- Program length is 1,356 hours
- Includes 500+ clinical hours
Students are prepared to deliver quality patient care before, during and after surgeries. Experience a variety of surgical procedures and clinical settings.

Vison Care Technician

*Yukon-Cowan Campus
(Adults only)*

- New in 2023!
Developed in coordination with the Dean McGee Eye Institute Experience diagnostic testing and clerical skills. Students record patient information, clean and maintain ophthalmic instruments, assist during patient visits and provide instruction for corrective lenses.

OKNT

CROSSWORD: CHEST TUBES

- Across
3. when connected to suction the the pleur evac should make _____ bubbling sound

5. occurs when the water level in the water seal chamber rises and falls with respirations

7. this is where the drainage is measured

8. pleur evac should be kept _____ the chest level

10. this should never been done to a chest tube

11. bubbling in this chamber indicates an air leak
12. accumulation of fluid in the pleral space

Down

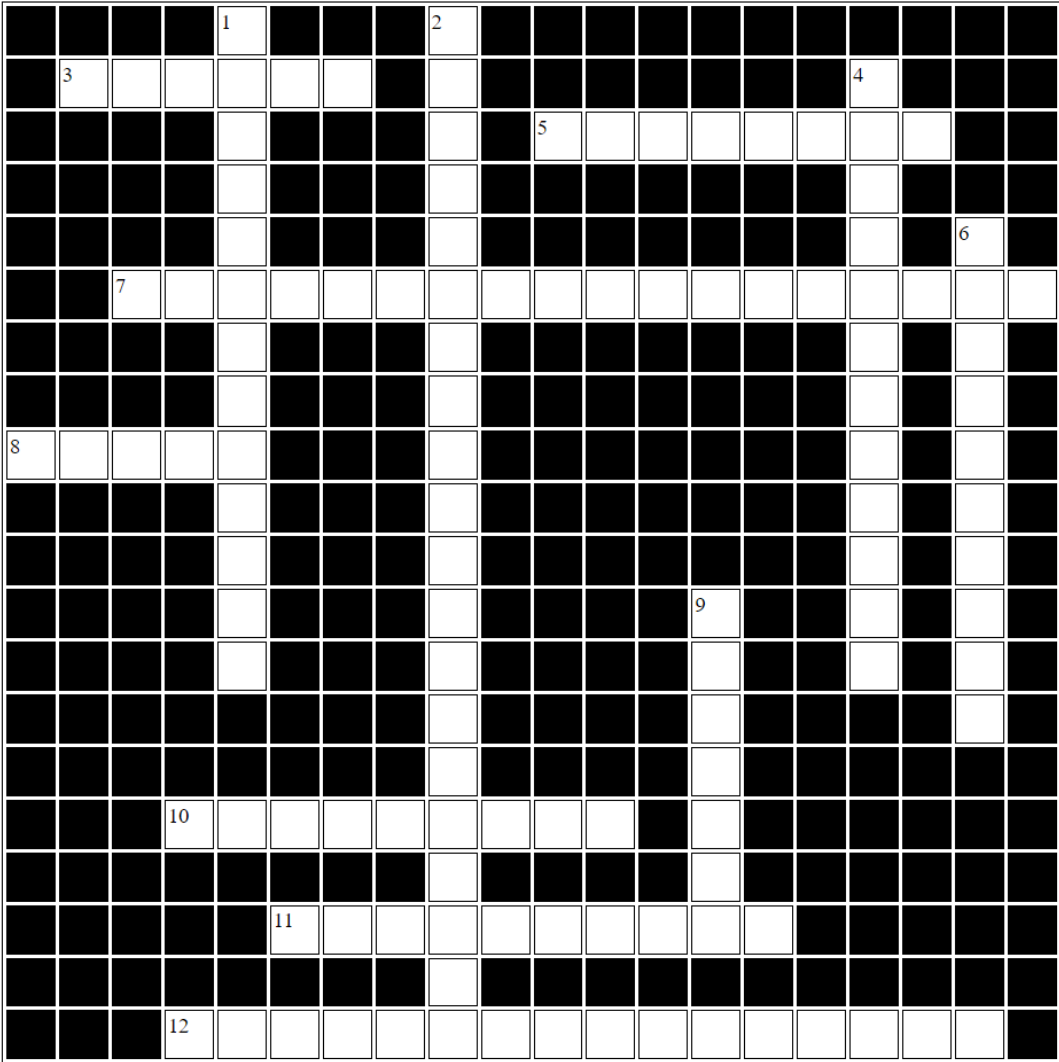
1. this should be used to set fill the water seal chamber

2. air pockets under the skin

4. collapsed lung

6. accumulation of blood in the pleural cavity

9. accumulation of pus in the pleural cavity



ANSWERS ON PAGE 13 By Krystal Herrington

Get FREE Materials for Your Office

Talk to your patients about quitting tobacco and recommend the Helpline.

The Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline has FREE materials such as pens, brochures and badge reels to help start the conversation with your patients.

To order materials, visit OKhelpline.com/Order.

Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline

1 800 QUIT NOW

1-800-784-8669

OKhelpline.com

No judgments. Just Help.

Patien_____ Date _____

Prescription _____ Helpline

Notes • Sign up for FREE _____ on what you need:

- Quit Coach with phone call
- Web Coach with online-only support

• All registrants will receive a Quit Guide

• If ordered, NRT should arrive within 10-14 business days

• For more resources, visit: OKhelpline.com

Physician Signature _____

Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline

1 800 QUIT NOW

1-800-784-8669

OKhelpline.com

A Program of TSET

Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline

1 800 QUIT NOW

1-800-784-8669

OKhelpline.com

Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline

1 800 QUIT NOW

1-800-784-8669

OKhelpline.com

Got a Special Nursing Job?

Your Job will appear in our DIGITAL DESKTOP EDITION EVERY WEEK, OUR JOB BOARD AND OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

LET US FEATURE IT!

To get your Special Nursing job posted call 405-631-5100 ext 6 or email advertising@okcnursingtimes.com

Oklahoma's

Nursing Times

University of Oklahoma Launches Online Degree Completion Program

The University of Oklahoma is making it easier for adults with some college credit to finish what they started and complete their bachelor's degrees.

The university's new Degree Completion Program, offered through OU Online and the OU College of Professional and Continuing Studies, offers flexible and workforce-relevant online undergraduate degree programs designed to help adult learners achieve their educational and career goals. With a generous policy that allows students to transfer up to 90 hours of credit from their previous institution, the program shortens the time and financial commitment needed to earn a degree to as few as 12 months.

Designed for students ages 25 and older who have at least 60 hours of college credit, the degree completion program includes a Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies with four majors – business administration, healthcare management, criminal

justice leadership and organizational leadership. Each major connects to career fields with strong demand in the workforce, specifically to Oklahoma's top 100 critical occupations, as identified by the Oklahoma Office of Workforce Development. Students may also choose a Bachelor of Arts in Integrative Studies, which can be customized with the help of an adviser to best meet the career goals of the student.

Because of the university's commitment to affordability and accessibility, the bachelor's programs do not require an application fee or deposit. Students are also eligible for traditional forms of student aid, such as FAFSA and scholarships.

"An undergraduate degree gives working adults the resources they need to achieve their educational and career goals," said Gregg Garn, OU vice president for online learning and interim dean of the College of Professional and Continuing Studies.

"By eliminating barriers like accessibility and overall cost while providing support along the way, we can pave the way for students to not only earn a high-quality degree, but also transform their lives, their families and their communities."

According to Reach Higher – an adult degree completion initiative led by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education – more than 69,000 Oklahomans have attended college for at least two years, but do not have a bachelor's degree. At OU alone, since 2002, more than 21,700 students have stopped taking courses before completing their degree, and over 11,700 of those former OU students had more than 75 credit hours when they stopped taking courses.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 9% growth in management occupations and a 32.5% growth in medical and health services manager positions by 2030. Offering degrees in these critical job categories and opening pathways for more students to reach their educational goals while preparing them for the workforce is a key tenet of the university's strategic plan.

"Contributing to the success of our students and the prosperity of

our state is one of our most important responsibilities at the University of Oklahoma, and that is exactly what OU's new Degree Completion Program will do," said OU President Joseph Harroz Jr. "Offering this affordable and flexible degree pathway will be life-

changing for countless students, helping them realize their dream of becoming a college graduate. Broadening the doors of opportunity to earn an OU education will also significantly support Oklahoma's workforce needs, positioning our state, our graduates and all Oklahomans for a better future."

Harroz and Garn provide more information regarding OU's online learning programs on the "Conversations With the President" podcast: ou.edu/president/podcast.

Offered through OU's nationally ranked College of Professional and Continuing Studies, the degrees are fast paced, accelerated programs designed to accommodate working adults. All courses are eight weeks long and can be completed in as little as 12 months. Applications are currently being accepted for the fall 2023 semester. To learn more and apply, visit <https://ou.edu/online>.



You've GOT THIS!

JOIN FOR ONLY \$15 PER MONTH

ONA OKLAHOMA NURSES ASSOCIATION

ANA AMERICAN NURSES ASSOCIATION

JOINANA.ORG

Advance Your Career 100% Online

Master of Science in Nursing
Finish in as little as 16 months
As low as \$15,000

RN to BS in Nursing
Finish in as little as 10 months
As low as \$8,500

UCO UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA
CONNECTED CAMPUS

online.uco.edu

Norman Regional, Oceans to Build Behavioral Health Center

Norman Regional Health System and Oceans Healthcare have announced a new Behavioral Health Center at Porter Health Village in Norman, Oklahoma.

The expansion of behavioral health services in south central Oklahoma, with the new 48-bed hospital offering state-of-the-art facilities and more than doubling Norman Regional's inpatient capacity for adult and senior behavioral health patients.

The joint venture partnership between Norman Regional Health System and Oceans Healthcare will also introduce new services, including an intensive outpatient program and a dedicated geriatric behavioral health unit. The center will be located at the Norman Regional Porter campus 901 N. Porter Ave., at the southern end of the campus by Sonic.

"The selection of a partner who

shares our commitment to improving access to quality behavioral health services is an important milestone in the implementation of our Inspire Health plan to transform the delivery of care in our communities," said Richie Splitt, President and Chief Executive Officer of Norman Regional Health System. "Partnering with Oceans Healthcare will allow us to leverage their expertise in the delivery of behavioral healthcare and bring important new resources to meet growing demand for mental health support."

Mental health is increasingly in the national spotlight as rates of depression, anxiety and substance abuse have risen following the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the 2022 State of Mental Health in America report, Oklahoma ranks 43rd out of 50 states and the District of Columbia for the highest prevalence of mental illness in adults



and lowest rates of access to care.

Norman Regional Health System is a multi-campus system that provides for the health and wellness needs of regional communities throughout south central Oklahoma. The organization is operated by Norman Regional Hospital Authority, a public trust that serves public interests and functions as a political subdivision of the State of Oklahoma. Norman Regional is transforming healthcare in the communities it serves with the Inspire Health plan, which includes the Behavioral Health Center at Porter Health Village.

Oceans Healthcare founded in 2004 is a growing behavioral health provider focused on healing and long-term recovery. The company provides

inpatient and outpatient treatment with a special focus on the unique physical and emotional needs of older adults in 36 locations, including 25 inpatient hospital campuses across the Southeast. Oceans Healthcare consistently achieves industry-leading performance metrics on national quality and safety measurements and was named to the Inc. 5000 list of fastest growing private companies in America for four consecutive years.

For more information about the Behavioral Health Center at Porter Health Village and Norman Regional Health System's Inspire Health plan visit our website. To learn more about Oceans Healthcare and their behavioral health services, visit <https://www.normanregional.com/>.

New Dialysis Unit Improves Continuity of Care

Hospitalized patients with End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) at Mercy Hospital Oklahoma City now have access to a newly refurbished, state-of-the-art dialysis unit. This new unit will provide patients with Mercy's compassionate care and exceptional service for the duration of their hospital stay.

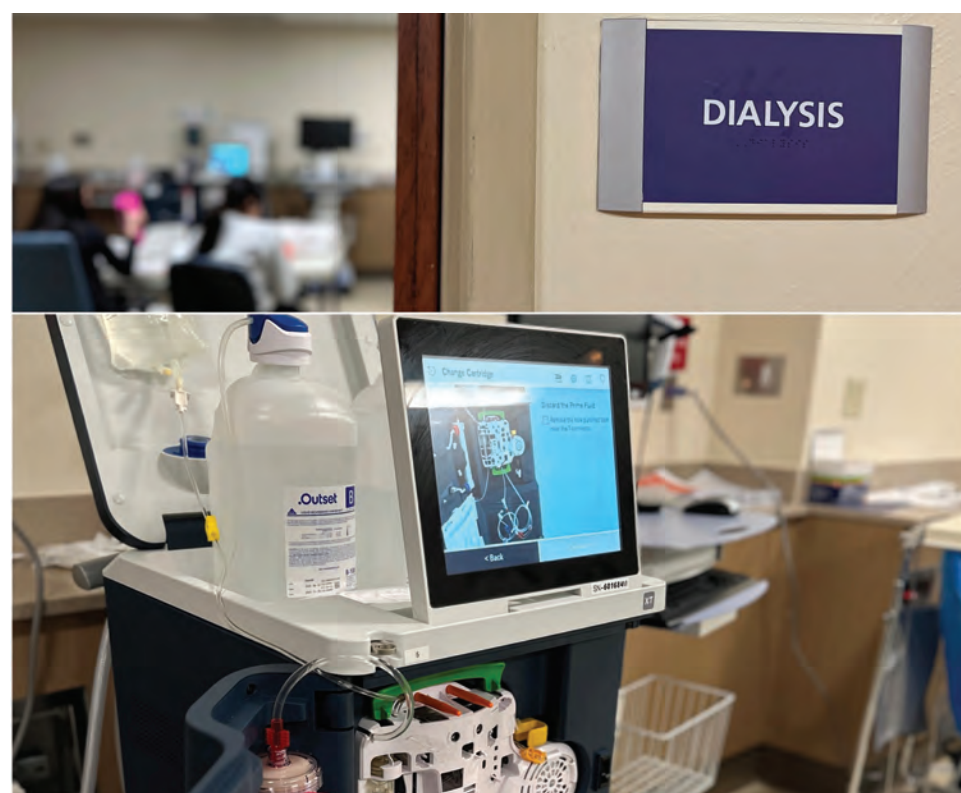
Dialysis patients need treatment multiple times a week to manage their disease. Illness, even something as common as the flu, can be especially dangerous for someone with advanced kidney failure, meaning these types of patients require frequent hospitalization.

Mercy Hospital Oklahoma City has provided inpatient dialysis services in the past through an outside organization; however, the recent renovation and transition to a full Mercy dialysis team will deliver greater continuity of care for these hospitalized patients.

"Providing services like dialysis for hospitalized patients is an essential part of Mercy's mission," said Emily Eriksson, vice president of patient care at Mercy Hospital Oklahoma City. "With this new unit, our patient-centered care team can focus on delivering the cooperative and comprehensive care patients need."

ESRD is a condition where the kidneys gradually stop functioning. Kidneys filter the body's waste, and when they fail, dangerous levels of fluids, electrolytes and waste accumulate in the body. Dialysis filters the blood through advanced medical technology. Patients cannot go without this life-saving treatment, but it is time-consuming and can be complicated to manage when patients are working through additional illnesses or injury.

The new unit will have nursing coverage around the clock to support emergency needs and will house



state-of-the-art Tablo machines, which provide the newest dialysis technology. The unit will provide both acute hemodialysis and extended therapy dialysis to patients.

"Our team is looking forward to continuing to serve our community through this new and updated unit," said Jennifer Bramlett, director of nursing at Mercy Hospital Oklahoma City. "We know it can be stressful

to be a hospitalized patient with ESRD, but we're confident this new unit will help alleviate some of our patients' worry so they can focus on recovering and staying well."

The Mercy Dialysis Department is only for hospitalized patients and cannot accommodate outpatient treatment. It is located on the third floor of Mercy Hospital Oklahoma City.

14th ANNUAL
PUTNAM CITY
Cancer Classic
 @ ELDON LYON PARK - APRIL 22, 2023

				1				2											
	3	E	N	T	L	E		U								4			
				E				B		5	I	D	A	L	I	N	G		
				R				C								E			
				I				U								U		6	
		7	O	L	L	E	C	T	I	O	N		C	H	A	M	B	E	R
				E				A								O		M	
								N								T		O	
8	E	L	O	W				E								H		T	
				A				O								O		H	
				T				U								R		O	
				E				S				9				A		R	
				R								M				X		A	
								E				P						X	
								M				Y							
			10	T	R	I	P	P	I	N	G		E						
								Y					M						
				11	A	T	E	R			S	E	A	L					
								M											
			12	L	E	U	R	A	L			E	F	F	U	S	I	O	N



A square QR code with the text "SCAN ME" in the center. The QR code is black on a white background.

NEUROPATHY PAIN AND NUMBNESS CAN BE TREATED

Welcome To A New Medical Therapy Covered By Medicare



• **Diabetic Neuropathy** • **Chemo-Induced Neuropathy** • **General Peripheral Neuropathy**

This FDA Cleared Treatment Solution
Relieves Pain & Restores Feeling
without medications or surgery.

This new treatment is covered by
Medicare, Medicaid, the VA and most
private Insurances. Call Today.



Over 80% of patients
report a significant
reduction in pain. So
don't feel trapped by
pain. Get back to
moving and exercising
with your family and
friends.

View our testimonials.
nerverenewalnow.com



Nerve Renewal
NEUROPATHY CLINIC

405.422.9518