

NKIRUKA NDU, MD, FACP, QME, CCHP
INTERNAL MEDICINE
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Professional Summary

A board-certified physician in Internal Medicine with experience in primary care, medical legal consulting, utilization management, occupational medicine and correctional medicine.

Professional Experience

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS. Corcoran, CA. 2015 – Present

STAFF PHYSICIAN – SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACILITY AND STATE PRISON

I oversee the clinical operations of a health care unit and provide comprehensive health care across the health care continuum to about 900 patients with heavy burden of chronic medical diseases, substance use disorder and mental health illness.

Job duties:

- Provide evidence-based care by adhering to standard operating procedures, clinical guidelines and operational policies, to produce the best outcomes in the most cost-efficient and effective manner
- Ensure quality of care, cost containment, and service initiatives through continuing education and supervision of team members.
- Ensure unit compliance and survey readiness for DOJ, CMS, HEDIS etc., and other State and Federal regulatory certification processes.
- Work with utilization management to collect and analyze data, identify trends, prioritize resources, recommend changes that will improve efficacy and reduce errors in accordance with regulatory and reporting organizations such as TJC, CMS, NHSN etc.

- Participate in medical legal evaluations which involves working with risk management, attorneys, court orders etc. in cases of hunger strikes, sexual abuse, isolation, transgender issues, compassionate care release, court appearances, elderly release, legal threats and law suits.
- Discuss clinical program outcomes, data and performance at interdisciplinary meetings involving providers, management, nursing and other ancillary staff.
- Make presentations on clinically related topics at inter-departmental meetings involving management, medical providers, nursing and other ancillary staff.
- Provide leadership, orientation, mentorship to new physicians and mid-level staff.

MEDICOLEGAL WORK, 2016 – present

- Perform second level appeals for Independent Review Organizations according to URAC/NCQA standards such as medical necessity determinations, healthcare authorizations and denials. I also perform peer to peer review when initiated.
- Healthcare Quality Strategies Inc. (HQSI)- I perform chart reviews for beneficiaries of commercial health plans to determine medical necessity and length of stay.
- Livanta LLC- is a company contracted with CMS to review patient health care appeals. I perform chart reviews in order to determine medical necessity and length of stay.
- Medical Review Institute of America (MRIOA), is a health utilization management organization. I performed health care authorization and denials for diagnostic tests and treatment, and I peer to peer conversations for clinical case reviews if requested.
- Dane Street- is a company that performs independent and peer reviews for insurance carriers, TPAs, Managed Care Organizations and federal/Stater entities. I performed disability assessments and peer to peer conversations for clinical case reviews.
- Perform independent Medical Examinations for injured workers or any injury where liability is an issue.

TULARE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER. Tulare, CA. 2013 – 2016

HOSPITALIST

- Provided care to patients admitted to regular medicine floor and open ICU.
- Acted as a consultant to other department including surgery and obstetrics/gynecology, among others.
- Served on Hospital Ethical Committee.

ALTURA CENTERS FOR HEALTH. Tulare, CA. 2013 – 2015

ATTENDING PHYSICIAN

- Managed patients with acute and chronic health conditions, provided diagnoses and treatment for over 25 patients per day.
- Supervised mid-level health care providers.
- Evaluated peer performance to determine patient safety and quality of care.

COLUSA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER. Colusa, CA. 2011 – 2013

ATTENDING PHYSICIAN

- Managed patient in outpatient and inpatient care setting including open ICU.
- Performed disability evaluation and managed injured workers including return to work evaluations.
- Member, Hospital Utilization Management Committee- reduced 30-day readmission rates, kept length of stay within national average rates, put measures in place to reduce medical errors, near misses etc.
- Member ER/ICU and Infection Control Committees- monitored hospital acquired infections and ensured compliance with NHSN reporting requirements.
- Worked with department heads to ensure survey readiness for TJC, CMS etc.

Education & Training

Diplomate American Board of Internal Medicine, Expires: 2028

Medical Board of California, Expires: November 2023

Certified Correctional Health Professional 2021

BLS/ACLS, Expires: January 2023

Residency, Loma Linda University Medical Center, 2008

Internship and Residency, Martin Luther King – Drew Medical Center, 2005- 2007

College of Medicine, University of Nigeria, 1988

SEAK Course: How to excel at your Expert Witness Deposition

SEAK Intensive Conference: “How to Start, Build, and Run a Successful Disability and File Review Practice.”

Certified Qualified Medical Evaluator, Division of Workers’ Compensation, CA 2007 till date

SEAK How to Start, Build, and Run a Successful IME Practice SEAK
Skills for Physicians: The Master's Program

Professional Affiliations

Fellow, American College of Physicians
Fellow, American Academy for Communication
Member, California Society of Industrial Medicine & Surgery
Member, American College of Correctional Physicians

Leadership, Committees & Community Activities

International Medical Volunteer – volunteered in Nigeria and Dominican Republic
Presentation to the Nigerian Institution of Society of Mechanical Engineers, Lagos Chapter:
Health Concerns for the practicing Mechanical Engineer. May 30th, 2020.
Member, Hospital Ethics Committee, Tulare, Regional Medical Center, Member, 2015
Member, Hospital Utilization Management Committee, ER/ICU and Infection Control
Committees, Colusa Regional Medical Center, Member, 2013