

DAWN ESPINOZA, MSN RN CCM CDMS CNLCP® LNC-C

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LICENSURE/CERTIFICATION

RN-License (Texas)	2009 – present
RN-License (Ohio)	1993 – 2023
RN-License (Oklahoma)	2016 – 2018
Certified Case Manager	2007 – present
Certified Disability Management Specialist	2011 – present
Certified Nurse Life Care Planner	2018 – present
Legal Nurse Consultant-Certified	2015 – present
Long Term Care Surveyor (SMQT ¹ certified)	2004 – 2006

EDUCATION

Western Governor's University	Salt Lake City, Utah	
Master of Science-Nursing		2012 – 2013
Area of Concentration:	<i>Nursing Management and Leadership</i>	
Thesis:	<i>Variation of Background and Experience in Case Management</i>	
Western Governor's University	Salt Lake City, Utah	
Bachelor of Science-Nursing		2010 – 2011
Area of Concentration:	<i>Community Nursing with a focus on Management and Leadership</i>	
St. Vincent Medical Center School of Nursing	Toledo, Ohio	
Diploma Registered Nurse		1989 – 1993
Lourdes College	Sylvania, Ohio	
Coursework concurrent with St. Vincent Medical Center School of Nursing		1989 – 1993

EXPERIENCE

<u>Dawn Espinoza Consulting, PLLC</u> (fka: Professional Nurse Consulting Services, LLC)	Arlington, Texas
Nurse Consultant, Nurse Life Care Planner, Case Manager-Owner	Nov 2014 – Present
<i>Organize and analyze medical records to develop a chronological summary of patient care. Analyze medical records to consider severity of injury and/or residual disability. Client assessment, data analysis, and research to develop a concise plan for current and future medical needs with associated costs for those individuals with long-term or catastrophic injuries and disabilities. Develop a comprehensive plan of care to meet medical and vocational case management goals. Collaborate with providers to facilitate timely and cost-effective treatment. Conduct assessment of employability and vocational outlook. Medical billing and coding analysis. Vocational case management services and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) level peer review.</i>	
<u>CorVel Corporation</u>	Dallas, Texas
Manager: Case Management Services	Jan 2016 – Apr 2019
<i>Oversaw regional case management department. Responsible for the quality of case management services. Provided professional direction and insight to staff case managers. Hired and trained new case management staff. Mentored case managers new to the field and prepared them for a certification examination. Responsible</i>	

¹ Surveyor Minimum Qualifications Test

for departmental financial operations, including team productivity, expense management, budgeting, billing, and collections of the case management department. Analyzed performance records including invoices, logs, and expenses.

Texas Health Resources

Arlington, Texas

Clinical Review RN: Appeals/Denials

Jul 2015 – Dec 2015

Performed medical record and claim analysis to determine medical necessity on denied claims. Evaluated the accurate use of diagnostic and billing codes. Collaborated with clinical reviewers and/or the medical director to ensure medically appropriate, high-quality healthcare in a cost-effective setting. Documented clinical justification for appeals requests and composed clinical appeal letters to insurance carriers.

State of Ohio: Bureau of Workers Compensation

Toledo, Ohio

Disability Management Coordinator

May 2006 – Jun 2015

As a member of a claims team, analyzed workers' compensation claims to determine appropriateness for vocational rehabilitation services. Determined claimant eligibility for benefits. Collaborated with managed care organizations to evaluate claimant feasibility for vocational rehabilitation services. Provided oversight in the development of individualized vocational plan of care. Offered direction and insight to field case managers in the provision of vocational rehabilitation services. Evaluated transitional work plans and approved grant funding for those who meet eligibility requirements. Audited provider billing of vocational rehabilitation services. Functioned as a subject matter expert in development of evidence-based documentation practice guidelines.

State of Ohio: Department of Health, Division of Long-Term Care Quality Assurance

Toledo, Ohio

Long Term Care Surveyor

May 2003 – May 2006

Conducted medical record and policy review inspections of long-term care and assisted living facilities to determine compliance with CMS and Medicaid guidelines. Observed and monitored long-term care and assisted living facilities to evaluate the quality of care and resident safety. Composed comprehensive citation reports able to withstand legal scrutiny in plain language. Performed post-citation follow up to determine facility resolution of citation.

Interim Health Care

Defiance, Ohio

Occupational Health Nurse, Team Lead

1996 – April 2003

Provided onsite nursing care at General Motors foundry. Assessed and treated workplace injuries. Collaborated with local medical staff in the ongoing recovery process. Maintained required OSHA documentation for workplace injuries. Collaborated with third-party administrators on workers' compensation claims and programs. Collaborated with plant safety programs to develop programs to prevent workplace injuries. Collaborated with plant human resources department in the management of employee attendance program. Assessed employees upon return from sick leave to determine their ability to perform assigned job duties or needs for a modified duty position. Collaborated with the plant's transitional work program. Performed ongoing OSHA required examinations, including audiometric testing, pulmonary function testing, vital signs, ergonomic evaluations, and chest x-ray. Performed job site ergonomic assessments. Established and maintained logging and scheduling system to maintain compliance with annual OSHA examinations. Developed an ergonomic risk monitoring system. Trained new nurses in occupational health in the field. Functioned as a subject matter expert for electronic medical records.

A to Z Healthcare

Napoleon, Ohio

Nursing Supervisor

1996

Assessed patient condition and safety of the home living situation. Administered prescribed medications. Performed wound assessment and care. Provide patient education. Collaborate with physicians and auxiliary care providers such as occupational therapy, physical therapy, respiratory therapy, and DME providers. Oversaw provision of home health services by auxiliary staff.

Harborside Healthcare

Defiance, Ohio

Staff RN

1996

Assessed and provided nursing care for residents of long-term care facilities. Administered medications. Performed comprehensive assessment and developed nursing care plans. Assisted the residents in activities of daily living and collaborated with therapies, including physical, occupational, and speech therapies.

Heartland Home Healthcare

Defiance, Ohio

Nursing Supervisor

1995 – 1996

Managed a team of nurses and auxiliary staff for the provision of safe, effective home healthcare services. Oversaw staff to assure the needs of the client were met and services met quality of care standards. Conducted initial admission assessment and developed a home health plan of care. Collaborated with physicians and insurance for authorization of services. Hired and trained nursing staff and home health nursing aides. Responsible for agency financial operations including payroll, accounts payable, accounts receivable, and supply management.

Community Hospitals of Williams County

Bryan, Ohio

Staff RN

1993 - 1995

Performed varied professional nursing duties in a hospital setting including physical assessment, medication management, skin and wound care, and minor medical procedures. Conducted admission assessments and developed nursing care plans. Participated in discharge planning. Conducted patient and family education in self-care and discharge instructions. Areas of assignment included: medical-surgical, orthopedics, and obstetrics: post-partum and well-baby nursery.

RELATED TRAINING

AANLCP: 2026 Annual Conference	2026
IARP: Life Care Planning Summit, Aligning for Consensus 2025	2025
AANLCP: 2025 Annual Conference	2025
AANLCP: 2024 Fall Conference	2024
Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation: 2024 Medical and Health Symposium	2024
AANLCP: 2024 Annual Conference	2024
AANLCP: 2023 Virtual Fall Conference	2023
IARP: 2023 Virtual Annual Conference	2023
IARP: Life Care Plan Costing the Basics, Applications, and Challenges	2023
AANLCP: 2023 Annual Conference	2023
AANLCP: 2022 Virtual Fall Conference	2022
IALCP: 2022 Town Hall/Summit	2022

AALNC: <i>Annual Forum 2022</i>	2022
Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation: <i>Medical & Health Symposium</i>	2022
IALCP: <i>2021 Virtual Symposium</i>	2021
AANLCP: <i>Expand Your Horizons (2021 Annual Conference)</i>	2021
IALCP: <i>2020 Virtual Symposium</i>	2020
FIG Education: <i>Nurse Life Care Planning-Expert Witness</i>	2020
FIG Education: <i>Nurse Life Care Planning</i>	2017
Ohio State University: <i>Legal Nurse Consultant Program</i>	2014
CCMC: <i>The Basics of Case Management</i>	2009
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid: <i>Long Term Care Facility Surveyor</i>	2003
State of Ohio and CMS: <i>Long Term Care Facility Surveyor</i>	2003
General Motors: <i>Train the Trainer – Occupational Health Nurse</i>	2001
Department of Transportation: <i>Drug Screen Collector and Trainer</i>	2000
STARS: <i>General X-Ray Machine Operator</i>	1997

RELATED EXPERIENCE

Juris Educational Knowledge Resource for Legal Nurse Consultants Role: Speaker <i>Subject: Injury Case Analysis for the Legal Nurse Consultant</i>	2025
Universal Life Care Planner Certification Board Role: Committee Member <i>Subject: Role Delineation Study</i>	2024
American Association of Legal Nurse Consultants Role: Speaker <i>Subject: Injury Case Analysis for the Legal Nurse Consultant</i>	2022
Ohio Center for Occupational Safety and Health (OCOSH) Role: Speaker <i>Subject: Coordinating Vocational Rehabilitation Services Between Agencies</i>	2014
Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation Role: Subject Matter Expert-Consultant <i>Re-design workgroup: Claims Management Processes. Modeled after nursing triage and case management theories.</i>	2012
Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation Role: Subject Matter Expert-Consultant <i>Re-design workgroup: Vocational Rehabilitation Policies and Procedures with the purpose of enhancing efficiency and effectiveness. Primary lead for evidence-based documentation project.</i>	2008
Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation Role: Speaker <i>Subject: Vocational Rehabilitation Case Management: Benefits and Processes</i>	2007
Interim Healthcare Role: Staff Educator <i>Training subjects: Basic occupational health nursing, OSHA record keeping, ergonomics, electronic record keeping system.</i>	2001

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Nursing Association, Texas Nursing Association	2014 – Current
American Association of Nurse Life Care Planners	2017 – Current
American Association for Legal Nurse Consultants	2014 – Current
Case Management Society of America, DFW Chapter	2017 – Current
<i>Served as: Board Member</i>	2024 - 2025
International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals	2022 – Current
Universal Life Cre Planner Certification Board	
<i>Serving as: Board Member</i>	2025 - Current