

Laura J. Evans, MS, RN, DNP Candidate, CCRN Alumnus

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PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS:

- Healthcare Regulatory, Patient Safety, and Nursing Practice Expert with over 11 years experience as a hospital surveyor with The Joint Commission and hospital compliance inspector with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.
- Career Registered Nurse with over 40 years of experience in adult critical care, emergency department, post-anesthesia, and outpatient nursing, quality improvement, patient safety, and regulatory compliance including investigation of adverse and sentinel events in hospitals.
- Advanced degrees in nursing - Master of Science in nursing leadership, with Doctoral degree pending
- Served on the National Steering Committee, American Nurses Association Moral Resilience Professional Issues Panel.
- Initiated a collaboration with The Joint Commission and prominent national researchers to promote formal support programs for Second Victims of Adverse Events in healthcare.
- Served as Joint Commission International faculty member and featured speaker at the Joint Commission International 2024 Accreditation Updates conferences held in Dubai, UAE and Bangkok, Thailand
- Featured speaker at the 2024 Asia Health conference in Bangkok, Thailand on the topics of Joint Commission International 8th Edition Accreditation Standards for Hospitals and Academic Medical Centers

EDUCATION:

2026	Regis University <u>Doctor of Nursing Practice (Pending) Nursing Leadership GPA: 4.0</u>	Denver, CO
2014	<u>Master of Science in Nursing Leadership in Health Care Systems GPA: 4.0</u> Recipient of the Regis University Award for Outstanding Achievement in Nursing Education Graduated with honors, Summa Cum Laude	
2014	<u>Masters Level Academic Certificate in Health Care Education GPA: 4.0</u> Additional graduate level study relevant to health care education including Teaching and Learning Strategies, Evaluation Methods, and Curriculum Development	
2011	<u>Bachelor of Science Nursing GPA: 4.0</u> Graduated with honors, Summa Cum Laude	
1988	Otero Junior College <u>Associate Degree in Nursing Registered Nurse GPA: 3.89</u> Graduated with honors, Magna Cum Laude	La Junta, CO

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

May 2023
to
May 2025 **The Joint Commission Enterprise-Joint Commission** **Greater Chicago Area, IL**
International
Retired - Associate Director, Standards Development and Interpretation

This role conducts research to develop new healthcare regulatory standards, and performs standards interpretation for internal and external customers who have questions about the standards. Leads and co-leads various committees, the development and re-development of international healthcare accreditation standards, and the responses to inquiries for standards interpretation. In addition, participates as faculty and featured speakers for field staff education programs and other events throughout The Joint Commission Enterprise.

May 2015
to
May 2023 **The Joint Commission** **Greater Chicago Area, IL**
RN Hospital Surveyor, Patient Blood Management Certification Reviewer

Surveys health care organizations throughout the United States by applying sophisticated analysis and inductive reasoning skills to determine compliance with applicable standards and functionality of care delivery systems. Employs advanced and nuanced communication skills to engage health care professionals in dialogues on a broad array of health care issues to assess compliance and identify opportunities for improvement. Surveys hospitals, critical access hospitals, Advanced Primary Stroke Centers, and Patient Blood Management programs. Serves as an agent to facilitate High Reliability in healthcare.

August 2018
to
January 2020 **(Concurrent Role with The Joint Commission) UCHealth University of** **Aurora, CO**
Colorado Hospital & South State Region/Memorial Hospital
Regulatory Standards Coordinator

As a subject matter expert, partners with staff and leadership in all aspects of regulatory readiness including developing action plans for compliance. Coordinates survey activities, and utilizes resources. Responsible for four acute care hospital campuses, four free standing emergency departments, and ambulatory surgery center. Currently serving in dual roles as a surveyor for The Joint Commission in addition to this role with UCHealth. In this role, initiated and led a performance improvement project to address wrong site surgery using The Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare Targeted Solutions Tool.

May 2014
to
May 2015 **Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment** **Denver, CO**
RN Compliance Inspector- Acute Care Program

Application of knowledge of nursing practice, state rules and regulations, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid conditions of participation, and policies and procedures to ensure compliance of acute care hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, and dialysis centers with state and federal requirements through on-site observations.

Serving as a clinical resource with the ability to determine whether delivery of nursing care is in accordance with professional standards of practice and state and federal requirements, as well as a resource, educator, and interpreter of regulations for service providers and health care consumers.

Performance of investigations regarding complaints or reported incidents of serious deficiencies or immediate jeopardy of patients, and writing of statements of non-compliance with federal and state requirements, and verification of adequacy of facility plans of correction.

April 2011
to
May 2014

Centura Health System
Registered Nurse

Denver, CO

9/2013 - 5/2014 Centura Health Physicians Group, Englewood, CO
RN, Quality Team Leader/Transformation Specialist

6/2012 - 9/2013 Centura Health Penrose St. Francis Health Services
Colorado Springs, CO
RN, Patient Safety and Risk Manager

4/2011 - 9/2012 Centura Health St. Mary Corwin Medical Center
Pueblo, CO
RN, Emergency Department

February 2008
to
2011

Legal Nurse Consultant
RN, Consultant

Denver, CO

February 1997
to
February 2008

University of Colorado Hospital
Registered Nurse

Denver, CO

2/27/1997 - 9/30/2005 University of Colorado Hospital, Denver, CO
RN, Medical/Cardiac Intensive Care Unit

10/2005 - 2//2008 University Health Memorial Central/North,
Colorado Springs, CO
Urgent and After Hours Care and Outpatient Surgery

January 1993
to
February 1997

Centura Health St. Anthony Central
RN, Medical Intensive Care Unit

Denver, CO

8/1993 - 2/1997 Centura Health St. Anthony Hospital Central,
Denver, CO
RN, Medical Intensive Care Unit

(Seasonal) 1/1993 - 8/1993 Centura Health Summit Medical Center,
Frisco, CO
RN, Emergency Department

June 1988
to
January 1993

Arkansas Valley Regional Medical Center
RN, Intensive Care Unit

La Junta, CO

Direct patient care of critically ill adult and pediatric patients in a rural healthcare setting.
Cross trained to Emergency Department and Outpatient Surgery

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATIONS:

Colorado Registered Nurse, Active Status 1988-Present
Critical Care Registered Nurse (CCRN) 1995 - Present, Granted CCRN Alumnus Status in
2010

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

American Association of Critical Care Nurses (AACN) 1995-present
American Nurses Association 2013-Present - National Steering Committee, Moral Resilience
Professional Issues Panel
Colorado Nurses Association 2014-Present

Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society, Alpha Kappa-at-large Chapter,
Inducted 2010 Regis University, Denver

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

Volunteer - tutor, Children's Literacy Center, 2022 to Present

Colorado State University Extension, El Paso County-Colorado Master Gardener 2008-2010

Partners in Housing Community Gardens Project, 2008

Master Gardener Help Desk Volunteer, El Paso County CSU Extension

Denver Rescue Mission, volunteer 2009-present