



# The MICU Spotlight Journal: Skill Building and Shared Governance in a Military Medical Center

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## Background

- ❖ The MICU at WRNMMC is a 12 bed unit coupled with a 4 bed Bio-containment unit, staffed by a team from the Air Force, Army, Navy, Civilian Corps and Contractors.
- ❖ The core staff includes Air Force Technicians, Corpsmen (women), Certified Nurse Assistants, Telemetry Technicians, Registered Nurses, and Physicians.
- ❖ A multi page publication, The MICU Spotlight Journal (MSJ) was started in 2014 to provide:
  - an easily distributable alternative to traditional education in-services
  - a voice for the Unit Practice Council
  - interdisciplinary collaboration
  - avenue for discussing pertinent issues and specialty certification
- ❖ The Journal was recognized as an official publication and inservice platform after winning 1st place in the Evidence Based Practice - Quality Improvement category of the annual interdisciplinary research symposium at WRNMMC, Spring 2015.
- ❖ Editors changed in mid 2015 due to Permanent Change of Station (PCS), a norm of military life.

## Purpose

To demonstrate the feasibility of alternative, innovative, non-traditional means for supporting shared governance, scholarship, and staff education; directly (collaboration/information dissemination = shared accountability) and indirectly (writing for publication/editing/formatting = skill building).

## Objectives

- ❖ Establish a process from writing to publication.
- ❖ Establish the journal as a key to skill building and shared governance.
- ❖ Solicit and expand, number and discipline of sources contributing articles to the MSJ.
- ❖ Find a formatting platform with ease of use and appeal.
- ❖ Include oversight from an interdisciplinary advisory board.
- ❖ Publish the MSJ quarterly.
- ❖ Develop a writing and publication tutorial for staff development.

## Implementation: Vol 2, Issue 1

- ❖ June - September 2015 - collection of articles for issue one.
- ❖ October - December 2015 - editing and formatting of articles.
- ❖ January - February 2016 - review by Public Affairs Office (PAO)/Legal.
- ❖ March 2016 - publication and distribution pending.

## Outcomes

- ❖ Contributing writers included a Corpsman, 7 Registered Nurses, a Pharmacist and Nurse Anesthetist/Scientist.
- ❖ Education of contributing writers ranged from enlisted medical specialty training, baccalaureate, masters and doctoral levels.
- ❖ Articles were procured from the Surgical Intensive Care Unit, Medical Intensive Care Unit, Pharmacy and Nurse Research Cell.
- ❖ An online magazine publication platform was purchased for an annual subscription.
- ❖ The majority of time was spent collecting, editing, and formatting the journal; 4 months.
- ❖ The first issue will be published pending a final approval from PAO.

**SCHOLAR KUDOS:**  
• PUMP  
• BCU  
• CCRN  
• SUCCESS!

**KUDOS AND TIDBITS**  
RECOGNIZE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF PEERS AND TEAM MEMBERS IN THE MSJ. SEND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND KUDOS TO THE EDITOR @ SABRENA.C.WELLS.MIL@MAIL.MIL.

**ARE YOU A PHOTOGRAPHER, ARTIST, QUESTION ITEM WRITER, INTERESTED IN HONING YOUR SKILLS AS A WRITER, OR GIVING YOUR INSIGHT ON AN INTERESTING TOPIC? SEND YOUR TIDBITS AND ITEMS TO THE MSJ EDITOR. SEE PAGE 31&32 FOR DETAILS.**

**AN ABSTRACT REVIEW: COGNITIVE AND SEQUELAE OF POSTOPERATIVE DELIRIUM IN ELDERLY PATIENTS UNDERGOING ELECTIVE JOINT ARTHROPLASTY**  
BY SABRENA C. WELLS, MA, BSN, RN, CCRN (USA)  
AT CDR JASON MCGUIRE, PhD

**ULTRASOUND GUIDED PERIPHERAL INTRAVENOUS ACCESS**  
BY JORDAN MIERTSCHINK

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## Lessons Learned: From the Editor

- ❖ Editing is rewarding but time consuming. Editors must pay due diligence to the role.
- ❖ Content should be reviewed thoroughly to avoid copyright infringement and plagiarism.
- ❖ Abide by rules of operational security, no matter the vagueness of information printed.
- ❖ Photos, illustrations and figures add appeal and ease of reading to the publication. However, permission from the original source is required.
- ❖ Generic names for equipment, medications, etc., should be used, as opposed to trade names.
- ❖ Patient consent and or IRB review/clearance is essential for case studies. Err on the side of caution.
- ❖ Establishing the scale of dissemination/audience is essential to obtaining publication approval.
- ❖ Content should be scrutinized to avoid legal and ethical violations of patient rights, organizational policy and writing/publishing etiquette.
- ❖ A variety of barriers exist in writing for publication at every stage of the process.

## Conclusion

- ❖ The MSJ was initiated as an avenue to present pertinent patient care ideas and encourage collaboration amongst staff in the MICU in 2014.
- ❖ The MSJ was extended to the entire critical care department which includes a SICU, MICU and PICU in 2015.
- ❖ Once past initial barriers to publication, a writing and publication tutorial or class is warranted to:
  - improve writing skill
  - reduce time from writing to publication
  - encourage new writers to explore writing for publication
- ❖ Writing, editing or participating in the production of the MSJ embodies skill building.
- ❖ Contribution by staff regardless of profession or level of education signifies shared governance.
- ❖ Skill building and shared governance are tenets of the Patient Caring Touch System (PCTS). PCTS is a framework of best practices designed and validated by the military to improve and sustain quality patient care.

## References

Breckinridge-Sproat, S.T., Freeman, J.J., Belew, D.L., Loan, L.A., McCarthy, M.S., Patrician, P. (2015). A nursing care redesign framework for system wide improvement: The patient caring touch system. Clinical Nursing Studies, 3(4), 72-78. DOI:10.5430/cns.v3n4p72 Kendall-Gallagher, D., Aiken, L. H., Sloane, D. M., Cimiotti, J. P. (2011). Nurse specialty certification, inpatient mortality, and failure to rescue. Journal of Nursing Scholarship, 43(2), 188-194. More References available

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