

Oregon Nurse Staffing Legislation: Implications for Patients & Families

It is important for patients and their families to be aware of SB 469, the state legislation that provides oversight to nurse staffing for patient care areas in all Oregon hospitals. The Oregon Nurse Staffing Law exists to promote safe patient care based on sufficient nurse staffing. The Oregon Health Authority is responsible to evaluate hospital compliance with the rules related to nurse staffing.

Important elements of Oregon's Hospital Nurse Staffing Law that you should know:

- Each nursing unit has a staffing plan in place to provide for the care needs of the patients on that unit.
- The staffing plan is developed in partnership between the nurses who provide patient care and the nurse managers of this hospital.
- The staffing plan includes detail about the number of nursing staff as well as nursing skill and competencies needed to provide safe and appropriate care for patients on this unit.

If you have a concern about your care, please bring it to the attention of your nurse, a nurse leader or a patient advocate in this hospital.

Please give the hospital the opportunity to help resolve your concern about nurse staffing and/or patient care.

Oregon Health Authority

You may contact the Oregon Health Authority, Health Care Regulation and Quality Improvement division, at 971-673-0540, or by email at: mailbox.nursestaffing@state.or.us
<http://www.healthoregon.org/nursestaffing>

References:

Oregon Administrative Rules 333-510-0045
Oregon Revised Statutes 441.152 - 441.192