

# Accountability

## **Nurse Alliance Council Encourages Nursing Inquiry**

The Nurse Alliance (NA) Research Council is charged with educating nurses about the research process and encouraging nursing inquiry, leading to the use of evidence-based practice. The council has developed and implemented structures supporting evidence-based practice and the involvement of clinical nurses in research throughout the past year.

- To ensure continuity implementing best practices based on evidence, the group evaluated a variety of models and selected The Iowa Model of evidence-based practice to promote quality care as the conceptual framework that will be used by nurses at MUSC. Used in conjunction with MUSC's IMPROVE process, the Iowa Model will ensure nurses are practicing based on current evidence and improving patient outcomes.
- The Clinical Scholars program continues to be directed by the NA Research Council. Andrea Urbanski, BSN, RN, is enrolling patients in a study on the effectiveness of standardized pain management education. Four new scholars were selected for the current year: Deidra Huckabee, MSN, RN, CCRN, RN, (sepsis), Barbra Cobb, MSN, MHA, RN, (pediatric procedure unit handoff project), Melanie Scianna, BSN, RN, (relationship between spirituality and healing), and Merissa Searcy, BSN, RN, (transfusions and necrotizing enterocolitis prevalence in the low birth weight infants).
- Members of the group have developed guidelines for nurses conducting evidence-based practice and research projects within the organization, bringing together existing resources to make it easier for clinical nurses to get involved.
- A Nursing Practice Project Repository has been built to maintain summaries of completed and ongoing nursing projects as a reference for staff working to enhance nursing practice at MUSC. By building on past work, clinical nurses will learn from their peers, avoid rework and advance the practice of professional nursing at MUSC. The repository includes nursing IMPROVE Projects, RN III Projects, evidence-based practice and research projects that can be accessed from the Nursing Practice Project Database.