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| **ONTARIO NURSES’ ASSOCIATION (ONA)/HOSPITAL**  **PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY WORKLOAD REPORT FORM** |

Article 8 – Professional Responsibility provides a problem-solving process for nurses to address concerns relative to patient care. This form is intended to appropriately identify employee concerns relative to their workload issues in the context of their professional responsibility. These issues include but are not limited to gaps in continuity of care, balance of staff mix, access to contingency staff and appropriate number of nursing staff. This report form provides a tool for documentation to facilitate discussion and to promote a problem-solving approach.

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| **SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION** |

Name(s) of Employee(s) Reporting (Please Print)

Employer:       Unit/Area/Program:

Date of Occurrence:       Time:       7.5 hr. shift  11.25 hr. shift  Other

Date/

Name of Supervisor/Charge Nurse:       Time notified:

Manager/Designate notified:       Date:       Time:

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| **SECTION 2: WORKING CONDITIONS** |

In order to effectively resolve workload issues, please provide details about the working conditions at the time of occurrence by providing the following information:

Regular Staffing #: MD/NP       RN       RPN       Unit Clerk       Service Support

Actual Staffing #: MD/NP       RN       RPN       Unit Clerk       Service Support

Agency/Registry RN: Yes  No  How many?

Novice RN Staff on duty\*: Yes  No  How many?

RN Staff Overtime: Yes  No  If yes, how many staff?

*\*As defined by your unit/area/program.*

If there was a shortage of staff at the time of the occurrence (including support staff), please check one or all of the following that apply:

Absence/Emergency Leave  Sick Calls  Vacancies  Off Unit

Management Support available on site? Yes  No

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| **SECTION 3: PATIENT CARE FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO THE OCCURRENCE** |

Please check off the factor(s) you believe contributed to the workload issue and provide details:

Rounds

Consultation with MD/Delay

Change in patient acuity        Telemedicine

Normal number of beds on unit       Beds closed       Beds opened during tour

Patient census at time of occurrence

# of Admissions       # of Discharges       # of Transfers

# of assigned patients

Lack of/or equipment/malfunctioning equipment. Please specify:

Visitors/Family Members. Please specify:

Number of patients on infectious precautions

Over Capacity Protocol. Please specify:

Resources/Supplies

Interdepartmental Challenges

System Issues

Exceptional Patient Factors (i.e., significant time and attention required to meet patient expectations). Please specify:

Other (e.g., Non-nursing duties, student supervision, mentorship, etc.). Please specify:

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| **SECTION 4: DETAILS OF OCCURRENCE** |

Provide a concise summary of the occurrence and how it impacted patient care:

Identify the Nursing Standard(s)/Practice Guidelines or hospital/unit policies that are believed to be at risk and why:

Medication

Documentation

Professional Standards – Specify

Therapeutic nurse/client relationship

RN and RPN Practice, The Client, The Nurse and the Environment

Working with Unregulated Care Providers (Check all that apply)

Personal Support Workers/Aides

Volunteers

Students

Physician Assistants

Working in different roles

Telepractice

Consent

Clinical pathways/medical directives

Supporting Learners

Disagreeing with the Plan of Care

Guiding Decisions about End-of-Life Care

Nurse Practitioner

Employer policy – Specify       (include policy if able)

Other

Why:

Is this an  Isolated incident?  Ongoing problem? (Check one)

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| **SECTION 5: REMEDY** |

1. At the time the workload issue occurs, discuss the issue within the unit/area/program to develop strategies to meet patient care needs. Provide details of how it was or was not resolved.
2. Failing resolution at the time of the occurrence, seek assistance from an individual(s) who has responsibility for timely resolution of workload issues. Discussion details including name of individual(s):

Was it resolved? Yes  No

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| **SECTION 6: RECOMMENDATIONS** |

Please check off one or all of the areas below you believe should be addressed in order to prevent similar occurrences:

In-service  Orientation  Review nurse/patient ratio

Change unit layout  Float/casual pool  Review policies & procedures

Change Start/Stop times of shift(s). Please specify:

Review Workload Measurement Statistics

Perform Workload Measurement Audit

Adjust RN staffing  Adjust support staffing

Replace sick calls, vacation, paid holidays, other absences

Equipment. Please specify:

Other:

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| **SECTION 7: EMPLOYEE SIGNATURES** |

Signature:       Date:       Phone #:       Personal Email:

Signature:       Date:       Phone #:       Personal Email:

Signature:       Date:       Phone #:       Personal Email:

Signature:       Date:       Phone #:       Personal Email:

Date Submitted:       Submitted to (Manager Name):

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| **SECTION 8: MANAGEMENT COMMENTS** |

The manager (or designate) will provide a written response to the nurse(s) within 10 days of receipt of the form with a copy to the Bargaining Unit President as per Article 8.01 (a) iv). Please provide any information/comments in response to this report, including any actions taken to remedy the situation, where applicable.

Management Signature:       Date:

Date response to the employer:       Date response to the union:

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| **SECTION 9: RECOMMENDATIONS OF HOSPITAL-ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE** |

The Hospital-Association Committee recommends the following in order to prevent similar occurrences:

Dated:

Copies: (1) Manager

(2) Chief Nursing Officer (or designate)

(3) ONA Rep

(4) ONA Member

(5) ONA LRO

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| **ONTARIO NURSES’ ASSOCIATION (ONA)/HOSPITAL**  **PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY WORKLOAD REPORT FORM**  **GUIDELINES AND TIPS ON ITS USE** |

The parties have agreed that patient care is enhanced if issues relating to professional practice, patient acuity, fluctuating workloads and fluctuating staffing are resolved in a timely and effective manner. The Collective Agreement provides a problem-solving process for nurses to address concerns relative to their workload issues in the context of their professional responsibility. These issues include but are not limited to gaps in continuity of care, balance of staff mix, access to contingency staff and appropriate number of nursing staff. This report form provides a tool for documentation to facilitate discussion and to promote a problem-solving approach.

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| **problem solving process** |

1) At the time the workload issue occurs, discuss the matter within the Unit/Area/Program to develop strategies to meet patient care needs using current resources. using established lines of communication as identified by the hospital, seek immediate assistance from an individual(s) (e.g., team leader/charge nurse/manager /supervisor) who has responsibility for timely resolution of workload issues.

2) Failing resolution of the workload issue at the time of the occurrence or if the issue is ongoing, discuss the issue with the Manager (or designate) on the next day that both the employee and Manager (or designate) are working or within ten (10) calendar days, whichever is sooner, and complete the form. The Manager will provide a written response within ten (10) calendar days of the receipt of the form.

3) When meeting with the manager, you may request the assistance of a Union representative to support/assist you in the meeting. Every effort will be made to resolve the workload issues at the unit level. A Union representative shall be involved in any resolution discussions at the unit level. All discussions and action will be documented.

4) Failing resolution, submit the Professional Responsibility Workload Report Form to the Hospital-Association Committee within twenty (20) calendar days from the date of the Manager’s response or when she or he ought to have responded under Article 8.01 (a) iv). (SEE BLANK REPORT FORM ATTACHED TO THESE GUIDELINES.)

5) As per Article 8, the Hospital-Association Committee shall hear and attempt to resolve the issue to the satisfaction of both parties and report the outcome to the nurse(s) using the Workload/Professional Responsibility Review Tool to develop joint recommendations. Any settlement/resolution under 8.01 (a) (iii) (iv) or (v) of the Collective Agreement will be signed by the parties.

6) Failing resolution of the issues through the development of joint recommendations it shall be forwarded to an Independent Assessment Committee as outlined in Article 8 of the Collective Agreement within the requisite number of days of the meeting in 4) above.

7) The Union and the Employer may mutually agree to extend the time limits for referral of the issue at any stage of this procedure.

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| **TIPS FOR COMPLETING THE FORM** |

1) Review the form before completing it so you have an idea of what kind of information is required.

2) Print legibly and firmly as you are making multiple copies.

3) Use complete words as much as possible. Avoid abbreviations.

4) As much as possible, you should report only facts about which you have first-hand knowledge. If you use second-hand or hearsay information, identify the source if permission is granted.

5) Identify the CNO standards/practice/guidelines/hospital policies and procedures you believe to be at risk. College of Nurses Standards can be found at [www.cno.org](http://www.cno.org).

6) Do not, under any circumstances, identify patients.