



DJS
a s s o c i a t e s

Forensic Consulting, Technology & Animations

CHRISTA A. BAKOS, RN, CWCN, DAPWCA

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2021 to
present

Cogent Experts
Nursing, Wound Care Expert

- Perform technical investigations, analysis, reports and testimony for purposes of litigation matters involving nursing clinical standards, nursing administration, and facility operations within Nursing Homes, Skilled Rehabilitation Facilities, and Continuing Care Retirement Communities.
- Perform technical investigations, analysis, reports and testimony for purposes of litigation matters involving nursing clinical standards in the elementary, middle and high school settings.
- Perform merit reviews for Plaintiff and Defense firms, and Insurance Claim Adjusters.
- Provide consultative services for Plaintiff and Defense firms, and Insurance Claim Adjusters.

2020 to
2021

Exigent Group Limited
Nursing, Wound Care Expert

- Provide technical investigations, analysis, reports, and testimony for purposes of litigation matters involving nursing clinical standards of care in acute care, outpatient care, and home health.
- Provide technical investigations, analysis, reports, and testimony for purposes of litigation matters involving nursing clinical standards of care in nursing quality of care, training and education, and wound care in acute care, outpatient care, home health, and extended care facilities.
- Provide consultative services for Plaintiff and Defense firms, and Insurance Claim Adjusters.

2018 to
2020

Robson Forensic, Inc.
Nursing, Wound Care Expert

- Provide technical investigations, analysis, reports, and testimony for purposes of litigation matters involving nursing clinical standards of care in acute care, outpatient care, and home health.
- Provide technical investigations, analysis, reports, and testimony for purposes of litigation matters involving nursing clinical standards of care in nursing quality of care, training and education, and wound care in acute care, outpatient care, home health, and extended care facilities.
- Provide consultative services for Plaintiff and Defense firms, and Insurance Claim Adjusters.

2019 to
present

Crystal Home Health
Registered Nurse

- Assess patient's condition during visits and chart observations
- Perform evaluation tasks, including vital signs, medication review, and environment
- Administer medications as prescribed by the patient's physician
- Provide education and monitoring of medications prescribed by the physician

- Provide wound care as prescribed by the patient's physician
- Educate patient and families on proper home health care strategies and procedures
- Educate patient and families about the disease process and provide support in managing symptoms
- Act as a liaison between patient/family and physician
- Identify any impending or actual changes in the patient's condition and communicate with physician
- Identify any risks to the patient's safety
- Coordinate care with Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Physicians and anyone else included in the patients individualized care plan
- Assess and make recommendations for equipment and tools that may improve the patient's quality of life
- Listen to the patient and respond to their concerns and requests
- Assess the home environment to ensure physical safety of patient

2017 to
2018

Gentell/Wound Care Concepts
Wound Education Specialist/RN

- Provided education and support to facility personnel regarding wound care and Medicare Part B requirements
- Assisted facilities in establishing protocols/policy regarding wound care
- Educated facility personnel and Physicians on Medicare LCD guidelines.
- Monitored and managed the Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement report and trend reports with facility personnel
- Provided support in ordering products for Part B residents
- Provided oversight and education to facility staff, administration and corporate administration on appropriate documentation per State and Federal guidelines
- Provided educational support to facility staff and administration for survey preparation and result follow up
- Acted as a liaison between treatment nurses and Director of Nursing, Administrator and Regional Nurse
- Acted as a liaison between treatment nurse and physician
- Monitored outcomes and cost effectiveness of treatment plans
- Assisted with facility in setting goals and achieving optimal outcomes with conscious cost effectiveness
- Provided education and support to facility staff and residents with wound care dressings and treatments
- Engaged in staff self -development providing in-services as well as individual specific instruction and feedback

2015 to
2017

Healogics
Clinical Nurse Manager/Clinical Coordinator, Contract Position at Presence St. Joseph's Hospital

- Provided case management to patients providing specific assessments according to protocols and procedures, clinical competence in procedural skills, treatments, and patient/caregiver education related to wound care management
- Provided Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy patient assessment and chamber operation as required
- Organized and prioritized clinical responsibilities, provides direct supervision to clinical staff, (RN, LPN, MA, Med Assist, etc.)
- Collaborated with other health care providers, Wound Care Center Physicians, Program Director, and Medical Director regarding clinic and patient needs
- Consistently reviewed current processes and procedures and identified and implemented areas of improvement while adhering to HIPAA, JCAHO, DOH as well as hospital requirements
- Collaborated with Program Director and Medical Director to develop, implement and manage a continuous Performance Improvement Program (PIP)
- Engaged in staff development, providing general in-services as well as individual instruction and orientation

- Provided staff recognition through positive reinforcement and constructive feedback.
- Collaborated with Program Director in coordination of program objectives, from a budgetary and financial perspective
- Collaborated with Program Director and Medical Director to achieve Wound Care Center quality indicators
- Acted as case manager for patients in the wound care center. This included product procurement, follow up with physicians, diabetic counseling, social service needs, provide guidance for financial assistance, arrange home health, and provide emotional support

2003 to
2015

Sherman Hospital

Wound Care Center Clinical Coordinator (WON) 2012-2015

- Ostomy care to include evaluation and management of ostomates including pre-op teaching, marking, post-op education, maintenance, and enterostomal complications
- Evaluated and managed patients with wounds caused by disease, pressure, trauma, and/or surgical incisions
- Collaborated with interdisciplinary teams to assess and monitor patients progress during the healing phase
- Provided education and developed individualized and specific treatment plans for inpatient /outpatient needs
- Assisted surgeons in the Operating Room and at bedside for surgical procedures
- Developed department policies to ensure corporate compliance
- Managed and processed wound care charges to ensure compliance with CMS guidelines
- Participated and facilitated in the Hospital Acquired Pressure Ulcer and Corporate Wound Forum Council committees
- Established education, practice, and product roll out with respect to wound/skin/ostomy care
- Participated in meetings with hospital leadership and medical staff to expand and enhance the department
- Assumed daily leadership role of department including management of hours, patient satisfaction, doctor communication, sale representative meetings, trouble shooting , and problem solving as situations arise
- Considered a resource by physicians for wound care / ostomy recommendations
- Acted as case manager for patients in the wound care center. This included product procurement, follow up with physicians, diabetic counseling, social service needs, provided guidance for financial assistance, arranged home health, and provided emotional support
- Managed and monitored Negative Pressure Wound Therapy

Float Pool Nurse (Critical Care, Intensive Care, Tele, Ortho/Neuro, General Surgical, Med Surgical, Transitional Care, Renal Oncology, Wound Center) 2003-2014

- Cared for pre and post op Aortic Valve Replacement/Repair, Mitral Valve Replacement/Repair, Carotid Endarterectomy, femoral-popliteal bypass, coronary artery bypass, thoracotomy surgical patients
- Cared for acute angina, Congestive Heart Failure, Coronary Artery Disease, Acute Myocardial Infarction, and general cardiac patients
- Cared for pre and post cardiac and peripheral catheterization patients
- Cared for pre and post cardiac testing patients (Adenosine Thallium, GXT Thallium, Echocardiograms, Stress Echocardiograms)
- Cared for acute stroke/neuro patients
- Cared for critical patients including Intra-Aortic Balloon Pump, Continuous Veno-Venous Hemodialysis, Intra Cranial Pressure monitoring, Intravascular monitoring (SWAN GANZ, PA Pressures), Ventilated, Tracheotomy, Traumas, hypoglycemia, Diabetic Ketoacidosis.
- Cared for Pneumonia, Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome patients
- Post-op care for patients (Orthopedic, Craniotomy, Gynecological, General)
- Preceptor for newly graduated nurses, new employees, and students
- Charge nurse
- Inpatient and outpatient wound care

- 2000 to 2003 Alexian Brothers Medical Center
Staff Telemetry Nurse
- Cared for pre and post op Aortic Valve Replacement/Repair, Mitral Valve Replacement/Repair, Carotid Endarterectomy, femoral-popliteal bypass, coronary artery bypass, thoracotomy surgical patients
 - Cared for acute angina, Congestive Heart Failure, Coronary Artery Disease, Acute Myocardial Infarction, and general cardiac patients
 - Cared for pre and post cardiac and peripheral catheterization patients
 - Cared for pre and post cardiac testing patients (Adenosine Thallium, GXT Thallium, Echocardiograms, Stress Echocardiograms)
 - Preceptor for newly graduated nurses, new employees, and students
 - Charge nurse
- 1993 to 2000 Office of the DuPage County State's Attorney
Paralegal, Child Support Unit Paralegal
- Supervised and maintained child support cases
 - Assisted attorneys in court, petitioner/respondent contact, and legal research
 - Served as liaison between States Attorney's Office and Illinois Department of Public Aid
 - Considered a resource for civil litigation/case preparation
- Paralegal, Civil Division*
- Supervised and maintained County collections cases
 - Assisted attorneys in court, petitioner/respondent contact, and legal research
 - Served as liaison between States Attorney's Office and various County departments
 - Considered a resource for civil litigation/case preparation

PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

Registered Nurse: Illinois
Certified Wound Care Nurse (CWCN)
Diplomate of the American Professional Wound Care Association(DAPWCA)
ABA Certified Paralegal
American Heart Association Basic Life Support (CPR and AED)

EDUCATION

B.A., Political Science, Ames, Iowa, 1992
A.D.N., Nursing, College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, Illinois, 2000
Wound and Ostomy Program, Metropolitan State University, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 2013
Certificate in Paralegal Studies, Roosevelt University, Chicago, Illinois, 1992

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

NPIAP - National Pressure Injury Advisory Panel
APWCA - American Professional Wound Care Association
ANA – American Nurses Association
ANA of Illinois – American Nurses Association of Illinois

ACUTE HOSPITAL CARE EXPERIENCE

Cared for patients for patients in Critical Care and Intensive Care:
Aortic Valve Replacement/Repair
Mitral Valve Replacement/Repair
Femoral-Popliteal Bypass
Coronary Artery Bypass
Thoracotomy

- General Surgical
- Pneumonia
- Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome
- Acute Myocardial Infarction
- Acute Stroke
- Congestive Heart Failure
- Coronary Artery Disease
- Traumatic (Gun shot, Motor Vehicle Accident, Stabbing)
- Diabetic Ketoacidosis
- Hypoglycemia
- Intra-Aortic Balloon Pump
- Continuous Veno-Venous Hemodialysis
- Craniotomy
- Orthopedic
- Obstetric/Gynecological

Cared for acute care patients on Cardiac Monitored Units, General Surgical Unit, Renal/Oncology Unit, Orthopedic Unit, and Neurological Unit

Provided pre/post education on surgical patients

Provided pre/post education and care on cardiac testing patients

Provided pre/post education and care on cardiac/peripheral catheterization patients

Provided care for inpatient hospice patients

Assigned Charge nurse

Discharge education

Member of the Code Blue Team

Assigned Preceptor for new employees, new graduates and students

ACUTE/INPATIENT WOUND/OSTOMY CARE EXPERIENCE

Evaluate, recommend, and manage patients with wounds caused by disease, pressure, trauma and/or surgical incisions

Collaborate with interdisciplinary teams to assess, treat, and monitor progress during healing phase

Provide education and developed individualized and specific treatment plans for inpatient care

Assisted surgeons in the operating room and at bedside for surgical procedures

Managed and monitored Negative Pressure Wound Therapy

Ostomy care, to include evaluation and management of ostomates including pre-op education, marking, post-op education, support and maintenance of enterostomal complications

Developed department policies to ensure corporate compliance

Managed and trained Medical and Nursing staff of the Wound Care Department.

Participated and facilitated the Hospital Acquired Pressure Ulcer prevalence study

Established policies and procedures for pressure ulcer prevention following the National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel guidelines

Educated hospital staff on pressure ulcer prevention

Established hospital wide education, practice and product roll out with respect to wound/skin/ostomy care

Considered a resource by physicians for wound care/ostomy recommendations

Acted as a case manager for wound care patients, establishing and organizing discharge needs

Assumed daily leadership role of Wound Care Department including management of hours, patient satisfaction, doctor communication, trouble shooting, problem solving, and budget supervision

OUTPATIENT WOUND CARE/HYPERBARIC MEDICINE CENTER EXPERIENCE

Managed and treated patients with wounds including:

- Diabetic foot/leg ulcers
- Arterial Ulcers
- Venous Ulcers
- Traumatic Wounds
- Pressure ulcers
- Chronic Wounds
- Non-healing Surgical Wounds

Skin grafts
Radiation injuries
Burns

Assessed patients for possible candidacy for Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy
Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy Chamber operation and supervision
Provide assessment and treatment of wound care patients
Assisted physician with bedside procedures
Educated and trained Medical and Nursing staff on policies, procedures and standards of care
Reviewed current processes and procedures to identify areas of improvement and implement changes to adhere to HIPAA, JCAHO, DOH, as well as hospital and CMS requirements

WOUND EDUCATION SPECIALIST EXPERIENCE

Provided education and support to nursing facilities regarding wound care
Assisted nursing facilities in establishing wound care policies and protocols
Educated nurses and physicians on Medicare LCD requirements and CMS documentation criteria
Monitored QAPI and wound trend reports
Provided oversight and staff/physician education on appropriate documentation per State and Federal Guidelines
Monitored outcomes and cost effectiveness of treatment plans
Engaged in staff self-development providing in-services as well as individual specific instruction and feedback
Provided case management for patients with wounds including specific assessments, Procedures, treatment, diagnostic studies, education, and support

ABA CERTIFIED PARALEGAL EXPERIENCE

Supervised and maintained child support cases
Assisted attorneys in court, petitioner/respondent contact, and legal research
Served as liaison between States Attorney's Office and Illinois Department of Public Aid
Considered a resource for civil litigation/case preparation
Supervised and maintained county collection cases
Assisted attorneys in court, petitioner/respondent contact, and legal research
Served as liaison between States Attorney's Office and various County departments
Considered a resource for civil litigation/case preparation
Assisted attorney's with deposition preparation