AAACN Releases "State of the Industry Report" Outlining Ambulatory Care Nurse-Sensitive Indicators

Collaboration with CALNOC will help nurse leaders measure improvement in safety and quality of care in the outpatient setting.

PITMAN, NJ – Over the past twenty years, with an eye on reducing costs and improving care, patients are spending less time in the hospital and more time in ambulatory care. Yet the way we currently measure a nurse's impact is the same for inpatient and outpatient settings. A new report by the American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing (AAACN) sheds light on the shortcomings of existing nurse-sensitive indicators and leads the way for nurse leaders to demonstrate quality patient care and nursing excellence in the ambulatory care setting.

Written by AAACN, the specialty nursing organization for registered nurses practicing in ambulatory care or outpatient settings, *Ambulatory Care Nurse-Sensitive Indicator Industry Report: Meaningful Measurement of Nursing in the Ambulatory Patient Care Environment* adapts existing nurse-sensitive indicators (NSIs) for the ambulatory care setting, and proposes 13 NSIs to more accurately measure the value of ambulatory care nurses' contributions.

These NSIs have been developed and will be piloted in collaboration with the Collaborative Alliance for Nursing Outcomes (CALNOC), the nation's first nursing quality indicators database. These measures enhance quality reporting and national benchmarking and drive nursing excellence in ambulatory care settings. Additionally, they can assist organizations in meeting standards for the Pathway to Excellence Program® and Magnet Recognition Program®.

"Ambulatory nurses have been called upon to lead," said Nancy May, MSN, RN-BC, NEA-BC, AAACN President. "The development is long overdue and using the data to drive nursing excellence helps place the value on ambulatory care nurses on quality, safety, and outcomes to support the role of the Registered Nurse."

"As health care continues to reform and the nation recognizes the great importance of the ambulatory environment to our nation's health, the development of nurse-sensitive indicators specific to ambulatory care is a natural progression," said Diane Storer Brown, PhD, RN, FNAHQ, FAAN, Senior Scientist and Founding Member for CALNOC. "Combining the 20 years of nurse-sensitive measure development history of CALNOC with the ambulatory leadership of AAACN has been a wonderful example of collaboration to move the industry forward."

The two organizations will collaborate as measures continue to be implemented, pilot tested, and further developed. For more information and to access *Ambulatory Care Nurse-Sensitive Indicator Industry Report: Meaningful Measurement of Nursing in the Ambulatory Patient Care Environment*, please visit aaacn.org/nsireport.

About AAACN

The American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing (AAACN) is the specialty nursing organization for registered nurses practicing in ambulatory care or outpatient settings. Founded in 1978, AAACN provides opportunities for over 3,300 members to advance their practice and leadership skills, provide connections with others in similar roles, and advocate for the ambulatory care nursing specialty. In fulfilling its mission to advance the art and science of the specialty, AAACN expands the influence of ambulatory care nurses as leaders of coordinated, cost-effective and quality patient care in the ambulatory setting. For additional information, visit www.aaacn.org.

About CALNOC

The Collaborative Alliance for Nursing Outcomes (CALNOC), is the leading provider of Business Intelligence, and research on nurse-sensitive quality indicators. CALNOC serves as the nation's only nurse-sensitive registry managed, operated and designed by nursing. Always on the forefront of patient care excellence, CALNOC created the first database registry of nurse-sensitive indicators which turns patient outcome data into powerful information for hospital executives to guide decisions to advance global patient care. Hundreds of hospitals have joined CALNOC to monitor and benchmark performance in order to deliver excellence in patient care. CALNOC is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) public benefit corporation with headquarters in San Ramon, California. For more information call 888-586-1994 or visit www.calnoc.org.