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NEWS RELEASE

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(For immediate release)

NURSING RESEARCH COUNCIL MEETS FOR FIRST TIME AT FMC



LANCASTER, Ohio (September 24, 2008) – Nurses at Fairfield Medical Center (FMC) are making history! Fourteen nurses created the Nurses Research Council in February of this year. One of the goals for 2008 was to begin a Journal Club. Both the Council and the journal club are intended to increase awareness of evidenced- based practice nursing practice at FMC. Participating in research will continue to enhance the professional nursing practice environment at FMC and promote excellent patient care.

For the first Journal Club, the Nursing Research council chose three articles about dress code. Two of those articles were research articles that surveyed patients, nurses, and administration about a dress code. The articles were posted on a newly formed web site that is part of FMC's intranet. This allowed the nursing staff to read the articles in advance and post comments in a blog fashion.

On Thursday, September 18th, the Nursing Research Council held its first facilitated event and invited all nurses from FMC. Seventy-eight nurses came to discuss the evidence around a dress code for nurses. Both the articles and the participants agreed that the "dress code" is less about a uniform or a color and more about a clean and professional appearance that exudes empathy, knowledge, and excellent communication skills to our patients, families and other medical professionals.

Nursing Council Members are Kim Anderson, MSN, RN; Julie Cruit, RN; Ginger Davis, BSN, RN; Christy Duffy, BSN, RN; Tangie Kessler, RN; Jill Kennedy, RN; Kelly Kidd, RN; Dora Metzger, BSN RN; Teresa Durbak-Sipos, MEd, RN ; Amber Wachenschwanz, RN. Our Advisors are Cynthia Pearsall, MSN, RN and Deborah Henderson, PhD RN . The Council Co-Chairpersons are Teresa Ryan, MSN , RN and Robin Sheets, MSN, RN.

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