

Rev 6/12/19  
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NORTH MEMORIAL HEALTH | MNA  
2019 Negotiations

Employer Handout  
June 12, 2019

This is comprehensive addressing all items

All tentative agreements previously agreed-to. (See separate 6/12/19 handout.)

U-31. **Education.** Keep current contract language in Article 51(C). Have LOU—

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING

During the 2019 negotiations, the Hospital and Association agreed that, during the term of the 2019—2022 collective bargaining agreement, the parties will jointly work on the issue of nurse education in Joint Staffing, or in a specially-created joint committee or task force, whichever the Association prefers. The aim is to create a plan for delivering education in an ideal manner with the right mix of offering education during designated education sessions rather than during a nurse’s normal scheduled work shift, acknowledging that the balance has recently tipped towards too much education delivered through Healthstreams.

The parties agree to focus on this issue during the second half of 2019, with the objective of creating a new plan by the end of the year.

The following general principles are important and will be afforded significant consideration in creating a new plan for delivering education to RNs working in hospital-based units.

- An important objective is to reduce the amount of Healthstream training. As part of this, one goal is to create a classroom training program that consists of between eight and twenty hours of training to replace Healthstream modules.
- Where in-person education is optimal (*e.g.*, demonstration or hands-on training is needed), it is desirable to bundle training programs together, and to conduct the training away from the patient care unit.
- For Healthstream training bundles that exceed ninety minutes estimated time of completion, the aim is to assign a relief nurse to the patient care unit at appropriate times in order to facilitate completion of the bundles in a timely manner.
- Nurses can choose to complete mandatory Healthstream training modules before or after their normal scheduled shift instead of while having a patient assignment.
- The parties desire to avoid getting to the point of needing to discipline nurses for failing to complete mandatory education in a timely manner. (The parties have previously addressed this in Joint Staffing and agreed to adjustments that have resulted in far fewer instances of discipline.) If it appears to a nurse that he/she is having difficulty, or will have difficulty,

completing mandatory education by the established deadline, it is important to escalate the issue to the patient care manager and to Human Resources particularly if there is trouble or concern working with the manager.

U-4. **Breaks.** Revise Article 8 as follows:

The parties agree that each unit, as of June 1, 1998, shall establish a plan for Registered Nurses to receive one (1) duty-free (unavailable for patient care) 15-minute break for each four (4) hours worked and an unpaid duty-free thirty- (30) minute meal break for each scheduled eight- (8) hour shift. The meal break will extend the scheduled shift time by one-half (½) hour and, if a nurse does not receive this meal break, she or he will be paid for the additional one-half (½) hour on duty time as provided in the section related to salary. If no duty-free meal break is included in the scheduled time for any specified shift, that scheduled shift time will not be extended. A nurse will not be required to remain on the unit during any unpaid break. The plan shall include a definition of a break by management and the Registered Nurses on each unit. In addition, the plan will include what coverage will be made available, including contacting the USC, Manager, and Administrative Manager. The Employer will make every attempt to provide relief for the nurse, but if resources cannot be obtained, the nurse will be compensated for each fifteen- (15) minute break not taken.

Nurses will take breaks when they are afforded the opportunity to do so under their specific unit/department break plan, so long as doing so would not jeopardize patient safety.

There shall be an established system or process for a nurse to record a missed 15-minute break or missed meal break, which may include, for example, an appropriate electronic entry or the use of a variance form.

In the event that a nurse actually missed a meal break or actually missed a 15-minute break period, the nurse will be paid consistent with this article, and management will not fail to provide the required pay.

The Hospital will provide means for a nurse to obtain information about missed 15-minute breaks and/or missed meal breaks, which may involve responding to a nurse's request for such information and/or may involve giving a nurse access to this information through the use of a computer.

Shortly after the parties execute the new collective bargaining agreement, the Employer will send the following side letter to the Union.

North Memorial Health and MNA agree that nurses should not be subject to retaliation for punching missed 15-minute break, or punching missed meal break, when patient care needs required the nurse to miss their break.

It is understood, however, that communication between nurses and nurse leaders must occur in order to review the circumstances that caused the nurse to miss their

break, and to explore options and actions for addressing the situation in an effort to ensure that nurses are able to take their breaks.

The parties will meet to develop approaches and strategies for nurses and nurses leaders to effectively and appropriately communicate with each other regarding taking breaks and missed breaks. The parties wish to avoid situations in which appropriate conversations or inquiries regarding missed breaks are viewed as retaliatory, while simultaneously preventing any form of actual retaliation against a nurse who punched missed 15-minute break or missed meal break when patient care needs required the nurse to miss their break.

In the event that a nurse believes that they are being subject to retaliation, the nurse is encouraged to raise the matter with the Hospital Human Resources Department. The Hospital will investigate a claim of retaliation from a nurse, and will appropriately address the situation if the claim is substantiated.

ER-4. **Mandatory low need days.** Revise Article 34(D) as follows with the rest of this section remaining the same.

A nurse to be assigned a low need pursuant to this Part D shall be given a minimum of ~~four (4)~~ two (2) hours advance notice before the beginning of the shift.

#### **WAGES.**

There shall be a two percent (2.0%) wage increase effective the first day of the first full pay period commencing on or after June 1, 2019, or effective the first day of the first full pay period commencing on or after the ratification date, whichever is later.

There shall be a two percent (2.0%) wage increase effective the first day of the first full pay period commencing on or after June 1, 2020.

There shall be a two percent (2.0%) wage increase effective the first day of the first full pay period commencing on or after June 1, 2021.

Duration: 6/1/19 through 5/31/19.

*Note*—Although the effective date would be be 6/1/19, so that the old contract and the new contract run continuously (with no hiatus), the agreed-upon substantive changes would not become effective until after ratification.

All other proposals from both parties are withdrawn.

This means that the Employer hereby withdraws ER-6 on transfers.