



## August 12, 2022

### Student Nurse Partner Program

Norman Regional Health System is helping student nurses transition from the classroom to the bedside with its Student Nurse Partner Program.

The Student Nurse Partner (SNP) Program employs nursing students in their last semester of nursing school. The students work in a dual role that not only compensates them for their clinical hours needed to graduate, but also requires them to work as nursing assistants. The program began in March 2021 after Gov. Kevin Stitt and the Oklahoma Board of Nursing recognized extreme staffing shortages that were exacerbated by COVID-19. The policy encouraged partnerships between health facilities and academic institutions to improve clinical education as well as support staff with patient care needs. Read more about the program in our blog by [clicking here](#).

### Healer Hub Hints

Have you logged on to Healer Hub, Norman Regional's new healer intranet and app? The Marketing team has created Healer Hub Hints, a weekly series of articles with tips, tricks and info about the new site. You can read the first issue by [clicking here](#).

### United Way Day of Caring

United Way of Norman's Day of Caring is September 16, 2022. Volunteer on September 16 to give back to our community! All volunteers who sign up before 10 a.m. on August 13 are guaranteed a shirt.

## Monkeypox Declared a Public Health Emergency

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced that the ongoing spread of monkeypox virus in the United States a Public Health Emergency (PHE).

What does this public health emergency mean for Norman Regional? Please contact Infection Prevention if you suspect a patient may have monkeypox. Testing for monkeypox is coordinated between the Lab, Infection Prevention and the Oklahoma State Department of Health.

### Vaccines

The PHE declaration is in conjunction with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) working to get vaccines to affected communities across the nation, including the use of a new dose-sparing approach that may increase the number of available doses. The CDC recommends vaccination for people who have been exposed to monkeypox or those more likely to get monkeypox. This includes people working in healthcare.

According to the CDC, the preferred vaccine to protect against monkeypox is JYNNEOS, which is a two-dose vaccine. It takes 14 days after getting the second dose of JYNNEOS for its immune protection to reach its maximum.

### An Issue for All People

Monkeypox is a public health issues that is relevant to ALL people. Anyone can get monkeypox. Monkeypox is spread through:

- Direct contact with an infectious rash, scabs, or body fluids
- Respiratory secretions during prolonged, face-to-face contact, or during intimate physical contact, such as kissing, cuddling, or sex
- Touching objects, fabrics (such as clothing or linens) that previously touched the rash or body fluids of someone with monkeypox
- Being scratched or bitten by an infected animal

### Prevention

The CDC outlines three key steps to preventing the spread of monkeypox. They are:

- Avoid close, skin-to-skin contact with people who have a rash that looks like monkeypox.
- Avoid contact with objects and materials that a person with monkeypox has used.
- Wash your hands often.

### Updates

Learn more about United Way of Norman's Day of Caring: <https://www.unitedwaynorman.org/DOC>

Sign up to volunteer: <https://www.unitedwaynorman.org/DOCVolunteerForm>

### August Blood Drives

Donate blood at Norman Regional facilities in August! The next blood drive will be from 9 a.m. to 1 pm. August 23 at the HealthPlex.

OBI has a significant need for O negative blood. If you are an O negative donor, please consider donating. Your donation will save lives.

All donors also receive a blood donor hero T-shirt and choice of one of the following tickets:

- Admit two to Safari Joe's H2O
- Admit one to Science Museum Oklahoma
- Admit one to Frontier City

[Click here to take you to Healer Hub for all the details!](#)

### Same Day Clinic Offers Saturday Appointments

Norman Regional's Same Day Clinic offers same-day care for urgent needs with extended office hours and no higher co-pay than your normal primary care doctor visits.

It is located in downtown Norman at 119 E. Main St. and offers both in-person and virtual visits.

Open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Saturday, the Same Day Clinic is your answer to the best care possible at a convenient time for you and your family.

You can give the clinic a call at 405-515-6246 or schedule online: <https://healow.com/apps/provider/-samedayprovider-2610815>

Our Emerging Infectious Disease (EID) team has been releasing import information through their email updates. Please read and share these EID Updates. You can read the [latest one here](#).

Thank you, healers for all you do for our patients.

## City of Norman Special Election To Expand NRHA Board

The makeup of Norman Regional Health System's governing board (the Norman Regional Hospital Authority) may change after a City of Norman special election on Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2022. Voters will decide whether to adopt a proposition (Proposition 6) to the city's Charter that would allow for two additional board members to be added to the NRHA Board of Trustees.

If approved, Proposition 6 would increase the number of Norman Regional Hospital Authority Board members from nine to 11 and allow for a maximum of two board members to be appointed from other communities in which NRHS operates at least one facility.

Norman Regional Health System is a public trust of the City of Norman. The Mayor of Norman appoints the members of our nine-member board and the City Council confirms all nominees.

Norman Regional believes this proposition will allow for greater representation of the communities we serve all across south central Oklahoma.

Norman Regional Health System supports the passing of this Proposition 6 by Norman voters. To view this and the nine other propositions, please click here. <https://www.normanok.gov/special-election-august-2022>

## Prepping for Football Season

EMSSTAT healers participated in bike medic training this week at the OU Memorial Stadium!

Preparations are also underway to staff the Gomer Jones Medical Facility, which is located inside the OU Stadium. If

you are interested, in working at Gomer Jones, please contact Stephanie Gehrke at [sgehrke@nrh-ok.com](mailto:sgehrke@nrh-ok.com).

The first OU home game is September 3!

Be Well,



*President & Chief Executive Officer  
Norman Regional Health System*

