



Department of Veterans Affairs VA North Texas Health Care System

Alan Bernstein, MS, RN Associate Director for Patient Care Services

Alan Bernstein was appointed as Associate Director for Patient Care Services at VA North Texas Health Care System in November 2012. He formerly served as National Director for Career Development and Workforce Management in the Office of Nursing Services for the Department of Veterans Affairs in Washington, DC, where he was responsible for policy and program development and oversight for initiatives that support a well educated, competent and diverse VHA Nursing workforce. Staffing Methodology for VHA Nursing Personnel, RN Residency, Alternative Work Schedules and Nursing Professional Standards Boards are a few of the programs that were under his leadership.

Prior to joining the Office of Nursing Services, he was the Associate Chief Nurse for Long Term Care at VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System's HJ Heinz Progressive Care Center. Mr. Bernstein was responsible for clinical and administrative oversight of the 350 inpatient beds and approximately 200 employees. During his tenure, he developed and implemented the Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Sureus (MRSA) Coordinator role for Long Term Care and integrated the advancement of MRSA precautions into patient care.

Prior to his appointment as Associate Chief Nurse, Mr. Bernstein was the Nurse Manager of Unit 4 West at VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System's University Drive division. 4 West is a 36 bed Acute Care Surgical Unit that demonstrated success in minimizing MRSA infection to a zero transmission rate during his leadership. Mr. Bernstein's past experience includes Nursing Informatics, Critical Care Nursing and Medical-Surgical Nursing.

Mr. Bernstein previously served as interim Associate Director for Patient Care Services at VA North Texas Health Care System and Butler Pennsylvania VAMC as well as numerous national VA workgroups and committees, most notably the Nursing Qualifications Standards workgroup that collapsed the dimensions of practice from 9 to 4 and developed the career pathways.

Mr. Bernstein initially received his Associate Degree in Nursing in 1996 from Community College of Allegheny County – Boyce Campus and his Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from The University of Pittsburgh in 2000 and his Master's Degree in Nursing Administration from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.