



Unit-based educators and staff play the Holiday Heart Rhythm Challenge.

Educators 'Challenge' staff

UPMC Altoona's unit-based educators rounded units Dec. 1 through 12 introducing the Holiday Heart Rhythm Challenge.

This cheerful challenge involves spinning a wheel, recognizing the rhythm shown on the cardiac monitor, and identifying correlating treatments. Staff enjoyed the festive learning game and prizes, and gained hands-on experience using Zoll monitors, with some holiday cheer thrown in!



A unit-based educator provides hands-on learning for pulmonary artery catheter insertion and management.

More real-time ICU education

In addition to introducing educational gamification like the Holiday Heart Rhythm Challenge, unit-based educators have been increasing real-time education in intensive care units.

The sole focus recently has been additional hands-on experience with some of the more low-volume, high-risk procedures, equipment, and skills, such as Vigileo/FloTrac setup and monitoring, Swan-Ganz catheter insertion and monitoring, and intra-aortic balloon pump (IABP) management.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT: Keith Daugherty

The Cardiothoracic and Neurovascular ICUs and Neurointerventional Radiology welcome new director **Keith Daugherty, RN**.

Keith started in the CTICU in 2013 and spent the last two years as daylight clinician before earning his promotion.

"I am excited and grateful for this opportunity," he said. "I look forward to partnering with each team to provide the best patient care we can each day."



"Some managers command authority, others earn it. Keith is firmly in the second category. He has spent years building a stockpile of goodwill and trust that no amount of training could buy. Having worked with him for years, I can confirm that his open-door policy isn't just a poster on the wall, it's actually how he operates."

—Jess Kozak, RN, NVCU

"We are so excited and fortunate to have someone as knowledgeable and dependable as Keith as our new unit director. We are looking forward to seeing where this new position takes him!"

—Macy Jones, RN, CTICU

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Student nurse internships

Student Nurse Internship information

- Applications open now through March 15
- Internships begin May 18 and end July 24



Nursing students

<https://careers.upmc.com/nursing>



Graduate nurses

UPMC Altoona GN Opportunities



Most student friendly unit contest reminder

Vote for the most student friendly unit for Fall 2025 by Jan.16.

Please SCAN the QR code or click WEB LINK to cast your vote.

