Nurses Discuss How Kaiser Can Support Our Practice

Bargaining Update #10 – August 17, 2017

At our tenth bargaining session, CNA Nurse Negotiators made detailed presentations on the important relationship between training, technology, and clinical judgement. Nurses made clear that we support the use of technology when it is appropriate, improves patient outcomes, and allows us to more effectively use our clinical judgement, rather than override or suppress it. We reiterated the need for regular hands-on training so that when Kaiser implements new systems, nurses are provided the time to practice, ask questions, and troubleshoot the inevitable problems that will arise.

Nurses discussed how recent, poorly-executed implementations of technology across the continuum have challenged our ability to deliver safe patient care. Nurse Negotiators focused on significant issues with the design and implementation of the Insulin Auto Calculator and the new Clinical Alert Notification System (CANS).

CNA made two proposals today during negotiations. The first proposal was to create equity and fairness in Kaiser's hiring of NPs by adding clarifying language to Appendix J. This will ensure that our patients can continue to receive the unique and excellent care NPs provide. Our second proposal was to restore nurses’ retiree medical benefits to their pre-2017 levels. Improving retiree health benefits is a high priority for nurses and feasible for Kaiser given their significant profits over the last several years.

Our next bargaining session will take place on Tuesday, August 22.