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## News Release

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# Nation's only Perioperative Clinical Nurse Specialist Program Collaborates on Medication Error Reporting System

**Bethesda, Md.** — The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences' (USU) Graduate School of Nursing (GSN) Perioperative Clinical Nurse Specialist (PCNS) program and US Pharmacopeia collaborate for the first time on a medication error reporting system.

Colonel Linda Wanzer, M.S.N., R.N., CNOR, U.S. Army Nurse Corps, assistant professor and program director of the Perioperative Clinical Nurse Specialist Masters program, and Perioperative Nursing Consultant to the Army Surgeon General, provided primary oversight for the PCNS students who worked with US Pharmacopeia on MEDMARX.

MEDMARX, the world's largest medication error reporting system, harnessed the outstanding clinical expertise and critical thinking skills of the 2005, 2006 and 2007 PCNS students and faculty to participate in analyzing a seven-year data set as it relates to medication errors across the perioperative arena and varied population groups.

The report is the culmination of a three-year research partnership that began as a medication safety project but evolved into a program of study for the PCNS students. The 2005 class launched the study with a project that examined all MEDMARX perioperative medication errors. The 2006 class focused on pediatric medication errors across the perioperative continuum and the 2007 class analyzed medication errors involving geriatric patients.

The Graduate School of Nursing was established in 1993 as a school within the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. The University is a classic academic health center with a unique focus on health promotion and disease prevention. The GSN offers the Master of Science in Nursing for Nurse Anesthesia, Family Nurse Practitioner, and Perioperative Clinical Nurse Specialist -- the only Perioperative Clinical Nurse Specialist program in the country that incorporates perioperative specific knowledge throughout the entire program of study. The GSN also offers a full and part-time Ph.D. in Nursing Science option which began in the fall of 2003 and graduated its first class of doctoral students in the fall of 2006.

For more information about USU or the Graduate School of Nursing's Perioperative Clinical Nurse Specialist Program visit [www.usuhs.mil](http://www.usuhs.mil) or call (301) 295-1219. For information about the MEDMARX Report visit [www.usp.org/aboutUSP/media](http://www.usp.org/aboutUSP/media). Information for this release was obtained from the MEDMARX data report.