**Benchmarking Comparison of Local Hospitals**

**NUR 417 Nursing Informatics**

**Purpose of Assignment**

The purpose of this project is to expand informatics skills by and comparing selected outcome measures from three hospitals and developing an evidence-based improvement plan for one of the areas where the state or national benchmark has not been met.

**Student Approach to Assignment**

I approached this assignment with curiosity about how local hospitals compared to one another. Being that I work at Riverside was the care similar? Cost of treatment similar? Why did patients choose one hospital over another? Also, as an employee of one the local hospitals I wanted to know if I was working for one of the better hospitals in the area.

**Reason for Inclusion of this Assignment in the Portfolio**

The reason for including this assignment in my portfolio is because it was important to see how local hospitals compared to one another and understand areas of improvements that each of them can make. Extensive research was applied to this assignment to be as accurate as possible. It is important to know how each hospital compares to another and what they specialize in. This assignment also helps me understand why the patient surveys were extremely important.

**Curriculum Outcomes**

**Teaching**

* ***Uses informatics to enhance one’s own knowledge base to support teaching.*** To complete this assignment, I had to start by first asking my assistant nurse to manage for information regarding how to find out information from the patient surveys.This led me to several websites such as the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services Hospital Compare, Hospital Care Data and Medicare.gov. The information obtained from these websites was a revelation and allowed me to share the information found and teach others the importance of the patient surveys and why patients choose their hospitals.

**Research**

* ***Shares research findings with colleagues.***Once the research was collected, I was able to share this information with coworkers so that they understood the significance of the patient surveys. When we had monthly meetings, the managers would always go over HCHAPS (patient satisfaction) scores with staff and most times I personally was confused about the information. Not only was I able to teach others, but I had more of an understanding of things. nursing interventions that were applied. The information being compared ranged form ED wait times, to pneumonia cases, stroke cases etc. and how they increase hospital cost.

**Culture**

* ***Considers the impact of research outcomes and, the effects of health and social policies, on persons from diverse backgrounds.*** The research for this assignment was extensive and included patients of all ages and cultures. Patient satisfaction draws money to any business. It is good that hospitals take the patient surveys serious as it is a way of showing that they care and will try to do better in areas where they lack. It is like a friendly competition with local hospitals to stay on top. Health and social policies are also based on the surveys.