



ODE TO PERIANESTHESIA NURSES WEEK

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THE FIRST WEEK OF FEBRUARY IS PERIANESTHESIA WEEK,
A CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION, DURING WEATHER SO COLD AND BLEAK.
SURGERY ADMISSIONS, PRE-OP CLINICS AND PACU WORKING TOGETHER SIDE BY SIDE,
HIGHLY SKILLED NURSES THAT DO OUR JOB WITH SUCH PRIDE.

THE SURGERY ADMISSIONS & CLINICS START THEIR WORK BEFORE THE RISING OF THE SUN,
ADMITTING AND PREPPING PTS, MAKING SURE ALL THAT PRE-OP TEACHING IS DONE.
WITH EACH DOCTOR'S ROUTINES AND IDIOSYNCRASIES THAT THEY MUST KEEP TRACK,
WHEN IT COMES TO SPEED AND ORGANIZATION, THEY CERTAINLY HAVE THE KNACK.

"THE O.R. IS RUNNING A LITTLE AHEAD OF TIME; CAN YOU HURRY IT UP PLEASE?"
SURE YOU SAY...I CAN GET FOUR READY AT ONCE, THAT'S A REAL BREEZE!
THEY FLY DOWN THE HALL WITH IVs TO START, AND BP CUFF IN HAND,
BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY, MAKING SURE THEY DON'T MIX UP ANYONE'S ARMBAND!

THEN THERE'RE THOSE PACU NURSES ALL DRESSED IN GREEN,
YOU ROLL IN THE ROOM, AND ABOUT FIVE APPEAR ON THE SCENE.
HOOKING UP MONITORS AND BUZZING AROUND THE BED,
SHOULD YOU HEAR DR. G. SAY "O ANGELS OF MERCY", ONE MIGHT THINK THEY WERE DEAD!

WE ARE THOSE DISTANT VOICES THAT AROUSE YOU FROM DEEP SLEEP,
WHILE YOU THINK IT CAN'T BE DONE ALREADY, BECAUSE I JUST STARTED COUNTING SHEEP.
OPEN YOUR EYES AND WE'LL TAKE THAT TUBE OUT, IF YOU CAN JUST LIFT YOUR HEAD,
FENTANYL, MORPHINE, DILAUDID OR OXYCONTIN, PICK YOUR FAVORITE PAIN MED.
THEN WE'LL BUNDLE YOU UP IN WARM BLANKLETS AND TUCK YOU RIGHT IN,
LOAD YOU UP WITH GOOD DRUGS, TILL IT MAKES YOUR HEAD SPIN.

WE CARE FOR THE LITTLE ONES, THE ELDERLY AND ALL AGES IN BETWEEN,
FROM IV SEDATION, SPINALS TO GENERALS AND REALLY SICK ONES ON BREATHING MACHINES,
THEY SAY NURSES NEED TWO PAIRS OF EYES AND TWO PAIRS OF HANDS,
BUT WHEN NINE O.R. THEATRES ARE RUNNING, A PAIR OF ROLLERBLADES WOULD BE GRAND!

WE WIPE YOUR TEARS AND EASE YOUR PAIN,
ON DAYS WE'RE SHORT-STAFFED SOME OF US GET CRANKY, OTHERS INSANE!
WE ARE A SMALL AREA WHERE DARKNESS BECOMES LIGHT,
WHERE MOST OF US AGREE, OUR FAVORITE SHIFT IS CERTAINLY NOT NIGHTS!

IT'S OUR WEEK TO CELEBRATE WHAT WE LOVE TO DO,
EVEN THOUGH SOME DAYS, WE'RE SURE WE MUST WORK AT THE LOCAL ZOO.
DEDICATED, COMPASSIONATE, AND CARING RIGHT TO THE CORE,
THAT'S WHAT WE PERIANESTHESIA NURSES ARE AND SO MUCH MORE!

HAPPY PERIANESTHESIA NURSES' WEEK, 2011!