

2020 Excellence in Advanced Practice Award
Malissa Mulkey, MSN APRN CCNS CCRN CNRN
Nominated by Missy Moreda



This candidate quietly has set her sights on a goal and has continued to take the necessary steps to achieve her dreams of impacting neuroscience nursing. She is very knowledgeable of hospital processes and policy, the management of neuroscience patients, national goals and objectives. She does not hesitate to accept a challenge or meet a deadline. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time working with her and have come to appreciate that she is an individual who is constantly seeking to advance her understanding of the healthcare world while finding ways of empowering nurses and elevating their neuroscience nursing contributions to improve overall outcomes.

This nominee has developed a strong neuroscience nursing career stemming from personal experiences and curiosity. As a Clinical Nurse Specialist, she continues to professionally grow and develop. She has volunteered extensively for AANN in many aspects: as a reviewer for the AANN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Myasthenia Gravis as well as an author for the Subarachnoid Hemorrhage Clinical Practice Guidelines. She has served the AANN Education Approval Committee as a Nurse Peer Reviewer and the Neuroscience Nursing Scope and Standards Task Team. Supporting certification, she has been a part of the CNRN Test Development Committee. She has been a part of the Annual Stroke Conference Planning Committee and shares her knowledge and time with other nursing organizations. She contributes by reviewing manuscripts for the Journal of Neuroscience Nursing. Insightful and contributing to national knowledge and standards, this nominee has been rewarded with numerous grants to conduct research

on critically ill neuroscience patients focusing on mobility and delirium in the neurocritical care environment. Her publications have been shared in the JNN and several other journals independently and collaboratively.

Her Neuroscience Clinical Nurse Specialist role mandates that she focus on the outcomes of the patients, the nurses and the organization. In meeting these expectations, she coordinated health system certification reviews, and serves as chair and Advanced Practice Advisor for the health system Critical Care Standards Committee. She serves as a University Clinical Instructor in addition to serving as a CNS preceptor for several years supporting the growth of future nurse leaders. Her passion and dedication to the work force surrounding neurologically and geriatric patients are strong examples for many to see.

As a CNS, she is a one of the first faces to greet new staff. She has a very strong knowledge base of neuroscience nursing and the dynamics of the hospital due to the committees that she serves on and representing the neuroscience nurse. She has identified areas of needed research and has tackled those challenges with positive results while maintaining her job expectations and family balance. She continuously tries to improve herself while supporting evidenced based practice. This talented individual is an exceptional writer and has presented locally, regionally, and nationally. She is not afraid of seeing a project through completion and is always looking for a new adventure that she will be able to grow in. She has explored large varieties of nursing opportunities and is very proud of her numerous engagements and contributions.

Along with her enthusiasm for knowledge growth and nursing empowerment, she arrives prepared to answer and to question what is in front of her for the best outcome for the patients, nursing, and the organization. She is a true team player, and always manages to foster positive discussions with a concentrated focus on the outcomes. In addition to her work duties, her support and education for others, she is pursuing her Doctorate of Philosophy in Nursing while obtaining two Post Master's Certificates in Health Sciences in Clinical Research and Nursing Education. This candidate is a true example of hard work and determination to neuroscience patients, nurses, and organizations while inspiring others to believe in their own dreams and outcomes.