



Medical Professional Shortage

Florida is facing a shortage of high-quality medical professionals. By 2025, the US will face a shortage of 46,000-90,000 physicians and up to 260,000 nurses. FH supports addressing this issue by increasing educational opportunities and improving scope of practice.

FH supports the expansion of scope of practice as long as that expansion does not adversely impact the high standard of care FH provides its patients. Utilizing more nurses and physician assistants is one way to increase access to care at lower cost. Florida is currently the only state that does not allow Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners (ARNPs) to prescribe controlled substances. This provides obstacles for Florida Hospital in deploying ARNPs in the most efficient manner for patients. Florida Hospital supports legislation to allow ARNPs and Physician Assistants (PAs) to independently prescribe and administer controlled substances in a hospital environment. FH also supports allowing nurses who meet the rigorous licensing requirements in Nurse Compact States to practice in Florida. This would increase the number of nurses available to practice in Florida while maintaining safety.

- **Support SB 152, SB 676, and HB 423, allowing PAs and ARNPs to prescribe controlled substances**
- **Support SB 572/HB 325, allowing PAs and ARNPs to assist with Baker Act Certifications**
- **Support HB 1061/SB 1316, bringing Florida into the the Interstate Nursing Compact**

FH is a teaching hospital and supports increasing educational opportunities and training programs to ensure a steady stream of nurses and doctors graduating from Florida schools. FH also supports increasing state funding for Graduate Medical Education Training Slots.

- **Support additional state funding for new Graduate Medical Education Slots**

Florida Hospital is a not-for-profit hospital system with 22 hospitals in 11 counties. We are part of Adventist Health System, the largest protestant not-for-profit hospital system in the US. We have received the #1 hospital ranking in Florida the past 3 years. Our flagship campus in Orlando serves more Medicare patients than any other hospital in the US.

David Christian

Executive Director

David.Christian@flhosp.org
850.294.0704

Gino Casanova

Director - West Florida Region

Gino.Casanova@flhosp.org
239.826.8693

Joni Hunt

Director - East Florida Region

Joni.Hunt@flhosp.org
407.493.8693