Recovery and Monitoring Program
RAMP

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RAMP

• Recovery and Monitoring Program of New Jersey was established in 2003 as an Alternative to Discipline monitoring program for nurses.
• Private, voluntary program that works with nurses, licensing boards, employers, and healthcare providers to ensure public safety, safe nursing practice, personal health, and professional wellbeing.

Alternative to Discipline

• Confidential, voluntary monitoring program that permits licensees to disclose their dependence or impairment to an intervention program – which will provide oversight of the nurse while they seek treatment and follow a recovery plan
• RAMP is the ONLY program contracted with the NJBON.

Three Common Goals of Alternative to Discipline Programs

1. Provide for the public’s safety & welfare through the early detection, treatment & monitoring of nurses with substance use disorders (SUDs)
2. Decrease time between identification, entry into treatment, compliance & practice monitoring
3. Provide a process for nurses to recover from substance use disorders through a non-punitive & non-public process

RAMP

RAMP, NJSHA, and the IFN recognize that nurses face a broad range of potential issues, which may impair their abilities to practice nursing safely. RAMP has expanded beyond substance use disorders to further support nurses in safe practice.

Discipline

• Nurses are NOT eligible to participate in ATD:
  – Patient care negligence
  – Patient care abuse
  – Prescription fraud
• Noncompliance with RAMP contract will lead to report to BON and disciplinary action
• RAMP participation is also part of the reinstatement process for nurses with a licensing action
**RAMP**

- Supports nurses in receiving the appropriate treatment, closely monitoring recovery, working with employers and ensuring the nurses in New Jersey are providing safe, high quality care to the public.
- Public protection
- Early relapse detection
- Support for employers to hire/retain professionals in recovery
- Promote open work environment

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**Referrals**

- Nurses
- BON
- Employers
- Treatment facilities
- Others

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**What Happens When a Nurse Is Reported to RAMP?**

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**5 Year Monitoring Components**

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**Monitoring Agreements**

- **90 day Evaluation-Agreement**
  - Denial
  - Testing
  - Evaluation
  - Peer Support
  - Monthly Reports
  - Daily Check in

- **5 year Agreement**
  - Admitted or Board Order
  - Treatment
  - Testing
  - Peer Support
  - Monthly Reports
  - Daily Check in

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**RAMP - Return to Work**

- Prior to returning, the nurse must:
  - Complete treatment
  - Demonstrate a strong recovery
  - Be compliant with program
  - License made active

- Collaborative process and decision to return to work between the: Nurse, RAMP staff, peers, facilitators, therapists, healthcare providers if appropriate
The Workplace

- Supervised, supportive environment
- Limitations on shifts and specialty areas
- Restrictions on hours and overtime
- Narcotic restrictions
  - Temporary, usually lifted 6 months after starting work, based on individual
- Decision is collaborative process including employer
- Determined for each individual nurse
- Maintaining the nurse’s confidentiality is essential.

Peer Assistance

Established in 1981, the Peer Assistance Program has been conducting nurse led support groups for 30 years.

The peer groups are self-help, smoke free groups facilitated by a nurse who understands substance use and mental health disorders and the recovery process. Nurses in RAMP are required to attend peer group meetings weekly.

24/7 hotline: 1-800-662-0108

For more information

- NJSNA website www.njsna.org
- NJ Board of Nursing http://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/nursing/
- NCSBN Substance Use Disorder Forum https://www.ncsbn.org/2106.htm

Contact Information

RAMP www.njsna.org 609-883-5335

Director:
Jillian Scott RN MSN ext. 152

Intake Coordinator
Emily Gannon, MA, CAADC ext. 124
Marisa Perth, RN, BSN ext. 121

Case Managers
- Tiffany Hobbs, RN ext. 134
- Brenda Wysocki, RN, BSN ext. 123
- William Philhower, RN, BSN ext. 113

Communications Coordinator – Annemarie Edinger ext. 115

Case Manager Assistant – Deborah Robles ext. 102

Peer Assistance Hotline 1-800-662-0108
- Available 24/7 and Confidential
- Answered by experienced Nurse Peer Leaders
References