



Dear Selection Committee:

The Cardiac Intensive Care Unit would like to nominate Colleen Muscatello for the excellence in bedside nursing award. Colleen is a true leader on the unit and walks the walk. She leads by example and is a great role model for all staff in the CICU. Colleen's positive energy is infectious. I love working with her and even when we are having a terrible day her smile, her kindness, and her overall attitude makes it better. When she's in charge I know that no matter what we will find a way and we will make it through. And when she has a patient assignment, I know that she will recognize concerning changes early and will notify me so I can breathe I sigh of relief and focus my energy elsewhere. Colleen takes a special interest in teaching and mentoring new nurses so that they experience positivity, don't feel alone, and plays a personal role in assuring that they have a good day and will hopefully be retained in what she knows based on her years of experience at the bedside is a vitally important role.

The unit can be on fire and if Colleen is in charge, we will make it through. Colleen has a keen ability to lead the unit through some very tough days and never appear flustered. She is always in there with the fire hose taming the flames and teaching someone else in the process. Colleen is one of those nurses that just gets it done! The unit could be imploding with admissions and no empty beds, but she finds a way to make it all work. She is smart, intuitive, and trustworthy. The thing I admire most about Colleen is that she is a doer. She sees a problem and works to remedy it by applying herself. One weekend I was called in to take an assignment as the manager on call due to a staffing miscommunication. Upon arriving, one of the patients in my assignment began to decompensate needing greater respiratory support and sedation started while my other one was needing to transfer to the floor. Colleen stepped in and assumed care of the patient transferring without prompting, addressing all the tasks that needed completed before transfer and moved them to the floor herself. This is just who she is: a team player and an unshakable positive attitude who rolls with any punches thrown her way. She has excellent situational awareness and knows when to escalate concerns about a patient who may be deteriorating. Colleen is an invaluable leader and support to all our staff in the CICU She is a vital member of the team, and our unit would not be the same without her.

Colleen brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the CICU. She doesn't judge those that aren't as knowledgeable but works to spread the learnings and provides a comforting support to the CICU. She doesn't make the work more complex than it already is. She works to bring it to a level we all understand, and she does it in a nonthreatening way. I have learned so much from Colleen and each day appreciate her even more. She is more than deserving of this award.

Sincerely,

The CICU Nursing and APP team

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Denielle Bischoff". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Denielle Bischoff MSN, MA, RN, NE-BC