

**Nursing Unit Design, Nursing Staff Communication networks, and Patient Falls: Are They Related?**

**Authors:** Brewer, B.B., Carley, K.M., Benham-Hutchins, M., Effken, J.A., Reminga, J.

**Course ID #** HERD 68

Full Name	AIA # / EDAC #	Email	Phone #

**Learning Objective 1:** Be able to describe nursing communication patterns associated with safer (fewer falls) nursing unit designs.

**Learning Objective 2:** Be able to describe communication patterns associated with four different unit shapes.

**Learning Objectives 3:** Be able to identify design opportunities for improving communication among nursing staff.

**Learning Objective 4:** Be able to list communication metrics associated with more efficient communication.

**Question 1:** Nursing units that were decentralized and cross-shaped in this study had communication structures that were:

- a. Less effective because they exhibited lower density, less diffusion, and lower clustering coefficients.
- b. More effective because they exhibited higher density, faster diffusion, and more clustering.
- c. Less efficient because they had a central nurses station.
- d. More efficient because they had many touchdown areas for documentation.

**Question 2:** Racetrack-shaped hybrid units had the greatest number of staff?

- a. True
- b. False

**Question 3:** The unit shape with the fewest patient falls had:

- a. Greater bed visibility
- b. Slower diffusion of communication
- c. Greater network density
- d. Fewer individuals connected highly connected individuals

To earn AIA continuing education units please complete form, and email Catherine Ancheta at [cancheta@healthdesign.org](mailto:cancheta@healthdesign.org) and your credits will be uploaded to your AIA account. To earn EDAC continuing education units please complete the form, retain the form for your records and self-submit the credits at the time of your EDAC renewal. The form is your “proof of attendance.”