

Lindsey Tarasenko, PhD, RN, earns \$100,000 Grant to Explore COVID-19's Impact on Children's Colorado Nurses

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In the past few months, the COVID-19 pandemic sent shockwaves throughout the nation's healthcare facilities. Like many other hospital systems, Children's Hospital Colorado was left grappling with a once-in-a-lifetime crisis. Because COVID-19 initially impacted adult populations and organizations caring for adults, pediatric hospitals have been left out of the broader conversation. **Lindsey Tarasenko**, PhD, RN, Magnet Program Director & Nurse Scientist, wants to change that.

On June 10, Tarasenko and her team of researchers earned a \$100,000 grant that will help tell Children's Colorado's COVID-19 story, capturing the experience of Children's Colorado nurses throughout the pandemic. Specifically, the study will outline recently introduced practice changes, unintended consequences and unexpected challenges, and the role of the pediatric nurse in this unusual period.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted our nursing work environments as we have responded to the healthcare needs of our community while navigating shifts in our professional and personal lives," says Tarasenko. "Our donor's gift is making it possible for us to capture the voice and experiences of nurses during this unprecedented time. We are humbled by the generosity of our donor and view her as an honorary member of our research team and a part of our nursing story at Children's Hospital Colorado."

Tarasenko and her research team stress the importance of studying both the response to COVID-19 and the consequences of decisions that affect nurses, the largest segment of the healthcare workforce. She believes this systems perspective is key in guiding future practice, administration, and policy.

"The knowledge gained from studying responses to current events has the potential to inform future decisions of nursing leaders, hospital administrators, and policymakers to support nurses and the care they deliver to our patients and community," Tarasenko adds.

The American Nurses Association names 2020 the Year of the Nurse and the Midwife, and Tarasenko acknowledges that it is a privilege to study the role of pediatric clinical nurses and nurse leaders managing the COVID-19 outbreak.

Tarasenko anticipates that the study will begin in **August 2020**.

Research Team:

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