

Saturday, October 10, 2009

Marlene Mullin Has Nursing Doctorate Research Published

The **School of Nursing** started offering a **Doctor of Nursing Practice** degree in 2006. Marlene Mullin graduated with this degree in Fall 2007, and spoke at the program's first commencement. Her doctorate research was recently published in the September-October 2009 issue of the journal **Heart & Lung** (Volume 38, Pages 377-381). Mullin also presented her research at the First National Doctors of Nursing Practice Conference in Memphis, Tennessee.

Mullin's paper, titled **Sensations During Removal of Epicardial Pacing Wires After Coronary Artery Bypass Graft Surgery** deals with the electrodes used to stimulate the heart during and after heart surgery. Typically, pacing electrodes are placed inside the heart by snaking them through a vein into the right atrium. After the surgery, when the patient has recovered and is awake, the electrode is removed through the same vein. Mullin analyzed 144 subjects from 2 teaching hospitals, and concluded that the most commonly reported sensation was "mild to moderate pulling." Her research may lead to clearer educational material for patients preparing for surgery.

SUMMARY

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