***Advocacy:***

***Indiana Coalition for Patient-Centered Care:***

* IONL is one of the founding members of this coalition and has a position on the newly formed board. We are currently represented by the CEO and Jason Gilbert IONL’s Legislative Chair.
* The Indiana Coalition for Patient-Centered Care comprises healthcare professionals representing a variety of disciplines including Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, Optometrists, Pharmacists, Physician Assistants, and Registered Nurses. Our Coalition was formed to create a patient-centered group of healthcare professionals with the mission of increasing access to high-.quality, cost-effective, patient-centered care, particularly in underserved and rural areas. We work to expand the public’s knowledge regarding the various healthcare professions available to meet the needs of patients and communities across Indiana.
* Our Coalition is concerned about the messaging and goals of the newly formed Indiana Physician Coalition. The group, started by the Indiana State Medical Association and funded by the American Medical Association, is part of a campaign to prevent the modernization of professional licensure regulations for non-physician healthcare providers. A physician-centered approach to care seeks to establish physicians as the only profession qualified to lead patient care, stating that, without them, patients’ health outcomes may be compromised by nonphysicians. This approach creates a sense of mistrust in the quality and safety of care provided by other healthcare professionals; there is no valid research to support this claim.
* ***Webpage*** [***https://indianapatients.org/***](https://indianapatients.org/%C2%A0)

***Hoosiers for Safe Meds:***

* IONL is a member of the Hoosiers for Safe Meds coalition. Letters have been sent to the insurance companies, legislators and the news media expressing concern about “white bagging” of specialty drugs.Large health insurance plans have begun to deny payment to health care providers and pharmacies unless health care providers obtain specialty drugs, premixed and pre-labeled, from designated pharmacies based on network participation, rather than proximity and quality. This practice—called “white bagging”—prohibits providers from obtaining specialty drugs from in-house and nearby pharmacies and prevents providers from adjusting the dosages of these drugs and controlling the handling, preparation and storage conditions of these drugs prior to administration. (**NOTE:** Pharmacies/PBMs used by the insurer are also often vertically integrated or otherwise affiliated with the insurer.)
* **Coalition Position:** Insurers should not mandate these policies which put patients in the middle and create major safety risks and quality concerns. The State of Indiana should move quickly to examine the implications for patients through the Board of Pharmacy and other relevant state agencies. Given the rapid expansion of these programs nationally, guardrails must be established quickly unless insurers agree to pause implementation of such policies.

***Representation of IONL:***

* Participate in the following IHA virtual meetings: Workforce Development, Patient Safety & Quality and Government Relations.
* IHA Board meetings virtually.
* ICN Board meetings virtually.
* Nurses on Boards virtually

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***Membership:***

Total membership is 342 with 285 Full Members, 36 New Members, 4 Retired Members, and 17 Honorary Members. Membership remains stable.

***Retirement:***

During 2022, IONL will be recruiting a new CEO. I have decided to retire after 8 wonderful years with the organization. Representing IONL is an honor. President, Karen Haak and the Board are dedicated to the mission and vision of IONL. Without their commitment, IONL would not be recognized as the premier nursing leadership organization for the state of Indiana.

***Respectfully Submitted:***

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| Mary Browning |