



CCI Registrant Spotlight

Carolina Correa, RN, BSN, CRN, RCIS

Carolina is a very experienced nurse who also holds the Registered Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist (RCIS) credential. She is currently the Cardiovascular Special Procedures (CVSP) Charge Nurse at Summit Medical Center in Oakland, California. This facility's lab performs the following procedures: STEMI and structural heart, Watchman, TAVR, mitral clip, laser lead extraction, cardiac EP ablations, cardiac implants, interventional radiology, and stroke intervention for clot removal.

Carolina began her nursing career as a Nurse Tech in a telemetry unit and enjoyed working in the cardiac department. Carolina went on to earn her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from the University of New Mexico. She then moved to Hawaii, worked in the ICU, and trained in the surgical cardiac unit. After Hawaii, she relocated to Spokane, Washington to work in the emergency room and stayed there for 15 years. The hospital was a level 2 trauma center, and she loved the work. Her next assignment was as a traveling nurse in California in the emergency room, and a fellow nurse recruited her into the Interventional Radiology (IR) department. She became interested in the RCIS when she saw her cardiovascular technologist colleagues preparing and studying for the RCIS exam. Carolina has always striven to challenge herself and learn how other individuals' positions and duties will impact her responsibilities on the job. She earned her RCIS credential in 2017 to set an example as a leader in her lab. Carolina recently earned her Certified Radiology Nurse credential after learning about the radiologic requirements in the lab.

Cardiovascular Services/Interventional Radiology Manager Elaine Patton-Shea, ACS, RCS, RCCS, RCIS, FASE, says, "Carolina is an exceptional nurse whose dedication to her patients is reflected in her daily practices. She leads by example, encouraging all staff members to obtain their RCIS or RCES! She is devoted to the idea that education benefits everyone, and Carolina enthusiastically attends classes and shares information with the staff. She is the standard of excellence for healthcare professionals and sets the bar high for our cardiovascular team. Her ability to support and inspire the Cath Lab staff has helped the entire team to earn the respect of the medical community. Her compassion along with her superior nursing skills have contributed to great outcomes for our patients."



Carolina loves being outside, gardening, exercising, swimming in the ocean, and especially spending time with her husband Rafael.

CCI spotlights registrants for accomplishments and dedication to the cardiovascular profession. Submissions may be sent to Christine Johnson at cjohnson@cci-online.org.