

Megan D. Stearnes, MSSL, BSRT, RRT, RRT-ACCS

Sr. Manager, Medical Information - VERO Biotech

Marietta GA

Megstearnes@gmail.com

Present Position

Sr. Manager, Medical Information

March 2022 – present

VERO Biotech

387 Technology Circle NW Suite 125

Atlanta, GA 30313

Register Respiratory Therapist, Adult Critical Care Specialist with over twenty combined years of industry, clinical and administrative experience in the fields of Medical Device, pharmaceutical, Hospital based Respiratory Care, and Sleep Medicine. Fifteen years of leadership experience including four years of leadership in medical affairs, six years of hospital manager/ director experience, and six years of bedside leadership. Master's degree in strategic leadership with a focus on healthcare initiatives. Over three years of industry experience including medical affairs leadership. including, immersive education and experience with post market surveillance and pharmacovigilance, including DIA Global Certification and Advanced International Pharmacovigilance and Argus Safety Certification. Responsible for enterprise-wide project management and implementation of new drug safety reporting software. Extensive clinical experience working with diverse patient populations with cardio-pulmonary complications, deficiencies, and illnesses, including acute, critical, and Long-Term Acute Care. Department growth and development. Experience in oversight and management of department and financial division aspects, both revenues and expenses, for multiple departments. Direct coordination and implementation of quality improvement projects. Recognized as a leader, innovator, educator and resource for internal and external partners and key opinion leaders.

Current Role and Responsibilities

Directs and manages the growth, development and operations of the medical information team including the recruitment and hiring of medical information communication specialists (MICS). Responsible for oversight of MICS team, including the customer clinical support line, commercial team onboarding and device education, policies, procedures, QC and metrics. Facilitate the identification and development of content for SOPs, education and medical content. Oversees, provides guidance, identifies resources, inspires and promotes excellence in quality and safety. Addresses and resolves barriers. Empowers staff to identify and recommend process improvement. Serves as liaison between teams and key stakeholders within the organization and with external partners. Functions as lead and member on many cross-functional working groups, projects and task forces to focus on innovation and process improvement. Coordinated and project managing including the resourcing, implementation and initiation of enterprise-wide projects including drug safety software, ARGUS, complaint handling intake, and educational programing. Maintains compliance agency regulations and internal SOPs. Leads clinical and customer support activities including a 24/7 call center, targeted education programs, and commercial content generation. Works with respiratory managers, directors, and advocates across the country to improve and advocate for the profession of respiratory care. Committed to continuing and advocating for VERO Biotech's vision of being a leader in acute care solutions.

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Credentials and Certifications

Registered Respiratory Therapist Exp: 07/31/2029

Adult Critical Care Specialist Exp: 07/31/2029

Licensed by the state of Georgia #6347 Exp: 07/31/2026

Current ACLS and BLS certification

DIA Global Drug Safety Program, 2022

Advanced International Pharmacovigilance and Argus Safety Certification (APVASC) 2023

Education

M.S. Strategic Leadership
University of Charleston, WV
May 2021

B.S. Respiratory Therapy
Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA
December 2014

A.A.S Respiratory Therapy, *Magna cum Laude*
University of Montana, Missoula, MT
June 2004

Work and Clinical Experience

VERO Biotech	November 2020 – present
Medical Information Manager	March 2022- present
Lead Medical Information Communication Specialist	September 2021-March 2022
Clinical Specialist	November 2020- September 2021

Emory St. Joseph's Hospital, Atlanta, GA	November 2007-December 2020
Director, Respiratory Care and Pulmonary Rehabilitation Services-	December 2015- December 2020
Manager, December 2015 to 2016	
Supervisor/Educator, dual role, 2015	
Department supervisor, 2013-2015	
Charge Therapist, 2009-2010	
Registered Respiratory Therapist	

WellStar Windy Hill Hospital, LTACH, Marietta, GA	June 2008-July 2016
Charge therapist, 2010-2013	
Registered Respiratory Therapist	

Sleep Disorder Center of Georgia, Atlanta, GA	December 2005-May 2007
CPAP Technician	

Grady Hospital, Atlanta, GA	June 2005- December 2005
Registered Respiratory Therapist	

St. Patrick Hospital, Missoula, MT	May 2004- May 2005
Registered Respiratory Therapist, PRN	

Committees, Appointments, Programs

MLR approver, Medical Content, VERO Biotech, 2022- present
Medical Safety Team, VERO Biotech, 2022- present
Executive Safety Committee, VERO Biotech, 2022- present
Complaint Review Board, VERO Biotech, 2022- present
Product Quality Complaint Committee, VERO Biotech

Code Blue Committee, Emory Healthcare 2014-2020
Critical Care Committee, Emory Healthcare 2014-2020
Disaster Preparedness- WellStar, 2013-2014
Hospital Division Leader for Atlanta Heart Walk, Emory Healthcare 2016
Emergency Operations, Emory Healthcare 2017
Emory EmPower, LEAN initiative- Emory Healthcare 2018-2020
Environment of Care, Emory Healthcare 2014-2020
General Value Analysis Committee, Emory Healthcare 2014-2020
Hand Hygiene, Emory Healthcare 2013- 2020
I Survived ECMO- Educational Series, Project lead, and program director 2019
Infection Prevention, Emory Healthcare 2014-2020
Joint Commission Oversight 2014-2020
LEAN- WellStar, 2014
Patient Experience, PX99 Emory Healthcare 2014-2020
Pharmacy and Therapeutics, Emory Healthcare 2014-2020
Respiratory Focus Group, Emory Healthcare 2014-2020
Skills instructor- Southeastern Critical Care Summit; Emory University School of Medicine, 2017
Valued Added Process, Emory Healthcare 2014-2020
Ventilator Associated Events, Chair Emory Healthcare 2014-2020
Work Force Committee- Sandy Springs Perimeter Chamber of Commerce, 2017
Speaker- Sandy Springs Leadership Series 2017- Obstructive Sleep Apnea

Projects

LEAN Six Sigma 5S project- Supply Room 2018

Streamline, organize and reduce waste in the main supply room to improve efficiency and over ordering. Saved the organization approximately \$10,000 annually in overordering.

Elimination of inhaled Nitric Oxide 2018

Elimination of inhaled Nitric oxide use in the hospital by transitioning to an alternative inhaled pulmonary vasodilator reducing the hospital expenses by \$5M over 2 years. This was achieved through a collaboration between department, providers and pharmacy partners.

Medication waste reduction 2019

Cross-functional project with pharmacy to eliminate waste, streamline processes and reduce spending on medication by implementing process improvement for drug delivery of respiratory medications throughout the hospital. The reduction in waste resulted in approximately \$100,000 savings in recouped medication in the first year of implementation.

Enterprise-wide implementation of new Drug Safety Software- Argus 2023

Project management and implementation of new drug safety reporting software Argus. Immersive training on drug reporting requirements and procedures including two certificate programs, DIA Global Drug Safety Program, 2022 and Advanced International Pharmacovigilance and Argus Safety Certification (APVASC) 2023.

Customer facing education update with Enhanced customer facing education initiative- Advanced Troubleshooting Workshops 2023- ongoing improvements

Revision and improvement to the internal customer facing education program to include standardization of materials and content. Ongoing education and competency assessment and ongoing training and education for customers and hospitals. Provide targeted training to hospitals and customers that have increased need. Identified by increase in user error related calls or calls requiring troubleshooting assistance, Low use accounts with an influx of use, new onboarded accounts with user related errors after onboarding has been completed, or to strengthen the customer service relationship.

Professional Organizations

American Association for Respiratory Care, Member 2004- Present

Georgia Society for Respiratory Care, (GSRC) Member 2005- Present

President 2020 – 2022, term

Recipient of the President's Award, 2018

Secretary to the Board of Directors for the GSRC, 2017-2018, 2024 term

District 6 Representative, 2016

District Seminar, Chair- Georgia Society for Respiratory Care, 2017- present

Programs and Education Committee, Chair 2020, member 2021-present

Political Advocacy Contact Team, PACT, Committee member and Representative, 2017- present

Attended 2017, 2024, 2025 National Convention and U.S. Capitol Hill Day with the AARC

Speaker, District and State Educational seminars, 2017, 2018, 2020, 2022

What do you see? A Radiological Review; District Seminar 2017

Advocating for the Respiratory Profession; Summer Symposium 2017

HFNC; District Seminar 2018

COVID-19- A Case Study Virtual Seminar 2022

COVID-19 Panel Moderator District Seminar 2022, Summer Symposium 2022

National Board for Respiratory Care, Active Member 2004- present

Awards and Recognition

President's Award, Georgia Society for Respiratory Care, 2018

Mercy Leadership Award, Emory Saint Joseph's Hospital, 2018

References available upon request.