

## Fastaff Nurses Needed to Complete Project of “Epic” Proportions as UCSF Trains for Electronic Medical Record Conversion

All over the country medical institutions are scrambling to implement electronic medical recordkeeping systems by 2014, as required by the Affordable Care Act. Needless to say, that is a huge undertaking. An equally daunting task is training staff to use those complex systems. Not only does it take time to bring staff up to speed, but a large group of nurses must be pulled off the floor at one time to participate in training, leaving remaining staff to pick up the slack. That scenario could seriously compromise patient care.

*Clinical background, staffing experience, and vast nurse resource pool made the difference.*

When planning for implementation and training on their new Epic electronic medical record system, officials of the University of California at San Francisco (UCSF) Medical Center knew they had to keep staffing and quality of care at normal, optimum levels while their nurses were training on the Epic system. Their workforce vendor, MedAssets, recommended they work with one company, one that was experienced in large-scale, rapid-turnaround staffing projects. MedAssets recommended UCSF work with Fastaff because of the company principals’ clinical background and large pool of trained specialty nurses to select from.

“The scope of this project was large, so we needed one partner to work with us throughout the transition, not multiple vendors,” said Jeff Chui, Employment Manager, UCSF Medical Center.

*Supplied 350 specialized nurses with teaching hospital experience for EMR conversion.*

The client’s standards were very high. UCSF is a teaching hospital that consists of a total of 660 licensed beds, 180 pediatric beds, and a staff of 2,800 nurses. They required nurses who were skilled in working in teaching hospitals with faculty and resident physicians. They also required various nurses in specialty areas including ICU, oncology, endoscopy — the gamut of specialties expected in a university hospital setting. Perhaps the most difficult to find were the large number of highly trained pediatric nurses for UCSF pediatric research center. Fastaff was asked to supply a total of 350 specialized nurses who were willing to commit to a long-term assignment.

*Customized reporting and on-site clinical manager provided.*

To recruit this elite group of traveling nurses, Fastaff screened twice as many candidates as usual. The account managers, themselves former nurses, personally screened and interviewed every candidate to ensure they had the right stuff. Then they prepared detailed profiles on each one to assure the client that these nurses would fit in seamlessly. They even provided an on-site clinical manager and developed custom reporting to mesh with the hospital’s management and processes.

The client was extremely pleased with Fastaff’s performance. This was the largest number of temporary general and specialty nurses the medical center had ever used, and the quality of each temporary nurse was equal to that of their permanent staff.

*“If faced with a project of this magnitude in the future, Fastaff would definitely be on our speed dial,” said Jeff Chui, Employment Manager, UCSF Medical Center. “Because of the clinical expertise, urgency, and flexibility of the Fastaff team, we were able to execute this project successfully and train our staff on the Epic system without compromising patient care.”*

### UCSF Summary

- Rated seventh best overall medical center in US (US News & World Report)
- 660 licensed beds, 180 pediatric beds
- Staff of 2800 nurses in medical center and pediatric center

## About Fastaff

Since 1989, Fastaff has been an urgent and crucial leader when staffing acute-care facilities with top-quality nurses in a variety of specialties. Fastaff uses a rapid-response staffing model, ensuring clients get the staff they need within 7-10 days.

Fastaff is JCAHO certified in health care staffing services, showing its commitment to continuous improvement and quality services. For more information about how Fastaff can assist your facility with temporary staffing needs, visit [www.Fastaff.com](http://www.Fastaff.com) or call 888-214-0880.