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## **Online Salt: Healthcare Students Learn How to Meet Spiritual Needs**

**CEDARVILLE, OHIO** -- Cedarville University pharmacy and nursing students will learn how to administer spiritual “saline” during a virtual training to be completed on their own time by September 8.

This Saline Process training program provides students in health care fields with the tools for having conversations about faith with their patients.

Last year, students were taught in person as part of a one-day interprofessional collaborative course. But this year, the training will be moved to a remote format.

“Our faith is an important part of who we are, and I want to make sure all of our students are equipped to share their faith with their patients, even in the midst of the current challenges we are facing,” said Dr. Emily Laswell, associate professor of pharmacy.

International Health Services (IHS) Global developed the Saline Process course to train health care workers how to care for patients’ spiritual needs. The program’s name comes from saline — water containing salt, which is given intravenously to rehydrate patients. The Saline Process training provides resources to be salt (saline) and light for Jesus while treating the whole person.

The course involves evidence-based research and answers five questions: 1. Why is faith important to health care? 2. What are the opportunities for and barriers to fulfilling God’s call? 3. What is my part? 4. What tools will help me to cultivate, sow and harvest? 5. Where do I go from here?

The schools of nursing and pharmacy and psychology and social work departments at Cedarville University are requiring students to complete the online training, a change from years past. Pharmacy students will also complete a live follow-up Zoom meeting, which will take place in their Cardiology I Module. This follow-up session will focus on interprofessionalism and practicing the skills learned in the online training.

This is the fourth year that the Saline Process has been offered on campus to students. The new virtual format allows the training to be offered to a broader audience.

“In the School of nursing, all of our MSN students always complete the online training as part of their graduate studies; this year all School of Nursing faculty are also completing the online course,” Dr. Angelia Mickle, dean of the school of nursing, explained. “I think it’s super important for all of our professors to know how our students are being equipped.”

For more information about the Saline Process, visit [www.ihsqglobal.org/SalineProcess](http://www.ihsqglobal.org/SalineProcess).

Located in southwest Ohio, Cedarville University is an accredited, Christ-centered, Baptist institution with an enrollment of 4,550 undergraduate, graduate and online students in more than 150 areas of study. Founded in 1887, Cedarville is recognized nationally for its authentic Christian community, rigorous academic programs, including the [Bachelor of Science in Nursing](#), strong graduation and retention rates, accredited professional and health science offerings and high student engagement ranking. For more information about the University, visit [www.cedarville.edu](http://www.cedarville.edu).

Written by Lauren McGuire