

NATIONAL EMERGENCY NURSES ASSOCIATION



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ISSUE

Certification is the professional credentialing and formal recognition of individuals based on their fulfillment of established and standardized criteria, that can be tested and validated.

Specialty certification identifies Registered Nurses who have completed all eligibility criteria, met identified standards including practical experience, achieved examination success, as well as demonstrated advanced competency, knowledge and expertise in their nursing specialty.

Certification advances Emergency Nursing and the nursing profession overall by recognizing, valuing and promoting education and clinical excellence.

The ultimate goal of specialty certification is to improve the quality of care thereby promoting the best possible patient outcomes.

NENA POSITION

NENA believes that Canada's Emergency Nurses should obtain certification in their specialty.

NENA believes that certification is the criterion standard of professional nursing practice, demonstrating excellence in practice, mastery of knowledge, skills, and abilities beyond the scope of professional licensure.

NENA believes that certification validates advanced knowledge in a specialty and promotes ongoing high achievement through recertification.

NENA believes that certification serves as a strategy to engage Emergency Nurses in lifelong learning and to maintain competencies within their specialty.

NENA believes that Emergency leaders should seek certified Emergency Nurses for their departments, encourage initial certification and support recertification in their specialty by their nurses.

RATIONALE

Emergency Nursing is a complex profession, practised within dynamic environments, requiring ongoing education in skills, knowledge and best practices.

Emergency Nursing competence must evolve in correlation with increasingly complex emergency healthcare needs, in order to maintain a consistently higher standard of care.

It is imperative that Emergency Nurses are prepared to meet the complex needs of diverse patient populations by having appropriate continuing education, training, and institutional resources.

The certification process attempts to ensure and demonstrate that Emergency Nurses have exceeded the minimal standards and exhibit a high level of knowledge and competence.

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Emergency Nurses become certified for various reasons including but not limited to, personal challenge, self-improvement, advancement of knowledge, expansion of skills and a commitment to lifelong learning and career growth.

Emergency Nurses value certification as it fosters empowerment, improves confidence in clinical skills, validates specialized knowledge, and contributes to a sense of professional accomplishment and satisfaction.

Certified Emergency Nurses are recognised as experts in their specialty, demonstrating the standard for quality in clinical practice.

Certification raises the stature of the nursing profession and all of its unique specialties.

Organizations which support Registered Nurses with Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) certification, demonstrate recognition and appreciation of specialized nursing knowledge, and a commitment to life-long learning.

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