

# NATIONAL EMERGENCY NURSES ASSOCIATION



Position Statement	Minimum Requirements for an ED Nurse
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## **Issue**

Emergency nursing is a specialty that requires unique skills and knowledge.

## **NENA Position**

*Refer to NENA Policy Standards of Emergency Department Nursing Practice*

NENA believes that the uniqueness of emergency nursing requires knowledge, experience and advanced preparation by Registered Nurses, to ensure quality patient care.

NENA believes that Post Diploma Certification Programs in emergency nursing must be encouraged.

### *STAFF EMERGENCY NURSE*

Minimum 2 years acute care experience in an active treatment setting. Ongoing education to achieve competence in Basic Cardiac Life Support (BCLS), Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), Trauma Nursing Core Course (TNCC), Emergency Nursing Pediatric Course (ENPC) and preferably Emergency Nursing Certification Canada (ENC(C)).

### *TRIAGE NURSE*

Minimum 2 years recent emergency nursing practice; demonstration of competence in emergency nursing, advanced assessment skills, interviewing and interpersonal skills and completion of Canadian Triage and Acuity Scale (CTAS) course.

### *CLINICAL EDUCATOR*

All of the above including a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing, 5 years recent emergency nursing experience, demonstrates leadership qualities, knowledge of principles of adult education and experience in instructional methods.

### *UNIT MANAGER*

Minimum Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing, demonstrated comprehension of emergency nursing practice, nursing management strategies and demonstrated leadership qualities.

### *CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST (CNS)*

Minimum Masters Degree in Nursing and ENC(C). A CNS is an expert direct care clinician in emergency practice; a consultant and translator of research into best practice.

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## *NURSE PRACTITIONER (NP)*

*Refer to NENA Position Statement Role of the Nurse Practitioner in ED.*

Minimum Master's Degree in Nursing.

## **RATIONALE**

The uniqueness of emergency nursing requires competencies related to the expectations of the position and include knowledge, technical nursing skills, and educational preparation.

## **References**

- Emergency Nurses Association. (2011). Advanced Practice Nurses in Emergency Care. Retrieved April 26, 2014 from <http://www.ena.org/practice-research/Practice/Pages/AdvPractice.aspx>
- Emergency Nurses Association. (2011). Emergency Nursing Scope and Standards of Practice (1<sup>st</sup> Ed). Des Plaines, IL: Emergency Nurses Association.
- Howard, P.K. & Steinmann, R.A. (2010). Sheehy's emergency nursing principles of practice (6<sup>th</sup> Ed). (Ed) Emergency Nurses Association, St. Louis, MO: Mosby Elsevier.