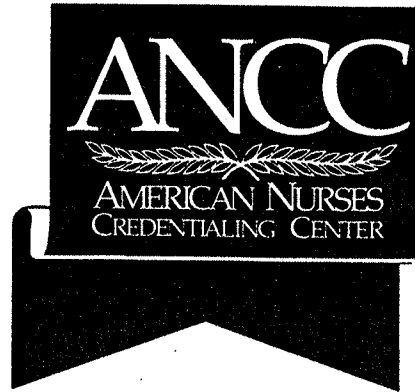


AMERICAN NURSES CREDENTIALING CENTER



ACUTE CARE NURSE PRACTITIONER

certification examination offered  
in collaboration with the

*American Association of Critical-Care Nurses  
Certification Corporation*

&

GERONTOLOGICAL NURSE PRACTITIONER

DECEMBER 9, 1995 EXAMINATION

A Subsidiary of the American Nurses Association

**TEST SITES FOR DECEMBER 9, 1995 EXAMINATION**

**CALIFORNIA**  
San Francisco      0515

**CONNECTICUT**  
Hartford            0700

**GEORGIA**  
Atlanta             1100

**MASSACHUSETTS**  
Boston              2200

**NEW YORK**  
Manhattan         3310

**NORTH CAROLINA**  
Raleigh            3400

**OHIO**  
Cleveland         3600

**PENNSYLVANIA**  
Philadelphia      3905

**TENNESSEE**  
Nashville         4310

**UTAH**  
Salt Lake City    4500

**DEADLINES FOR DECEMBER EXAMINATION**

**Final Deadline**                      November 1, 1995

Applications must be received in our office by or before the above date. Applications received after this date will not be processed for the examination.

**FEES**

All applications pay an application fee and an examination fee. **The application fee and special fees are non-refundable and non-transferable to another test year.**

**All fees must be paid in full at the time of application.**

**MEMBER RATE**

Application Fee      \$ 30  
Exam Fee              \$115

**Alternate Date Fee \$ 35**

**NON-MEMBER RATE**

Application Fee      \$ 60  
Exam Fee              \$225

**Returned Check Fee**

A \$25 fee will be assessed when checks are returned to ANCC for any reason. Payment of fees thereafter must be in the form of a money order or certified check.

# ACUTE CARE NURSE PRACTITIONER CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION

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1. Currently hold an active RN license in the US or its territories  
  
and
2. Hold a master's or higher degree in nursing  
  
and
3. Have been prepared as an adult acute care nurse practitioner in:
  - a. an acute care nurse practitioner master's degree in nursing program.  
  
or
  - b. a formal postgraduate acute care nurse practitioner program within a school of nursing granting graduate level academic credit (e. g., graduate, non-matriculating program). Evidence of successful completion will be either a certificate or a letter from the program director;  
  
or
  - c. an adult nurse practitioner master's degree in nursing program with a minimum of 500 hours of post master's practice within the past two years in an advanced practice role, providing direct services to patients who are acutely or critically ill;  
  
or
  - d. a formal postgraduate adult nurse practitioner program within a school of nursing granting graduate level academic credit (e.g. graduate, non-matriculating program) and a minimum of 500 hours of practice within the past two years in an advanced practice role, providing direct services to patients who are acutely or critically ill after completion of adult nurse practitioner program. Evidence of successful completion will be either a certificate or a letter from the program director.

## Required Documents and Information for this Examination:

- A completed application
- Answers to questions in Section M of Nursing Practice Questionnaire
- A completed Form E by the practitioner program director
- Transcript showing classes taken to date in the nursing practitioner program. The transcript may either be a student copy or an official copy and must be included with your application.
- Transcript verifying conferral of master's degree in nursing must be received to release exam scores.
- A letter from the program director verifying completion of program.

**NOTE:** Options (c) and (d) will only be available through the exams offered in the year 2000; after that time, applicants must have graduated from an acute care nurse practitioner program.

# GERONTOLOGICAL NURSE PRACTITIONER (23)

## DESCRIPTION OF PRACTICE

Gerontological nurse practitioners are experts in providing primary health care for older adults and their families in a variety of settings. In advanced roles, they practice independently and collaboratively with other health professionals.

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

By the time of application, you must:

1. Currently hold an active RN license in the United States or its territories;

AND

2. Hold a master's degree in nursing;

AND

3. Have been prepared as a nurse practitioner in either:

- a. a gerontological nurse practitioner master's degree in nursing program;

OR

- b. a formal post-graduate GNP track or program within a school of nursing granting graduate level academic credit (e.g. graduate, non-matriculating program). Evidence of successful completion will be either a certificate or a letter from the program director.

**NOTE:** If you do not meet #3a or #3b, the following options will be acceptable through the 1995 test administration:

- completion of an adult or family nurse practitioner master's degree in nursing program;

OR

- completion of a gerontological, family, or adult nurse practitioner certificate program that was at least 9 months or 1 academic year of full time study or its equivalent prior to completing a master's degree in nursing.

Providing care and advocacy for the older adult they work to maximize functional abilities; promote, maintain, and restore health; prevent or minimize disabilities; and promote death with dignity. Gerontological nurse practitioners are engaged in practice, case management, education, consultation, research, and administration.

## EXAMINATION TOPICS

- Theoretical foundations in nursing and gerontology
- Health promotion
- Illness management
- Professional issues and role functions in advanced practice
- Legal and ethical issues
- Organizational and health policy issues

The educational program which prepared you as an adult, family, or gerontological nurse practitioner must have included both didactic and clinical components as defined in the Guidelines for Educational Preparation of Gerontological Nurse Practitioners (Appendix E). Verification by the program director is required.

## Required Documents and Information for this Examination:

- A completed application
- Answers to questions in Section M of Nursing Practice Questionnaire
- A completed Form E by the practitioner program director
- Transcript showing classes taken to date in the nursing practitioner program. The transcript may either be a student copy or and official copy and must be included with your application.
- Transcript verifying conferral of master's degree in nursing must be received to release exam scores.
- A letter from the program director verifying completion of program.

# GUIDELINES FOR EDUCATIONAL PREPARATION OF ACUTE CARE NURSE PRACTITIONERS as developed by the BOARD ON CERTIFICATION FOR ACUTE CARE NURSING PRACTICE

## I. Statement of Functions for Acute Care Nurse Practitioners

Upon completion of a formal educational program, acute care nurse practitioners are able to do the following:

- Elicit a comprehensive health history and perform a physical exam.
- Prioritize and initiate pertinent diagnostic test(s).
- Analyze data to determine nursing and medical diagnoses.
- Develop a prioritized comprehensive problem list.
- Collect patient data on an ongoing basis prioritized according to the patient's immediate conditions or needs.
- Identify expected patient outcomes in collaboration with patient, family and other professionals.
- Develop a plan of care that prescribes interventions to attain expected outcomes. The plan of care:
  - is individualized, recognizes the dynamic nature of the patient's illness, and reflects the patient's needs across a full continuum of acute care;
  - is developed in collaboration with the patient, family and other professionals and is consistent with the goals of care;
  - specifies both the diagnostic strategies and therapeutic interventions prescribed to attain outcomes;
  - specifies interventions that reflect current nursing and medical knowledge and practice, utilizes risk-benefit analysis, and is cost effective;
  - is documented and retrievable; and
  - anticipates and addresses the continuing needs of the patient.
- Prescribe and implement the interventions identified in the multidisciplinary plan of care.
- Evaluate the patient's progress toward attainment of expected outcomes. The evaluation:
  - is systematic and ongoing;
  - includes multidisciplinary collaboration and multiple sources of data, including the patient's assessment of progress toward expected outcomes;
  - assesses the effectiveness of interventions and the plan is modified accordingly;
  - is appropriately documented and includes the measurement of effectiveness;
  - includes the use of quality indicators.
- Systematically evaluate the quality and effectiveness of care. ACNPs:
  - participate in an interdisciplinary quality management program and formulate recommendations to improve clinical practice based upon data obtained; and
  - collaborate in the development, evaluation and update of clinical guidelines/standards/pathways, etc. consistent with current science and practice norms.
- Facilitate the use of organizational resources in caring for the patient through the analysis and modification of system enhancements and barriers.
- Evaluate their clinical practice in relation to professional and ethical standards, relevant laws, statutes, and regulations.
- Acquire and maintain current knowledge in advanced practice.
- Contribute to the professional development of peers, colleagues and others.
- Make decisions on behalf of the patient in an ethical manner.
- Critically evaluate and modify existing

practice based upon current research findings.

- Participate in research activities.
- Consider factors related to safety, effectiveness and cost in planning and delivering patient care.
- Develop and implement strategies that have a positive effect upon the political and regulatory processes related to health care systems and the acute care nurse practitioner role.

## II. Educational Preparation

### A. Program of Study

A master's degree in nursing and completion of a graduate-level program for preparation of acute care nurse practitioners are required for certification. Please refer to the Eligibility Requirements for Acute Care Nurse Practitioners for more specific information.

### B. Length of Study

The acute care nurse practitioner program should be a minimum of one (1) academic year of full time study, or its equivalent, as defined by the sponsoring institution. Approximately one-third of the program should be devoted to classroom or didactic experiences and the remaining two-thirds to clinical or preceptorship experiences.

### C. Curriculum

Teaching content and strategy should include, but not be limited to, the following:

#### 1. Values

The certification process is based on certain assumptions regarding ACNP preparation. This includes assumptions regarding values underlying the curriculum and its didactic content.

- a. Theory and research guide the ACNP's analysis of data, choice of interventions, methods of implementation and evaluation of patient outcomes.
- b. The approach to acute care delivery is collaborative and multidisciplinary.

- c. The patient and family are central to health-care decision making.
- d. The ACNP makes a significant contribution to patient welfare, assesses and uses technology appropriately and accepts expanded accountability in acute care delivery.
- e. The ACNP integrates a knowledge of and directs organizational systems to provide structures that promote optimal patient outcomes.
- f. ACNPs and faculty are committed to research, continuing education and ongoing direct patient care practice.

#### 2. Didactic Content

- a. A review and application of theories from the physical and behavioral sciences:
  - Anatomy and physiology
  - Epidemiology
  - Nursing and medical sciences
  - Nutrition
  - Pathophysiology
  - Pharmacology
  - Social Sciences
- b. The decision-making and clinical management process for acutely or critically ill adults:
  - Data gathering techniques (physical and technological) used in assessment
  - Diagnostic reasoning (differential diagnosis and prioritization)
  - Management of acute and chronic health problems
  - Management of instability and co-morbidity
  - Application of technology in patient care
  - Systematic evaluation of potential and actual outcomes
  - Consultation and collaboration
  - Health promotion and risk factor modification
- c. Professionalism in advanced practice:
  - Participation in and

utilization of research

- Systems management
- Education of the patient, family, self and colleagues
- Ethics
- Quality assurance

d. Issues and trends:

- Health policy and legislation
- Prescriptive authority
- Scope of practice
- Credentialing
- Economics of health care

3. Clinical Component

The program should provide supervised clinical and preceptorship experiences that include health assessment, health promotion and advanced assessment, and management of health problems of acutely or critically ill adults. The student should acquire skills in diagnostic reasoning, decision making, consultation, collaboration, appropriate use of technology, the research process, and management of acute or critical care systems.

# Appendix E

## GUIDELINES FOR EDUCATIONAL PREPARATION OF GERONTOLOGICAL NURSE PRACTITIONERS as developed by the BOARD ON CERTIFICATION FOR GERONTOLOGICAL NURSING PRACTICE

### I. Statement of Functions for Gerontological Nurse Practitioner

Upon completion of a formal educational program, gerontological nurse practitioners are able to do the following:

- Elicit a comprehensive health history from the client and/or caregivers, including an evaluation of developmental maturation, physiologic/psychosocial/functional status, cultural orientation, perception of health, health promoting behaviors, risk factors for illness, response to stressors, activities of daily living (instrumental and functional), service utilization, and support systems.
- Complete a comprehensive functional assessment.
- Perform a complete physical examination on the older adult employing techniques of observation, inspection, palpation, auscultation, and percussion.
- Discriminate between normal findings, normal changes of aging, and pathological findings.
- Use pertinent screening tools to determine health status.
- Order and/or perform pertinent diagnostic tests.
- Analyze the data collected to determine health status.
- Formulate a problem list.
- Develop and implement, with the client, caregiver(s), and/or significant other(s), a plan of care to promote, maintain, and restore health.
- Evaluate the client's response to the health care provided and the effectiveness of the care with the individual and others involved in his/her care.
- Modify the plan and intervention as needed.
- Collaborate with other health professionals and agencies as appropriate.
- Record all pertinent data about the client including the health history, functional assessment, physical examination, problems identified, interventions planned and/or provided, results of care, and plans for consultation or referral.
- Coordinate the services required to meet the client's need for primary health care and/or long term care.
- Act as an advocate for the older adult to improve his/her health status.
- Interpret research findings to develop a basis for scientific practice.
- Define the gerontological nurse practitioner role and primary health care scope of practice.
- Identify and implement strategies to strengthen the gerontological nurse practitioner's role in various health care settings.
- Develop and implement strategies that have a positive effect upon the advancement of knowledge; the political and regulatory processes; and systems affecting the health and welfare of older adults, gerontological nurse practitioners, and the health care system.

### II. Educational Preparation

#### A. Program of Study

A master's degree in nursing and completion of a graduate level program for preparation of gerontological nurse practitioners are required for certification. Please refer to the Eligibility Requirements for Gerontological Nurse Practitioners for more specific information.

#### B. Length of Program

The gerontological nurse practitioner program should be a minimum of 9 months or 1 academic year of full-time study, or its equivalent, as defined by the sponsoring institution. Approximately one-third of the program should be devoted to classroom or didactic experiences and the remaining two-thirds to clinical or preceptorship experiences.

#### C. Curriculum

Teaching content and strategy should include, but not be limited to, the following:

- A curriculum based on theoretical foundations and research
- A multidisciplinary approach
- The role of the consumer in health care
- The role of the professional in advanced practice
- The impact of professional, organizational, legal, ethical, and health policy issues on health care
- The commitment to advancing clinical practice through research
- A commitment to and responsibility for continuing education for faculty and students
- A commitment to ongoing clinical practice for faculty

#### 1. Didactic Content

- a. A review and application of theories and concepts from the physical, behavioral, social, medical, and nursing sciences:
  - Aging theories
  - Anatomy and physiology
  - Bioethics

- Change theory
- Decision-making models
- Epidemiology
- Health Belief Models
- Nursing theories
- Nutrition
- Pathophysiology
- Pharmacology and pharmacokinetics
- Psychology
  - Individuals, families, and groups; adult growth and development, including human sexuality; teaching-learning; motivation; intergenerational issues
- Role theory

The decision-making process and clinical management with older adults:

- Communication strategies
- Data gathering techniques including interviewing; health history; developmental assessment; functional assessment; family, social, psychological, cultural, and environmental assessment; physical assessment; and diagnostic procedures
- Risk factors for illness
- Health promotion and maintenance, education, counseling, and anticipatory guidance
- Disease prevention
- Management of common acute, chronic, and functional health problems
- Evaluation of effects of physiologic and psychologic changes of aging on acute and chronic health problems
- Consultation and referral
- Ethical considerations
- Data management, including systematic documentation

#### Research Methods

- Participation
- Utilization

#### Professional and Role Issues in Advanced Practiced

- Credentialing
- Standards of Practice
- Clinical privileges
- Professional organizations
- Reimbursement issues
- Prescriptive authority
- Interdisciplinary practice
- Role functions

#### Legal and Ethical Issues

- Confidentiality
- Values clarification for nurse practitioner and clients
- Informed consent
- Research on elderly clients
- Advocacy and self-determination
- Living wills, powers of attorney, and guardianships.
- Abuse
- Use of restraints
- Expert testimony by nurse practitioners

#### b. Organizational and health policy issues

- Long term care continuum, including institutional, transitional, and community living
- Community services and resources
- Quality assurance
- Peer review
- Access to care
- Availability and acceptability of care
- Allocation of resources
- Health care financing
- Political knowledge and activity

#### 2. Clinical Component

The program should provide supervised clinical and preceptorship experiences which include health assessment, health promotion and advanced assessment, and nursing management of health problems of the older adult population. The student should acquire skills in decision-making, consultation, collaboration, the research process, and the change process needed for optimal functioning as a gerontological nurse practitioner.