Outlines

Outline
- Overview on Certification
- Importance of Certification
  - Individuals
  - Healthcare Organizations
  - Patient Outcomes
  - Professional Support
  - Career Opportunities
- Types of Certifications – Specialty
  - Advanced Practice Registered Nurse
- Criteria for Initial Certification
- Criteria for Renewal of Certification
- Benefits of Graduate and Post Graduate Education
- Summary

Outcomes

- Increased knowledge and appreciation regarding the benefits of certification
- Develop an understanding of specialty and advanced certification and the benefits of graduate and post graduate education
- Increased knowledge and understanding for initial criteria and renewal criteria of certification

Importance of Certification - Individual

- Rising practice standards
- Impact on patient outcomes
- Validation and value of knowledge and skills
- Personal goal

Importance of Certification – Healthcare Organizations

- Demonstrates expertise of staff
- Magnet facilities
- Evidence-based practice
- Boast outcomes to public
Importance of Certification – Healthcare Organizations

- Patient outcomes
- Decreased patient length of stay
- Nurse satisfaction
- Recruitment and retention
- External program indicators
- Unit indicators

Importance of Certification – Patient Outcomes

- Evidence-based practice
- Impact on patient outcomes
- Impact on patient care quality
- Impact on professional satisfaction

Importance of Certification – Patient Outcomes

- Recent Changes
  - Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
    hospitalcompare.hhs.gov
  - Institute of Medicine (IOM)
  - The Joint Commission
    - National Patient Safety Goals (NPSG)
    - Core Measures www.qualitycheck.org
  - Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI)
  - National Quality Forum (NQF)

Studies show nursing units with a higher proportion of certified RNs see the following results:
- Lower fall rate
- Improved patient satisfaction
- Improved quality of care delivered
- More accurate wound identification
- Increased critical thinking

Importance of Certification – Professional Support

- Continuing education
- Available conferences
- Updates
- Employment
- Blog
- Newsletter
- Other benefits

- Nursing excellence in practice
- Visible acknowledgement of competence
- Improved salary
- Professionalism
- Lifelong learning commitment

Importance of Certification – Career Opportunities

- Indicates competence
- Demonstrates professional commitment
- Improves compensation
- Exhibits a focus on lifelong learning
- Increases promotability within the organization
Types of Certifications - Specialty

- Types of certification
- Certification exam
- Examples:
  - Informatics Nursing (RN-BC)
  - Certified Nurse Educator (CNE)
  - Nurse Executive Board Certified (NE-BC)

Types of Certifications – Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)

- Population-based:
  - Family/individual across the lifespan
  - Adult-Gerontology
  - Pediatrics
  - Neonatal
  - Women’s Health/Gender-related
  - Psych/Mental Health

Types of Certifications – Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)

- APRN roles:
  - Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA)
  - Certified Nurse Mid-Wife (CNM)
  - Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)
  - Certified Nurse Practitioner (CNP)

Criteria for Initial Certification

- Certification exam passing score
  - Defined by the certifying body; generally 75 to 80 percent correct answer selection
- Receipt of the exam fee
  - Cost ranges from $150 to $350
- Documentation of specific criteria for that certification
  - Ranges from one to two years of practice in that area
  - Some require signature support from colleagues and/or a leader in that area

Criteria for Renewal of Certification?

- Renew before your certification expires!
- Review criteria for renewal
  - Due date
  - Continuing education
  - Fees
  - Other

Benefits of Graduate Education

Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)

- Nursing informatics
- Healthcare policy
- Nurse executive
- Nurse educator
- Family nurse practitioner
Benefits of Pursuing Masters of Science in Nursing (MSN)

- Building of knowledge and skills
- Enhances thinking and communication skills
- Community of peers
- More competitive
- Application of learned knowledge
- Eligible for certification
- Financial

Benefits of Post Graduate Education

- Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)
- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
- Nurse preparation
- Terminal degrees

Benefits of Pursuing Post Graduate Education

- Employability
- Opening career paths
- Financial
- Intellectual interest
- Society and education

Summary

- How to become certified
- In support of certification
- Sense of accomplishment

Questions?

Thank you for your time and attention!

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