

Perspectives & Action Priorities for Policy

November, 2007

Rita Munley Gallagher, PhD, RN Senior Policy Fellow American Nurses Association





ANA



• ANA represents the interests of the nation's 2.9 million registered nurses through its 54 constituent state and territorial associations and organizational affiliates.



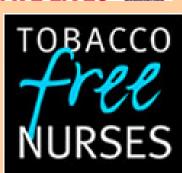
 More than 25 of ANA's constituent member associations serve as collective bargaining agents for nurses.



ANA Initiatives

















CNPE is...

... an organized, deliberative body which brings together the diverse experiences and perspectives of ANA members. The Congress focuses on establishing nursing's approach to emerging trends within the socioeconomic, political and practice spheres of the health care industry by identifying issues and recommending policy alternatives to the Board of Directors.





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ASSOCIATION



CNPE Responsibilities





CNPE Activities

- Position Statement Review and Revision
 - Right to Accept or Reject an Assignment
 - Competence-Competency
- Continuum of Nursing Practice
- Retail Clinics
- Electronic Health Record
- Pay for Performance
- Health Care Reform
- Nursing Credentials
- Approval of Standards
- Revision of the Nursing's Social Policy Statement



"Professional nursing has one scope of practice, which encompasses the range of activities from those of the beginning registered nurse through the advanced level...

Source: Nursing's Social Policy Statement, Second Edition (ANA, 2003)





...While a single scope of professional nursing practice exists, the depth and breadth to which individual nurses engage in the total scope of professional nursing practice is dependent on their educational preparation, their experience, their role, and the nature of the patient population they serve...



...Further, all nurses are responsible for practicing in accordance with recognized standards of professional nursing practice and professional performance. The level of application of standards varies with the education, experience, and skills of the individual nurse...



...Since 1965, ANA has consistently affirmed the baccalaureate degree in nursing as the preferred educational requirement for entry into professional nursing practice...





...Each nurse remains accountable for the quality of care within his or her scope of nursing practice."





These are the perspectives upon which ANA bases its position that the baccalaureate degree in nursing is the educational requirement for the beginning registered or "basic" nurse, a perspective borne out by a number of studies.





In addition, ANA has long supported increased accessibility to high-quality educational and career mobility programs that utilize flexible approaches for individuals seeking academic degrees in nursing.





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Quad Council

of Public Health Nursing Organizations

Discussion







