

The CNL[®] Bulletin

Fall/Winter 2011



The CNL Bulletin, an online newsletter of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) and the Commission on Nurse Certification (CNC), features the latest news and information on the Clinical Nurse LeaderSM (CNL[®]) initiative and the CNL Certification Program.

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2012 CNL Summit

The 2012 Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) Summit will be held at the Hyatt Regency Tampa in Tampa, Florida. The conference is scheduled to begin in the afternoon on January 19 and end at noon on January 21. The Summit provides a forum for all healthcare and academic audiences currently implementing or interested in exploring CNL education and practice. Conference topics will include the impact and value of the CNL role on improving patient outcomes, implementing and sustaining the CNL role across diverse systems of care, the CNL role in quality and safety initiatives, innovations in education, and the complementary relationship between the CNL and other members of the healthcare team, including nurse managers, APRNs, and physicians. In addition to plenary sessions, a variety of concurrent, abstract, and poster presentations allow participants to choose topics of particular interest. Special forums for the Clinical Nurse Leader Association (CNLA) membership, CNL faculty, and nursing/healthcare executives will also be offered. To register and for program information, go to <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Conferences/12CNL.htm>.

CNL Research Symposium

The CNL Research Symposium, a pre-conference workshop held in conjunction with AACN's CNL Summit, will be held on January 19, 2012 from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon at the Hyatt Regency Tampa. Hosted by CNC and the CNLA, the workshop will focus on the CNL and evaluating outcomes.

A panel of CNLs will discuss data collection and analysis, the financial impact of the CNL (return on investment), and presenting data to demonstrate outcomes. Panelists include: Patricia Baker, MSN, RN-BC, CNL, Methodist Healthcare System and South Texas Veterans Health Care System; Mary Stachowiak, MSN, RN, CNL, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey School of Nursing; and Patricia L. Thomas, PhD, MSN, RN, CNL, Trinity Health System. The keynote speaker is John Nelson, MS, RN, PhDc, president for Healthcare Environment, Inc., an international data management and consultation company.

Early registration is \$99; after January 6, 2012, the registration is \$129. Separate registration for the CNL Summit is required. For registration and program information, go to <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Conferences/12CNL.htm>. **Register today! Space is limited. CNL students and faculty are encouraged to attend.**

CNC and CNLA acknowledge the sponsorship of Schroeder Measurement Technologies, Inc. and Plexus Institute.



CNL Webinars and Teleconferences

Did you miss the CNL webinars? The following webinars, hosted by AACN and CNC, have been archived for your convenience:

- A Service and Academic Partnership to Design and Sustain a CNL Program
- Making the Business Case for the CNL
- CNL Outcomes Across Healthcare Settings
- Early Development and Evolution of the CNL

Mark your calendar for CNC's upcoming webinar, *The CNL Job Analysis and Certification Exam*, scheduled February 17, 2012, from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. (Eastern). Registration will be available in December.

In addition, CNC has scheduled the following teleconferences as part of its career services:

- November 18, 2011 – CNL Consulting
- December 2, 2011 – Overview of CNL Recertification (co-sponsored by CNLA)

To access the CNL webinars and teleconferences, go to <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/cnl/professional-development/teleconferences-webinars>.

AACN and CNC Launch New CNL Online Discussion Board

Join the lively conversations already underway by registering for *The CNL Community*, an online discussion board hosted by AACN and CNC. Designed for students and graduates of CNL education programs, as well as practicing CNLs, *The CNL Community* provides a forum to share information and resources, learn about innovative practices and patient outcomes, and network with peers.

CNL students, graduates, and practitioners may log into *The CNL Community* by using the following temporary log-in ID and passcode for first-time log in only (case sensitive):

URL: <http://community.aacn.nche.edu/cnl>

Login ID: CNL

Temp. Password: AACNCNC

Upon entering the site for the first time, you will be prompted to create a new, unique ID and password once you have completed the registration process. For assistance logging into *The CNL Community* or for other technical support, contact Courtney Geanetta, Program Assistant, at cgeanetta@aacn.nche.edu or 202-463-6930, x230. For general information about *The CNL Community*, contact Tracy Lofty, CNC's Director, at tlofty@aacn.nche.edu or 202-463-6930, x242.

NOTE: CNL faculty and education partners should not register with *The CNL Community* but with CNC's discussion board available on www.nurseslounge.com; go to "Commission on Nurse Certification" listed under "Associations."

CNL Certification Exam Changes

Beginning with the April 2012 testing period, the CNL Certification Examination will be offered in a multiple choice format. This format will allow examinees to test in one sitting and receive automatic score results immediately following completion of the exam. In addition, the new exam will reflect a CNL job analysis study. The new format and content will continue to be just as robust as the current certification exam and will include unfolding case study items.

The current CNL Certification Exam is offered in two-parts – multiple choice and simulation. December 2, 2011 will be the last day to register for this exam format; the last testing period for the two-part format is January 9-27, 2012. If an applicant was unsuccessful for one part of the current exam (multiple choice or simulation), the applicant may retest for that section until the January 2012 testing period. As such, if an applicant was unsuccessful in both sections, they may retest the current exam through the January 2012 testing period or register to take the new exam. After January 2012, the applicant would have to complete the entire new multiple choice exam if sitting for the first time or retesting.

The registration fee for the new exam is \$345. The registration fee to retest using the new exam is \$245. Online registration for the new exam will be available in January 2012; a hard copy of the application with new fees is posted on CNC's website. Exam dates and registration deadlines for 2012 are as follows:

Testing Period

(Dates subject to change)

April 30-May 25, 2012

July 16-August 10, 2012

December 3-December 14, 2012

January 7-January 18, 2013

Program Registration & Application Deadline

March 30, 2012

June 15, 2012

November 2, 2012

December 7, 2012

All applicants in CNC's database were notified of the changes via email in April 2011. However, CNC's database does not include the names of all students. Therefore, CNC encourages faculty to notify CNL students of the changes. In addition, students should complete the online request form to be added to CNC's database for CNL certification program updates. See <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/cnl/contact>.

To review the revised CNL Certification Exam blueprint, go to <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/leading-initiatives/cnl/cnl-certification/pdf/ExamContentOutline11.pdf>.

AACN's CNL Resource Coach

Do you need help implementing your CNL education program, structuring an academic-practice partnership around the CNL, or expanding your network of CNL practice sites? Linda Rusch, MS, RN, is AACN's CNL Resource Coach who is available to help



advance the CNL role at the local and national level. Linda can assist you in planning, in the communication-and-roll-out phase, and in the actual implementation of the CNL within the practice environment. She can also assist with financial justification, outcome measurement, and advise you on how to support the CNL over time. Linda has over 30 years of experience in nursing administration and has served as the chief nursing officer and vice president of patient care services at Hunterdon Medical Center in Flemington, NJ. Due to her efforts, Hunterdon Medical Center was at the forefront of the CNL movement and employed the first group of graduates from the College of New Jersey's CNL program. Linda has given

countless presentations across the country on various nursing topics, including "Making the Business Case for the Clinical Nurse Leader." Linda can be reached at lrusch@aacn.nche.edu.

CNL Recertification

If you were certified as a CNL in 2007, you are due to recertify in 2012 – the first recertification cycle for CNL certificants! CNL recertification criteria are as follows:

- **RN Licensure**
Certificants must have a current unencumbered license as a Registered Nurse (RN). It is the responsibility of the certificant to notify the CNC when any restriction is placed on his/her RN license.
- **Professional Practice**
Applicants must attest to their employment status of a minimum **2000 hours in the five year certification period**. Employment may be in any of the following areas of advanced generalist practice, including: direct clinical practice, nursing administration, nursing education, research, and/or consultation. (NOTE: You do not have to be employed in a CNL role to recertify.)
- **Contact Hours/Continuing Education**
Minimum of **50 contact hours** that support the CNL role are required.

Recertification is required once every five years to maintain the CNL credential. The recertification application should be filed with CNC no later than thirty days prior to the expiration. All practice hours, contact hours, and graduate course work must be earned prior to the certificate expiration date to apply towards recertification. Activities towards recertification must have occurred within the five-year recertification period. For more information, go <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/cnl/certification/recertification>.

Winner of CNC's Prize Drawing is Announced



Erika Kappa of the University of Portland is the winner of CNC's prize drawing for an Amazon Kindle. Participants of the drawing were required to request CNL Certification information between August and September 2011. Contact information of all participants was added to CNC's database to receive future CNL certification information. Nearly 100 CNL students participated.

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Qualified candidates will possess a Doctoral or Master's degree (CNL or CNS preferred) with current Texas licensure and BLS certification. A minimum of 5 years of experience, with at least 2 years in a specialty, and exceptional communication skills required. Make your first day exceptional ... at Methodist.

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MethodistHealthCareers.com/081

(Type Keyword "RN IV" in search field)

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CNC's Volunteer Speaking Opportunities

Interested in sharing your knowledge and experience? Become a speaker for CNC!

To submit a proposal for a future CNL webinar, go to

<http://www.aacn.nche.edu/cnl/cnc/get-involved>.

Celebrate Five Years of CNL Certification

CNC proudly announces the fifth anniversary of the CNL Certification Exam in conjunction with the release of the new CNL job analysis study. The CNL Certification Exam was piloted in November 2006. To date, more than 1,700 individuals have earned the CNL credential. To read the full news release, go to

http://www.aacn.nche.edu/leading_initiatives_news/news/2011/cnc.

To celebrate and to advance the CNL role, purchase the new CNL buttons and other merchandise. To order, see <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/cnl/merchandise>.



AACN's Website Updated

AACN's website was recently updated with a new contemporary look, enhanced navigation, and improved functionality. All CNL information is now posted on www.aacn.nche.edu/cnl. Publications and resources are available at <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/cnl/publications-resources> and include the following exam resource materials:

- [CNL Certification Guide](#)
- [Self-Assessment Exam](#)
- [Proctor Manual](#)
- [Recommended Reading](#)
- [AACN's White Paper on The Role of the CNL](#)
- [CNL Exam Review Courses](#)
- [Multiple Choice Tutorial](#)
- [Sample Simulation Item](#)

If your school of nursing offers a CNL review course, please email the review materials to CNC's Director, Tracy Lofty, at tlofty@aacn.nche.edu. Review materials will be posted on the CNL website and the school will be recognized.

Clinical Nurse Leader Association

Join the Clinical Nurse Leader Association (CNLA).
For information, go to <http://www.cnlassociation.org>.

CNL Corner - Announcements

Miriam Bender MSN, RN, CNL has written a brief report of her and her colleague's work developing and implementing a CNL role in an acute care setting. The article is in the July/August issue of *Journal of Nursing Management*, and can be viewed by clicking on this

link: http://journals.lww.com/jonajournal/Citation/2011/07000/Leading_Transformation_Implementing_the_Clinical.3.aspx.

Patricia Boylan, MSN, RN, CNL has been chosen for the position of Patient Safety Manager at Jesse Brown VA Medical Center in Chicago, Illinois.

Michelle Sheets, MSN, RN, CNL and **Jennifer Kareivis, MSN, RN, CNL** of Hunterdon Medical Center in Flemington, New Jersey were recently published in *Nursing Spectrum* for their article *Hunterdon Medical Center Restructures Transport Program*. To read the article, go to

<http://news.nurse.com/article/20110926/NJ02/109260024>

Save the date: **Xavier University School of Nursing and Health Services Administration** graduate programs are hosting an all-day conference on Friday, February 24, 2012 titled *Changes Needed for the Future of US Healthcare*, which will feature national speakers including Marge Wiggins. The focus of the conference is healthcare reform through ACOs, bundled payments, comprehensive primary care, and utilization of medical homes. The roles of the nurse practitioner and CNL in the ACO structure and interprofessional environment will be explored. *This conference is supported by funds from the Division of Nursing, Bureau of Health Professions, Health Resources and Services Administration under grant award #D11HP14614-01-00 and title Nurse Education Practice and Retention (NEPR) for \$1,488,825.00 for the budget period 07/01/2009 through 06/30/2012.*

Advertise in *The CNL Bulletin*

Interested in advertising in the next issue of *The CNL Bulletin*?
Contact Tracy Lofty, CNC's Director, for advertising rates or go to
<http://www.aacn.nche.edu/cnl/cnc/sponsorship>.

Call for Volunteers

CNC Board of Commissioners

CNC has announced that three positions on the Board of Commissioners (CNCBOC) will be available in 2012 – one from the practice setting, one from the academic setting, and one consumer/public position. Each position is for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2012.

The charge of the CNCBOC is as follows:

- Develop bylaws, policies and procedures;
- Outline fiscal and other resources necessary to support the certification program to ensure effective certification and recertification activities;
- Develop annual goals to guide the work of the CNC;
- Design a continuous quality improvement process for the CNL certification process; and,
- Pursue accreditation for the CNL Certification Program.

The CNCBOC's Nominating Committee will evaluate the applications submitted and recommend candidates to fill the vacant positions. The CNCBOC will review the qualifications and make the appointment selection.

The practice and academic representatives must be CNLs. Members of the CNCBOC may not serve on the AACN Board of Directors or any other health professional certifying board and may not serve as item writers for the CNL Certification Exam.

Marketing Committee

CNC is seeking two CNL volunteers to serve on the Marketing Committee beginning July 1, 2012. Service to the Marketing Committee is a two-year appointment (may be reappointed).

The charge of the Marketing Committee is to promote the value of CNL certification. The committee is responsible for developing strategies to:

- Implement, monitor, and evaluate the marketing plan.
- Promote the CNC brand image.
- Educate and market CNL certification to key stakeholders.
- Promote recertification.

The deadline to apply for the CNCBOC and the Marketing Committee is **February 17, 2012**. For more information, about the CNC, go to <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/CNL> or contact Tracy Lofty, CNC's Director, at tlofty@aacn.nche.edu.

CNL Program Staff

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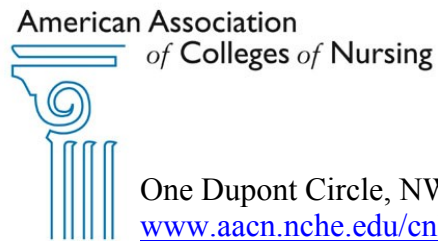
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