



MEDICAL-SURGICAL NURSES – YOUR TURN!

The first certification exam for medical-surgical nurses will be held in April 2010. If you know one of the 42,936 medical-surgical nurses in Canada, please tell them: “It’s time to mark your calendars for exam registration in the fall of 2009, put on a button and get on board!”

The Canadian Association of Medical and Surgical Nurses (CAMSN) was established in 2007. CAMSN’s first mandate was to support national certification for medical-surgical nurses for the purpose of gaining recognition for their competence and excellence in practice. The CAMSN board and its members have been working hard toward this goal. In September 2008, CAMSN received approval of designation and confirmation to move forward with developing the certification exam. Work to date has included the production of national practice standards. These standards will form the framework for the certification exam. CAMSN now has over 400 members, and so far 80 nurses have volunteered to develop the first exam.

This is a historical time of change for medical-surgical nurses in Canada. For more information about CAMSN, please visit the CAMSN website at www.medsurgnurse.ca or contact Nicole Simpson, the association’s secretary, at connor19@telus.net. For more information on the CNA certification program or to get the “Medical-Surgical Nursing – It’s Our Turn!” buttons, please contact Nicole Brunet at nbrunet@cna-aiic.ca.



2008 WINNERS OF THE EMPLOYER RECOGNITION AWARDS

Bloorview Kids Rehab in Toronto is the 2008 recipient of the CNA Certification Program Employer Recognition Award. Nursing staff at the centre submitted the nomination, highlighting the strong commitment of their employer to the certification process. Bloorview Kids Rehab has been instrumental in developing and implementing rehabilitation competency-based study group webcasts, which were presented by nurse experts from across Canada. These webcasts were available to certification candidates from across the country and assisted nurses in their exam preparation.

As 2008 recipient, Bloorview Kids Rehab received \$1,000 from the Canadian Nurses Foundation to help support ongoing activities related to CNA certification and CNA certification renewal.

Honourable mentions recognizing employers who have provided outstanding support to their CNA-certified nurses were awarded to Stedman Community Hospice in Brantford, Ontario, and to the Ottawa Hospital in Ottawa. Four innovation awards were presented to Hôtel-Dieu de Lévis, Lévis, Québec; Middlesex-London Health Unit, London, Ontario; Queensway Carleton Hospital, Ottawa, Ontario; and the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

NEW! CNA CERTIFICATION PROGRAM VIDEO

The Certification Program invites you to borrow a copy of our new DVD promoting the program and to show it to your nursing colleagues. In the video, which is 10 minutes long, certified nurses describe their commitment to their career and their role in the health-care system as well as their desire to challenge their skills and knowledge and ensure that they are practising at a national level of competency. To obtain additional information or to borrow a copy of the video, please contact Nicole Brunet at nbrunet@cna-aiic.ca or by telephone at 1-800-361-8404.



CERTIFIED NURSES HONOURED DURING CNA'S CENTENNIAL YEAR

In honour of its centennial year, CNA recognized 100 registered nurses from across the country for their outstanding personal and professional contributions to the nursing profession in Canada. The recipients of the CNA Centennial Awards were announced during National Nursing Week last May, and their names were highlighted at the CNA biennial convention in June. A special awards ceremony will take place in November in Ottawa. We are proud to announce that fourteen of these nurses are CNA certified:

Jerry Bell, Regina, Saskatchewan,
certified in Emergency Nursing

Gillian Brunier, North York, Ontario,
certified in Nephrology Nursing

Cathy Carter-Snell, Calgary, Alberta,
certified in Emergency Nursing

Sandi Cox, Toronto, Ontario,
certified in Rehabilitation Nursing

Jodi Dusik-Sharpe, Winnipeg, Manitoba,
certified in Neuroscience Nursing

Margaret Farley, Regina, Saskatchewan,
certified in Perioperative Nursing

Priscilla Lockwood, Tofino, British Columbia,
certified in Emergency Nursing

Donalda MacDonald, Toronto, Ontario,
certified in Oncology Nursing

Christina McNamara, Halifax, Nova Scotia,
certified in Gerontology Nursing

Brenda Morgan, London, Ontario,
certified in Critical Care Nursing

Michèle Paquette, Ottawa, Ontario,
certified in Gastroenterology Nursing

Daniel Savoie, Moncton, New Brunswick,
certified in Rehabilitation Nursing

Judith Elaine Simpson, Hubley, Nova Scotia,
certified in Hospice Palliative Care Nursing

Linda Varner, Memramcook, New Brunswick,
certified in Oncology Nursing

CHANGE IN THE LENGTH OF THE CNA CERTIFICATION EXAM: NEW IN 2009

As of April 2009, the CNA certification exam will be administered in one session lasting 3.5 hours. The exam will continue to consist of between 160 and 165 multiple-choice questions. The exam will begin at 9:30 am and end at 1:00 pm. Candidates are asked to arrive at the writing centre at least 30 minutes before the start of the exam.

APPLICATION TIME FRAMES FOR CERTIFICATION IN 2009

Applications for initial certification: please check the CNA website at www.cna-aiic.ca for updates on potential extensions to the application deadline. The date of the exam is Saturday, April 4, 2009.

Applications for certification renewal will be accepted up until November 21, 2008.

Please be informed that once your CNA certification credential has lapsed, you are no longer entitled to use the nursing designation initials after your name.

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CANADIAN NURSES ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION DES INFIRMIÈRES ET INFIRMIERS DU CANADA

