Innovations in Education Regulation Committee
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UNLOCKING THE POSSIBILITIES
THE KEY TO REGULATORY EXCELLENCE
PHILADELPHIA
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NCSBN
National Council of State Boards of Nursing
Committee Members

- Susan Odom, Chair, Idaho
- Linda Burhans, North Carolina
- Cyndy Haynes, West Virginia-RN
- Janice Hooper, Texas
- Pamela Randolph, Arizona
- Nora Steele, Louisiana-RN
- Mary Beth Stepans, Wyoming
- Joyce Zurmehly, Ohio
- Nancy Spector, NCSBN Staff
Background

Call for innovations in nursing education

- Complexities in health care
- National focus on patient safety
- 2003 IOM report
- 2009 Carnegie report on nursing education
March 25, 2008:
NCSBN invited education, regulation and practice leaders to discuss fostering innovation in nursing education:

- Analyzed possible barriers to implementing innovations (by education, practice and regulation).
- Discussed maintaining quality while implementing innovation.
- Discussed the future vision of nursing.
Background

March 26, 2008: NCSBN’s Faculty Shortage Conference:

- Exemplars on innovations in nursing education were presented
- In-depth discussion took place about fostering innovation
Background

- 2007-08 Faculty Qualifications Committee Recommendation:
  - Made recommendations that educators and regulators work together more closely to foster innovation in nursing education.

- Board of Directors established the Innovations in Education Regulation Committee for 2008-09
2008-09 Charges for Innovations in Education Committee

1) Identify real and perceived regulatory barriers

2) Develop a regulatory model for innovative education proposals
Activities to meet charges

- Detailed report that includes:
  - Literature review
  - Definitions
  - Innovation - A dynamic, systematic process that envisions new approaches to nursing education.
  - Regulatory barrier - Real or perceived regulatory parameters that hinder innovation in nursing education.
Activities to meet charges

- Developed 11 premises
- Held conference call with educators
- Developed model for describing the regulatory influences on innovation
Model for describing regulatory influences
Activities to meet charges

- Flyer for BONs with recommendations for fostering innovations
- Flyer for BONs to distribute to educators to begin dialogue on innovations
Activities to meet charges

Developed model rules for fostering innovations for membership to consider:

- Open doors for educators to develop innovations
- Way of building knowledge for quality innovations
- Maintain core quality indicators for public protection
Essentials of the model rules

- Article IX. **Section 3. Provision for innovative approaches in nursing education programs.**

The Board shall, by administrative rule, identify the process for implementing innovative approaches in nursing education programs.
Essentials of the model rules

• Operational definition: Innovative approach – A creative nursing education strategy that departs from the current rule structure and requires Board approval for implementation.
Essentials of the model rules
Purposes:

1) To foster innovative models of nursing education to address the changing needs in health care.

2) To assure that innovative approaches are conducted in a manner consistent with the Board’s role of protecting the public.

3) To assure that innovative approaches conform to the quality outcome standards and core education criteria established by the Board.
Essentials of the model rules

Eligibility Criteria:

1. The nursing education program shall hold full Board approval without conditions.

2. There are no substantiated complaints in the past 2 years.

3. There are no rule violations in the past 2 years.
Essentials of the model rules

Application:

- Specifics provided
- 1-page executive summary
- Jurisdiction decides # of pages (educators suggest limiting to 10)
Essentials of the model rules

Seven standards for approval:

- Key: *The innovative approach will not compromise the quality of education or safe practice of students.*

- Must submit evaluation plan
Essentials of the model rules

Review of application and Board action:

- Must meet standards of approval and eligibility criteria
- Board may limit numbers, based on resources
Essentials of model rules

Periodic evaluation:

- Describes ongoing evaluation
- Discusses remedies for students who might be adversely affected
Essentials of model rules

Request for continuation of innovative Approach:

- Continued approval may be sought if the innovative approach has achieved desired outcomes, has not compromised public protection, and is consistent with core nursing education criteria.
We heard you!

- Membership worried about compromising core standards – is eligibility requirement
- Changed from “waiving” or “exempting” to current legislative language of “innovative approach”
- Length of application limited
Continued concerns

- Limiting numbers of applications
- “Our rules are already flexible enough”
Remember:

- Your Board may not need to incorporate these because your current rules are flexible and allow for innovation, but other Boards would like a template for fostering innovations.

- You can adapt these to meet your needs.
Other committee recommendations for staff:

1. NCSBN will create a Web site to serve as a clearinghouse for those innovative education approaches that Boards of Nursing approve.

2. If the model rules are adopted at the 2009 Delegate Assembly, NCSBN will disseminate that information in NCSBN’s new journal, in Leader to Leader, and in Council Connector, for the purpose of encouraging innovative approaches.
Other Committee Recommendations for Staff:

3. NCSBN will establish a plan to evaluate whether Boards of Nursing have adopted the innovation model rules and whether they have been effective in fostering innovations in nursing education.
“The two most important requirements for major success are: first, being in the right place at the right time, and second, doing something about it.”

~ Ray Kroc
Questions/Discussion