

Next Generation NCLEX® NEWS

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National Council of State Boards of Nursing



Welcome

to the inaugural issue of the Next Generation NCLEX® News publication. Published quarterly, this free newsletter will provide you with the latest information about the work to assess potential changes to NCLEX Examinations.

What is the Next Generation NCLEX (NGN)?

NCSBN Examinations is presently conducting research projects to determine the ability of current and potential innovative items (questions) to assess nursing clinical judgment. This initiative is the Next Generation NCLEX® project.

At the request of NCSBN's NCLEX® Examination Committee, Examinations staff began research to substantiate that the NCLEX is continuing to measure the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary for ensuring safe nursing practice in the evolving nursing practice environment. This research identified the need for high-stakes nursing licensure exams to include a focus on clinical judgment.



The findings from the 2013-2014 NCSBN Practice Analysis also confirmed the importance of sound clinical judgment skills to a significant number of tasks performed by entry-level nurses.

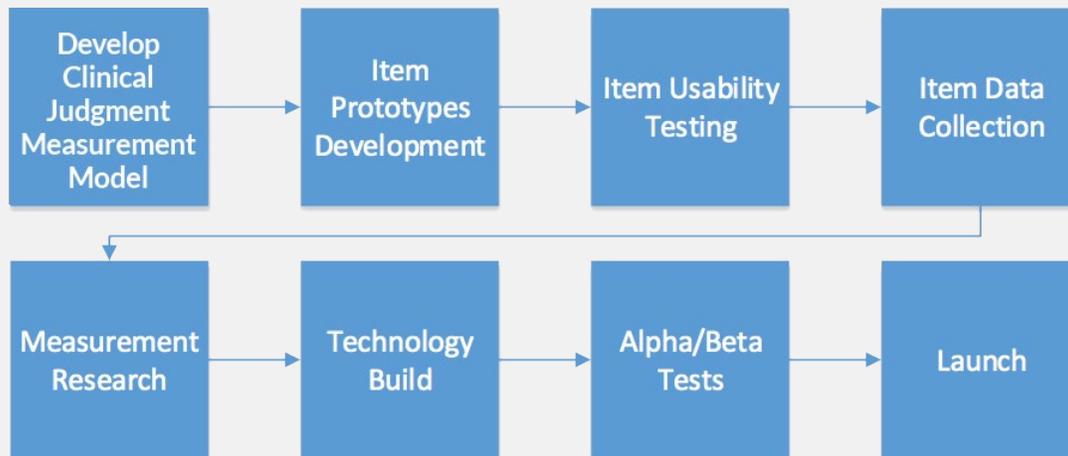
Nurses are responsible for a significant proportion of the judgments and decisions made in health care and we know that newly licensed nurses are required to make increasingly more complex decisions about patients. Adverse events that inpatients endure may be preventable if decisions are based on good clinical judgment. The research findings were corroborated by the inclusion of critical thinking and decision-making skills as an essential component of entry-level nursing education. The findings from the 2013-2014 NCSBN Practice Analysis also confirmed the importance of sound clinical judgment skills to a significant number of tasks performed by entry-level nurses.

Based on these initial findings, additional research was conducted and allowed for the development of a **comprehensive clinical judgment measurement model**. NCSBN research, **literature reviews** and pilot studies identified the following important elements of nursing clinical judgment:

- Cue recognition**
- Hypotheses generation**
- Hypotheses evaluation**
- Taking actions**
- Evaluating outcome**

High-level NGN Overview

The NGN project consists of a number of research projects. If evidence does not support the rigor and quality of the NCLEX at any point in the project, the project and timeline will be reexamined.



Communications about the NGN Project

Over the course of the NGN project, NCSBN Examinations will be communicating updates using a variety of avenues. Communications will include updates on research outcomes, as well as implications for students, educators, regulators and health care organizations.

Looking for updates about the NGN Project?

[Sign up for the email list to receive future issues of this publication](#)

Additionally, a number of communication avenues for information regarding the NGN project are in the works. Stay tuned for NCSBN NGN website pages that will include frequently asked questions and NGN media.

Next Generation NCLEX® News is published by
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