

LEADER *to* LEADER

Nursing Regulation & Education Together

New Publication Debuts from NCSBN

We are pleased to present the National Council of State Boards of Nursing's (NCSBN) first publication of **Leader to Leader: Nursing Education and Regulation Together!** We would like to increase communication and dialogue with educators through this new quarterly publication and we want to keep you updated on our initiatives so that you receive accurate and timely information about the programs and services of NCSBN. We also invite you to visit our Web site at www.ncsbn.org or to contact us with questions by phone at 312.525.3600, or by mail at 111 E. Wacker Drive, Suite 2900, Chicago, IL 60601.

The mission of NCSBN is to provide leadership to advance regulatory excellence for public protection. To do this NCSBN serves as a resource for the 61 boards of nursing in the United States and its territories. NCSBN also develops and administers the NCLEX-PN® and NCLEX-RN® licensing exams for the boards of nursing. Recently NCSBN celebrated its 25th anniversary and is looking forward to continued regulatory excellence.



Video on Delegating Effectively Offers Valuable Advice

NCSBN's Professional Challenges video series includes "Delegating Effectively: Working Through and With Assistive Personnel," a highly comprehensive training program designed to help nurses and nursing students review and learn how to master delegation skills. It outlines a step-by-step approach to insuring the best way to achieve positive client outcomes by working effectively through and with others, specifically assistive personnel.

Like the other topics in the series, the "Delegating Effectively" program includes an engaging video to be used in conjunction with the facilitation materials. The complete package is available for only \$299, but a special discount is also available for readers of Leader to Leader! Mention the code VID0903NE to receive 10% off the purchase price of the "Delegating Effectively" package. Sample clips of the video can be previewed at www.learningext.com.

Details about the Video

The video follows the story of a client in a hospital, Ms. Campbell, and her care by an RN, an LPN and a nurse aide. As her story unfolds, viewers get a first-hand look at how critical the skill of delegation can be.

Throughout the story, red flags appear on the screen when an important step in the delegation process is breached. These areas are then discussed on screen by an expert, Vickie Sheets, JD, RN, CAE, director of Practice and Regulation for NCSBN.

Viewers witness that in the case of Ms. Campbell, the delegation process was in jeopardy from the start. However, viewers also learn that there were numerous points at which the downward spiral could have been halted. Reestablishing the delegation process at any one of these points could have averted disaster.

Accompanying learner activities include discussion questions regarding the video. This and other activities assist the instructor in exploring the gray areas of delegation learners and help them evaluate their delegation skills.

Watch for new CE courses on preventing medication errors, available in October 2003. Check out www.learningextg.com for this and other educational products from NCSBN.

Education Can Decrease Nursing Errors

NCSBN's Research Services recently found that the quality of nursing education impacts errors made in entry-level practice. A 2002 survey of newly licensed RNs and LPN/VNs demonstrated that 49% of the RNs and 41% of the LPN/VNs had been involved in errors within their first months of practice. The new nurses rated their educational preparation for 19 practice setting issues, and were significantly less likely to be involved with errors when they reported adequate education for 6 crucial areas of practice.

A number of other factors were also significantly related to errors. For example, new nurses who worked more hours of overtime were more likely to be involved with errors as were those who experienced communication problems related to language or physicians' orders.

The same study demonstrated the value of preceptorships, mentorships and/or internships in bridging the gap between nursing education and the realities of the practice setting. Transition experiences such as these were compared to typical orientations, and key elements of good transition programs were discovered.

A research brief reporting the results of this study, Spring 2002 Practice and Professional Issues (PPI) Survey, NCSBN Research Brief Volume 7, can be purchased for \$20 from NCSBN. Visit the NCSBN Web site, Resources section, for information on how to order (http://www.ncsbn.org/public/resources/resources_publication.htm).

Lynda Crawford, PhD, RN, NCSBN's director of Research Services, and **June Smith, PhD, RN,** associate director of Research Services, conduct a number of studies that are relevant to nursing education. The NCSBN research Web page is located in the Nursing Regulation section of the NCSBN Web site at: www.ncsbn.org/public/regulation/research.htm, and all of the Research Service's publications are described there.

NCSBN Research Briefs of Interest to Educators

- 2002 RN Practice Analysis (Research Brief Volume 9)
- 2002 Nurse Aide Job Analysis (Research Brief Volume 11)
- 2002 Licensure and Examination Statistics (Research Brief Volume 13)
- Winter 2002 PPI (Research Brief Volume 12)
- Spring 2001 PPI (Research Brief Volume 2)
- 2001 NCSBN Employers Survey (Research Brief Volume 3)

Visit the NCSBN Web site, Resources section, for information on how to order (http://www.ncsbn.org/public/resources/resources_publication.htm).

Coming this fall: NCSBN's 2002 Profiles of Member Boards

This biennial publication details the characteristics of each of the 61 boards of nursing in the United States and its territories. Examples of the type of data included in this publication are which boards of nursing may deem approval to nursing programs that are nationally accredited or which nursing programs have mandated faculty/student clinical ratios. The 2002 publication will soon be available. Visit the NCSBN Web site, Resources section, for information on how to order (http://www.ncsbn.org/public/resources/resources_publication.htm).

NCLEX® Updates from NCSBN Testing Services

New NCLEX-RN® Test Plan

The 2003 Delegate Assembly adopted the new NCLEX-RN® Test Plan. The adopted revisions include allocating new percentage ranges for the test plan subcategories, retaining the format of the test plan and minor edits for currency and clarity. The new NCLEX-RN® Test Plan will be effective as of April 2004, and will be available for free on the NCSBN Web site in Fall 2003. The printed version may also be purchased for \$3 each.

Evaluation of NCLEX-RN® Passing Standard

This year, the NCLEX-RN passing standard will be reevaluated by the NCSBN Board of Directors in conjunction with the changes adopted by the 2003 Delegate Assembly to the NCLEX-RN® Test Plan. This reevaluation ensures that the NCLEX examination reflects the amount of nursing ability currently required to practice competently at the entry level. The NCSBN Board of Directors takes several elements into consideration including the results of an NCLEX-RN® Standard Setting workshop scheduled for September 2003. The NCLEX-RN® passing standard will be reaffirmed or reset by the Board of Directors at its December 2003 meeting. Educational programs will be notified of the final Board approved NCLEX-RN® passing standard by NCSBN Testing Services by mail.

International Testing for the NCLEX® Examinations

The NCSBN Board of Directors approved a set of evaluation criteria for potential NCLEX test center locations to administer the NCLEX examinations outside of NCSBN member board of nursing jurisdictions for the purpose of domestic licensure within NCSBN member board jurisdictions. The NCSBN Examination Committee will investigate several international location options based on the evaluation criteria as part of its business this year. All potential NCLEX international test centers will be Pearson VUE owned and operated test centers. Administration of the NCLEX internationally will not occur before January 2005. To provide feedback on locations for international NCLEX administration please contact NCSBN Testing Services.

Please visit the NCSBN Web site for updates regarding all aspects of the NCLEX program at www.ncsbn.org in the Testing Services section. If you have questions about any aspect of the NCLEX program, please contact NCSBN Testing Services toll-free at 1.866.293.9600 or e-mail nclexinfo@ncsbn.org.

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