

# NURSING CHEAT SHEET: THE MOST IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS FOR NURSING ASSIGNMENTS

- **Registered nurse**

A person, who has graduated from a nursing school, passed the examination on NCLEX-RN as well as licensed by a nursing state board in providing patient care.

- **Licensed practical or vocational nurse**

A person who completed the state-approved vocational or practical nursing program, has passed the NCLEX-RN examination as well as licensed by nursing state board to give patient care. They work under the registered nurse supervision, physician or advanced practice registered nurse.

- **Advanced practice registered nurse**

A registered nurse having a graduated degree as well as advanced knowledge. There are 4 categories of APRNs: clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, certified registered nurse anesthetist and certified nurse practitioner. They also prescribe medications and treatments.

- **Certified medication assistant/aide**

An individual who is being certified in administering medication under a nurse supervision.

- **Certified nursing assistant/aides**

An individual who is certified in assisting with delivery of nursing care to patients. They work under a nurse supervision.

- **Unlicensed assistive personnel**

An unlicensed individual, regardless of his title, performs tasks that is delegated by a nurse, which includes certified nursing assistants/aides, patient care technicians, patient care assistants, nursing assistants-registered, patient care assistants or certified medication assistants/aides.

- **AACRN**

Advanced AIDS/ HIV certified registered nurses who have completed graduate level education that is specialized. They treat patients who have been diagnosed with AIDS/ HIV. They work in order to prevent infection and to help promote family.

- **ACNP**

Acute Care Nurse Practitioners are nurses who are registered and who have completed accredited graduate-level programs in nursing science.

- **AFN**

Advanced forensic nurses who utilize nursing expertise in legal and public proceedings.

- **AHN**

Advanced holistic nurses are registered nurses who completed graduate level nursing programs. They undergone an advanced holistic nursing training. The techniques they are using in treating patients are different from traditional RNs.

- **ANP**

Adult Nurse Practitioners are RNs who mainly focus on the adults primary care; however, in some cases they care for children over 12 years of age.

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## • **Clinical nurse specialists**

CNSs are advanced practice registered nurses who give expert advice to all patients related to certain treatments or conditions pathways.

## • **Environmental health nursing**

It is sometimes referred to occupational nurses and they specialize in safety and health services. Their task is to promote a healthy workplace through programs that is aimed at protecting workers from environmental and occupational hazards.

## • **Faith community nursing**

They are sometimes called as parish nursing that specialized in the field of nursing professional that is focus primarily on intentional care of spirit. The emphasis is placed on minimization or prevention of illness within faith community context.

## • **Certified Aesthetic Nurse Specialists**

They are nurse practitioners or registered nurses who are qualified in assisting patients with the clinical aesthetic treatments.

## • **Certified Ambulatory Perianesthesia Nurses**

It is a practice in nursing specialty involving giving care to patients recuperating or going through from anesthesia.

## • **Certified Breast Care Nurses**

They are registered oncology nurses specializing in assisting women through their breast cancer treatment. CBCNs improve the care for women as well as give essential details and support for needs.

## • **Certified Emergency Nurses**

They are registered nurses working in emergency medical department such as emergency rooms and trauma centers. They specialize in intervening, stabilizing and assessing a variety of illnesses and trauma with a decisive action.

## • **Certified Nurse Executives**

They are responsible for management and administration of patient care services.

## • **Certified Foot Care Nurses**

They are licensed practical nurses, RNs and personal support workers who are certified and trained in the advanced or basic practice of foot care. Personal support workers give basic foot care to patients, while registered nurses in foot care give more advanced care to their patients or clients.

## • **Accountability**

Answerable for one's actions, omissions and judgments related to professional practice, upholding profession values and incorporating maintaining competency.

## • **Action plan**

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- **Capacity**

It is the ability to deliberate, communicate and understand a choice in relation to a certain health care decision at a certain time.

- **Clinical audit**

A quality improvement process seeking to improve care delivery, services and patient's outcomes through review of care against explicit public criteria.

- **Competences**

The understanding, knowledge, ability and practical skill specified in learning outcomes related directly to academic award.

- **Delegation**

The transfer of authority by registered midwife or registered nurse to another individual in performing a certain activity or role that is within the delegator practice scope.

- **Duty of care**

An obligation in performing a particular standard of conduct for protection of other against unreasonable risk of harm.

- **Expanded practice**

An authorized change in an individual RN or registered midwife role, including areas of practice that is not within the scope of his practice.

- **Family-centered care**

A care philosophy that is based on collaborative relationship between health care, family and child.

- **Maternity care**

A care for women when they access services or care during labor, pregnancy as well as birth through women care and their baby in postnatal period.

- **National clinical guidelines**

It is a systematically developed statement that is based on superb evaluation of evidence, assist service and practitioner user's decisions about health care.

- **Practice**

It is any role, whether remunerated or not, where the person uses her or his knowledge and skills as a midwife or nurse, incorporating, indirect and direct patient care.

- **Policy**

It is a written statement indicating the valued and position of organization on a given subject.

- **Quality care**

A care that is safe, person-centered, results and effective in better well-being and health.

## References

<https://www.ncsbn.org/nursing-terms.htm>

<https://www.registerednursing.org/nursing-abbreviations-terms/>

<https://www.nmbi.ie/Standards-Guidance/Glossary>