



## DIRECT CARE PROJECT PART 1 ASSESSMENT AND DIAGNOSIS

Directions: Prior to completing this template, carefully review Week 2: Direct Care Part 1 directions and all rubric requirements.

### Assessment of Certification, Patient Outcomes, and Leadership

1. State the clinical certification and target population that were approved by your instructor in the Week 2: Direct Care Part 1 Assessment and Diagnosis Check-In.
  - a. Clinical certification  
  
Adult Critical Care Registered Nurse (CCRN) Certification
  - b. Target population including setting

The target population is registered nurses who routinely provide care to critically ill patients. The setting is nursing homes.

2. Discuss why this clinical certification was selected in relationship to the selected setting.

Sometimes, patients in nursing homes may develop medical complications. Hence, the nurses must have the knowledge and skills to provide urgent acute care before seeking further interventions.

3. Describe the criteria for selected clinical certification
  - a. Process to obtain clinical certification

The process entails five steps:

- i. Access the CCRN Exam Handbook from the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN). One should review the handbook to ensure they meet the eligibility criteria.
- ii. Apply for the certification online by visiting [www.certcorp.org](http://www.certcorp.org). A successful application prompts the receipt of a confirmation email.
- iii. The AACN then sends a 'Receive Approval to Test Email.'



- iv. The candidate identifies a convenient testing center on [www.goAMP.com](http://www.goAMP.com) books their exam, including date and time.
- v. The candidate takes the exam after if they receive the accreditation if they are successful.

b. Cost of application and testing

The application and testing cost is 245 USD for AACN members and 360 USD for non-members.

c. Requirements prior to certification

Candidates should have an active and unencumbered registered nurse (RN) or Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) licensure. For the two-year option, candidates should have at least 1,750 acute/critical care practice hours, with 875 being in the past year. For the five-year alternative, one must have at least 2,000 hours of direct critical/acute care practice, with 144 being in the past year.

d. Examination description

The exam has 150 multiple-choice questions, which candidates must respond to within three hours. Twenty-five questions are for data collection.

e. Renewal time and process

The renewal period is three years. The renewal process involves verifying continued practice and paying the renewal fee.

f. Required items for renewal

Nurses must have at least 800 critical/acute care practice hours, with 100 being in the last year.

g. Provide APRN reference for one year involved scholarly, professional nursing journal article connecting patient outcomes, clinical certification, and leadership skills. One reference article under direction and include format.

Lee, F., Chen, L., & Saliva, A. (2020). [C]RN Certification: Why it Matters. *Nursing Critical Care*, 15(3), 38-41.  
https://journals.lww.com/nursingcriticalcare/Fulltext/2020/03000/CRN\_Certification\_Why\_it\_Matters.aspx

h. Summary of article (one to two paragraphs)



Lim et al. (2020) review how CCRN certification enhances patient outcomes, advances nursing career and promotes institutional growth. Acute care facilities with a high ratio have better health outcomes than those with a lower number. The certification also helps nurses advance the knowledge and skills. Therefore, they gain more confidence in their actions and decision-making processes. Finally, CCRN certification helps an institution improve its care quality by enhancing care coordination and outcomes.

6. How could **patient outcomes** in the selected setting be improved by certified nurses?

Certified nurses in nursing homes could aid the residents by reducing fall incidences. The certification teaches nurses how to provide holistic care to critically-ill patients. Thus, they will know what assistance to provide to different patients to ensure that they do not fall off their beds or as they try to move.

7. How can clinical certification impact **leadership skills** in the selected setting?

The CCRN certification enhances nurses' decision-making skills. They will be more confident when facing challenging situations, thereby becoming effective leaders.

#### **Problem (Diagnostic Statement)**

Write a diagnosis based on the problem of knowledge deficit of certifications. Fill in the blanks below.

*Example: Knowledge deficit of (NCC) certification among operating room nurses (target population and setting) as manifested by wrong site surgeries (patient outcomes)*





Knowledge deficit r/t CCRN certification among registered nurses working in nursing homes (target population and setting) as manifested by patient falls (patient outcomes).