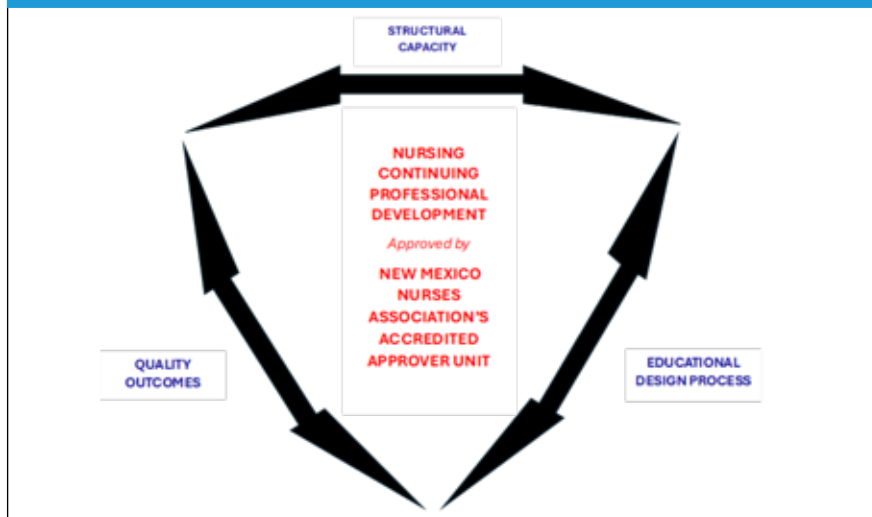


Figure 1. NMNA Donabedian Model for NCPD



excellent. The NCPD contact hours that NMNA AAU approves are accepted by Boards of Nursing to meet re-licensure requirements because of this.

For more information, please visit our website at <https://nmna.nursingnetwork.com>.

NCPD and the New Mexico Nurse Practice Act

It is required for nurses to become familiar with the NM Nursing Practice Act (NPA) and recommended to keep the law and the rules where they can be easily referenced.

The references for this article are the NM Nursing Practice Act (NPA) and the Rules can be found at this link:

<https://www.bon.nm.gov/laws-rules/>

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Please remember, the NPA is the law, passed by the legislature and signed by the governor. Important Excerpts from the NM NPA

From the Rules, Part 2:

16.12.2.10 CONTINUING EDUCATION: A. Introduction:

(1) Pursuant to the provision of the Nursing Practice Act, the board of nursing prescribes the following regulations establishing requirements for CE to be met by the licensee to protect the health and well-being of the citizens of New Mexico and to

promote current nursing knowledge and practice.

2) Philosophy of CE: The members of the New Mexico board believe that CE is one of the most important responsibilities of the nurse and is a lifelong process. The primary responsibility for CE rests with the individual nurse. A diversity of nursing-related learning activities is recommended to enhance the scope of professional development.

16.12.2.10.C. Approved continuing education: To be acceptable in New Mexico, the CE activity must have been approved by a recognized approval body and must enhance the licensee's scope of professional development as related to their activities in nursing. The participant must receive a certificate of attendance which validates the number of approved CE hours awarded, name of the participant, sponsoring agency, approval body and date attended. Correspondence courses and home-study programs are acceptable, if approved.

(1) Recognized approval bodies for CE for nurses: (a) National or state recognized nursing organizations; (b) Other state boards of nursing; and (c) New Mexico board approved local monitoring systems.

If you are currently in school, please note:

(2) Other CE which may be accepted as approved CE for nurses: (a) academic credit, computation: one academic credit equals 15 contact hours; 16.12.2 NMAC 8 (b) CE units (CEUs) or contact hours awarded by CE divisions within educational institutions of higher learning; (c) educational offerings approved through other generally recognized health care or professional organizations as related to licensee's nursing practice.

Academic credit, computation: one academic credit equals 15 contact hours if a 16-week course and one academic credit equals 10 contact hours if an 8-week course. The "generally recognized health care or professional organizations" includes those continuing education courses with approval: AMA, Graduate Medical Education, etc.

If you are an RN with a national certification

16.12.2.10.E. Certification or recertification in the registered nursing specialty area: Certification or recertification granted by a national professional organization which uses criteria designed to recognize competence in a specialized area of nursing practice may be used as approved CE. Verification of certification or recertification within the current renewal period is accepted in lieu of the 30 hours of CE required for licensure.

From the Rules, Part 1: Certification and certified versus certificate:

16.12.1.7 DEFINITIONS:

C. Definitions beginning with the letter C:

- (1) "certificate" means a legal document granting permission to an unlicensed person to perform specific functions considered the practice of nursing;
- (2) "certificate of completion" means a piece of paper or diploma awarded after the completion of an educational or vocational training. A cer-

Table 1

Requirements of Continuing Education by Licensure Type

Licensure	Continuing Education Requirement				
	Contact Hours Required	APRN National Certification	National Certification in RN Specialty	Aesthetics National Certificate (Required)	Five (5) hours of non-cancer pain management education
APRN	Certification meets RN & APRN required contact hours	Required for licensure		Required if an aesthetics health facility is the location of the practice	Required if the APRN has a DEA license
RN	30 contact hours every two (2) years		Desired and in lieu of required contact hours	Required if an aesthetics health facility is the location of the practice	
LPN	30 contact hours every two (2) years				

tificate of attendance or completion does not convey mastery and is often followed by clinical demonstration to confirm knowledge transfer; the presence of a certificate alone does not mean certification or certified.

(3) "certification", means approving a professional for their eligibility for a role by an authority; it is evidence of mastery of knowledge and skills, such as national standards, by passing an exam or meeting industry standards; it requires ongoing continuing education and demonstration of competence in the specialty field; a licensee with a certification can be said to be certified.

If you are an APRN you are required to have a national certification:

Certification or recertification in the advanced practice registered nursing specialty area granted by a national professional organization which uses criteria designed to recognize competence in a specialized area of nursing practice may be used as approved CE. Verification of certification or recerti-

fication **within the current renewal period** is accepted in lieu of the 30 hours of CE required for licensure.

If you are an APRN who prescribes controlled substances your five (5) hours of non-cancer pain management must include the following. From the Rules Part 9:

16.12.9.10 NON-CANCER PAIN MANAGEMENT CONTINUING EDUCATION: Any advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) with a drug enforcement agency (DEA) registration and licensure that permits prescribing opioids, shall obtain continuing education on the management of non-cancer pain. These practitioners shall be required to obtain five contact hours every renewal period to include a review of these rules 16.12.9 NMAC for management of non-cancer pain, an understanding of the pharmacology and risks of controlled substances, a basic awareness of the problems of abuse, addiction and diversion, and awareness of state and federal regulations for the pre-

scription of controlled substances. [16.12.9.10 NMAC - Rp, 16.12.9.10 NMAC 5/21/2024]

If you are a registered nurse, including advanced practice registered nurses, working in an aesthetic healthcare facility, and you are not being directly supervised by an APRN certified in aesthetics, you must have a national certification. Said another way, if you are in training and being precepted for the necessary hours to sit for a national aesthetics certification, you must be directly supervised by an on-site APRN with aesthetics certification. Please read Part 14 carefully: 16.12.14.8.C EDUCATION AND SCOPE OF PRACTICE.

The main take-away is that the NM Board of Nursing and NMNA Accredited Approver Unit are focused upon the quality continued learning of nurses. The approved contact hours are only a way to show that actual learning was experienced by participants. And, finally, it is that learning which leads to higher quality practice and improved patient outcomes. ■

References

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