

Increasing Cost Effectiveness

“CNL outcomes include a 16% reduction in one unit’s yearly NIM rate producing a savings of over \$240,000, 20% reduction in falls, 22 months of being VAP free, 28 months of being Central Line Infection free and 11% increase in foley removal. These all can be quantified as cost avoidance and a huge savings for any healthcare organization.”

Linda Rusch, MS, RN, AACN CNL Resource Coach
Past CNO of Hunterdon Health Care System, Gainesville, FL

“The rate of PICC catheter related blood stream infections (CRBSIs) in catheters placed by an in-house vascular access (combined role dedicated to Interventional Radiology: Acute Care Nurse Practitioner and Certified Clinical Nurse Leader-NP/CNL) has dropped to ZERO PICC CRBSIs in 2007-present thus far, saving patient lives (IHI’s 5 MILLION LIVES/CENTRAL LINE BUNDLE), decreased patient morbidity and mortality associated with PICC line placement, decreased LOS, and cost avoidance of \$1,260,000 to the medical center.”

Michele Biscossi, ACNP-BC, MS, RN, CNL
Stratton VA Medical Center, Albany, NY



Employers: Your Next Step!

CNLs are change agents utilizing unique competencies in various healthcare settings. Now it’s your chance to recruit certified CNLs to make today’s healthcare system the system of tomorrow!

- ▶ Post open positions on the CNL Job Bank: AACNNursing.org/CNL
- ▶ Access employer resources online: AACNNursing.org/CNL
- ▶ View CNL videos at the Clinical Nurse Leader YouTube channel: Youtube.com/user/clinicalnurseleader

About the Commission on Nurse Certification

The Commission on Nurse Certification (CNC) is the autonomous certifying body of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN). The mission of the CNC is to oversee Clinical Nurse LeaderSM (CNL[®]) certification activities to assure communities of interest that certificants have met accepted standards of practice. The CNL certification process is governed by the CNC Board of Commissioners (CNCBOC). The CNCBOC and staff are solely responsible for the policies and administration of the CNL Certification Program.



Accreditation

The Clinical Nurse Leader Certification Program is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA).



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The Clinical Nurse LeaderSM



*The Value and Impact of Certified CNLs[®]
on Healthcare Delivery*

Why Hire a Certified Clinical Nurse LeaderSM?

As an employer, you want to hire the most qualified, dependable nurse leaders available. Clinical Nurse LeadersSM (CNLs[®]), certified by the Commission on Nurse Certification, provide better coordination of care across healthcare settings in complex situations.

Benefits to Employers

By having a certified CNL on staff, your healthcare delivery system can achieve:

- 1 The best evidence-based practice quality patient care available, patient safety, clinical outcomes and staff satisfaction due to unit efficiency.
- 2 Reduction in costs, process improvement and improved standards of care with the use of evidence-based practice.
- 3 Enhanced promotion to patients and the public that your healthcare team adheres to nationally-recognized standards.

How CNLs[®] View Their Skill Set

In 2015, CNC surveyed CNLs around the nation who maintained their credentials to learn how certification impacts their nursing career and the healthcare setting in which they practice:

- ▶ 97% indicated that they are able to apply their CNL knowledge and skills in their current job.
- ▶ 91% indicated that they are an important member of their interdisciplinary team.
- ▶ 92% of CNLs are valued as an employee because of their CNL knowledge and skills.

The majority of survey respondents indicated that they often:

- ▶ Suggest a cost-saving idea or process that improves institutional efficiency
- ▶ Use aggregate data sets to improve care
- ▶ Participate in institutional-wide committees to promote safety and quality care
- ▶ Assimilate research-based evidence to improve outcomes
- ▶ Conduct microsystems analysis to improve institutional outcomes
- ▶ Develop educational materials for patients or staff



The Clinical Nurse LeaderSM

The CNL[®] is a master's educated nurse, prepared for practice across the continuum of care within any healthcare setting in today's changing healthcare environment. CNLs[®] provide efficient and cost-effective patient care as well as the leadership needed to repair fragmented care delivery across settings. Practice settings report that CNLs have a measurable impact on the quality of nursing services by:

- ▶ Raising patient, nurse, and physician satisfaction while improving care outcomes and realizing sizable cost-savings.
- ▶ Elevating the level of practice for all nurses in the unit by promoting critical thinking and innovation in nursing care.
- ▶ Constructively managing change and promoting a team-based approach to care.
- ▶ Understanding the bigger picture, including outcomes and patient satisfaction when considering next steps, needed changes and improvements to the setting.



Nationwide, more than 5000 certified CNLs improve patient care in all practice settings where healthcare is delivered, and instruct or administer in over 100 nursing schools.

Performing the CNL[®] Skill Set

The CNL[®] was developed by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) in 2003 to help improve patient care and decrease fragmentation in the healthcare delivery system. In practice, the CNL skill set is performed differently depending on the healthcare setting. The following is an overview of skill sets performed by CNLs.

“The CNL applies advanced competencies in nursing leadership, clinical outcomes, and care environment management to:

- ▶ Lead and sustain a culture of interdisciplinary collaboration as a basis for delivery of safe, comprehensive care.
- ▶ Laterally integrate care services efficiently and cost-effectively across disciplines and care settings.
- ▶ Apply evidence-based criteria for measuring the quality of care delivery and lead quality improvement processes based on evidence.
- ▶ Become a professional advocate for holistic, defragmented, patient-centered care at the microsystem, organizational, and political level of healthcare practice.”

Miriam Bender, PhD, RN
Assistant Professor, Nursing Science Program
University of California, Irvine, CA

The Growing Impact of the CNL[®]

CNLs are making a difference in the delivery of healthcare across the broad spectrum of practice settings by:

Improving Patient Outcomes

“Outcomes from a CNL in the Geriatric Evaluation and Management Clinic include post hospitalization follow-up calls made over a nine month period to determine home safety that helped reduce falls by 75%, with a cost avoidance of \$100,000. Another process improvement project focusing on clinic exit interview reduced phone calls by 89% and increase medication adherence by 67%.”

Mary Mather, MSN, RN, CNL, Nurse Manager
South Texas VA Medical Center, San Antonio, TX

Bridging Gaps on Interdisciplinary Teams

“CNLs work collaboratively with the unit nurse manager, physicians, dietitians, case managers, quality/risk managers, clerical staff, nurse educators and departments such as infection control, housekeeping, physical therapy, occupational therapy, social service, pastoral service, information technology, radiology, laboratory, pharmacy, and data support systems to enhance lateral integrated care.”

Patricia Baker, MSN, RN-BC, CNL
Methodist Hospital, San Antonio, TX

Certified CNLs[®] Work in Many Different Settings

- ▶ Community Outpatient Centers
- ▶ Healthcare Systems
- ▶ Home Health Care
- ▶ Homeless Shelters
- ▶ Hospitals
- ▶ Institutions of Higher Education
- ▶ Non-Profit Organizations
- ▶ Private Practice
- ▶ Rehabilitation Centers and much more!

