Register Now for CE Updates

Registration is now open for both the Alaska and Montana CE Updates. Please use this link to register:

Alaska: https://mtnurses.wufoo.com/forms/xg6rlmg1wz7tl5/

Montana: https://mtnurses.wufoo.com/forms/xeld5tk0ojwe0v/

We look forward to seeing you soon! Please remember that there will not be a May newsletter, since we’ll be sharing in person.

Provider Annual Survey Results

We are pleased to provide you with the results of the annual survey data in this newsletter. Overall, the evidence is strong that you are doing excellent work in planning, implementing, and evaluating your continuing nursing education activities. We’ve also identified some opportunities for improvement that will be addressed in provider updates and upcoming newsletters.

Quantitative Data – aggregated based on input from 29 approved provider units in 5 states

Activity Data for MNA Approved Providers (last two year’s data provided for benchmarking purposes):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Activities Offered</th>
<th>Number of Participants</th>
<th>Number of Contact Hours Offered</th>
<th>Number of Jointly Provided Activities</th>
<th>Number of Activities Receiving Commercial Support</th>
<th>Amount of Commercial Support Received</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>1,769</td>
<td>42,386</td>
<td>7,029</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>$15,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1430</td>
<td>48,608</td>
<td>5,940</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$2,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1496</td>
<td>43,995</td>
<td>6,393</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$3,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nurse planner information (includes primary nurse planner):

✓ Average number of nurse planners: 5 (maximum = 21, minimum = 1)
✓ Total number of nurse planners: 124
✓ Number of nurse planners with master’s degree or higher: 50*
✓ Number of nurse planners certified in any practice area: 68*

*The survey did not explicitly ask for this information, so some may not have included all of their credentials

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COI Questions:

The nurse planner for an activity on women’s health is the author of an article that recently appeared in a peer-reviewed nursing journal on the topic of osteoporosis. Does she have a conflict of interest?

1. Yes - 5
2. No - 72
3. Not enough information – 44

ANSWER:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Does she have the ability to control content?</th>
<th>Yes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does she have a financial relationship with a commercial entity</td>
<td>No; the publisher of the journal is not a commercial entity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is the topic of the presentation related to the products of the commercial entity?</td>
<td>Not applicable based on information available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:

1. Correct answer is 2.
2. Some people commented that the author might have been paid by a commercial entity to write an article – while theoretically possible, this is highly unlikely in a peer reviewed journal.
3. Some people commented that you would want to know more about the topic – if she is talking about heart disease in women, for example, there would be no relationship to an article on osteoporosis. While true, that question is irrelevant if the presence of a commercial entity has already been ruled out.
4. No resolution is required; no disclosure to learners is needed.
5. For this question, the successful response rate is 60%. For the same question last year, the successful response rate was 49%. Progress!

Tom Jones is invited to speak on the topic of heart disease in patients with diabetes. He shares that he is on the speakers’ bureau for Eli Lilly. Does he have a COI?

1. Yes - 74
2. No - 2
3. Not enough information - 46

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Ruth Wilson is on the agenda to present at a conference on precepting. She states that she does not have any financial relationships with commercial interests. However, she provides you with a bio sketch to be used in her introduction, which includes the fact that, for 5 years, she was a manager at Wyeth. Does she have a COI?

1. Yes - 0
2. No - 83
3. Not enough information - 33

**ANSWER:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Does she have the ability to control content?</th>
<th>Yes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does she have a financial relationship with a commercial entity</td>
<td>Maybe – remember that financial relationships are relevant if they currently exist or have been in place in the past 12 months.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Is the topic of the presentation related to the products of the commercial entity?  No

Notes:
1. Correct answer is 2.
2. There are no products consumed by or used on patients that are related to the topic of precepting. Therefore, the answer to the final question is “no”.
3. Some people wanted more information about her role as a manager with Wyeth or how long ago the relationship ended. There would be no reason to ask about her relationship with Wyeth, because the answer to the final question is “no”. If the answers to any of the three questions are “no”, there is no conflict of interest. No further investigation is required.
4. No resolution is required; no disclosure to learners is needed.
5. For this question, the successful response rate is 72%. For the same question last year, the successful response rate was 70%.

Summary of Responses to Knowledge/Skill/Comfort with 2015 Criteria: 2015 RESPONSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Low</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>High</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>My current level of knowledge about the 2015 accreditation program criteria is...</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My current level of skill in using the criteria to develop an educational activity is...</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My current comfort level in working with a planning committee to determine desired outcomes for an educational activity is...</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My current comfort level in measuring outcomes at the end of an activity is...</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MEAN:** 10  59.75  30.25

Summary of Responses to Knowledge/Skill/Comfort with 2015 Criteria: 2016 RESPONSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Low</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>High</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>My current level of knowledge about the 2015 accreditation program criteria is...</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My current level of skill in using the criteria to develop an educational activity is...</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My current comfort level in working with a planning committee to determine desired outcomes for an educational activity is...</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My current comfort level in measuring outcomes at the end of an activity is...</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MEAN:** 7.75  65.25  26.25

Montana Nurses Association is accredited with distinction as an approver of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.
Changes from 2015 to 2016:
“Low” scores decreased by 22%
“Medium” scores increased by almost 10%
“High” scores decreased by 13%

Here’s an example of how MNA used this data collection process to demonstrate the effectiveness of our approver unit in supporting development of nurse planners when we did our own self-study in 2016.

Our Quality Outcome Measure for 2016 demonstrating professional development of nurse planners (similar to your OO4b – what you have collected over the past 12 months specific to nursing professional development): Approved provider unit nurse planners will report improvement of at least 30% in knowledge, skills, attitudes, and performance as measured on 1/1/16 and 1/1/17.

Beginning data: We collected the initial data from you in January of 2016 when you completed your 2015 provider surveys. Obviously, we did not have the full year of data to share when we submitted our self-study in June. Therefore, we asked those of you who attended the provider update in April (AK) and May (MT) to respond to the same questions we asked on the initial survey and included those in our self-study to reflect the mid-point gain trend, with full awareness that not everyone who completed the January survey attended one of the provider update sessions. Therefore, a specific comparison was not feasible, but we could look at the trend, which showed improvement.

End-point data: We asked the same questions one final time with the provider survey in January of 2017, with the results as noted above. There were several primary nurse planner changes and a number of new nurse planners added to your approved provider units, which impacted the data. However, we are encouraged that the overall trend is a substantial decrease in the number of nurse planners scoring themselves as “low” in both knowledge and skill areas combined with an increase in the number of people scoring themselves as “medium”. The decrease in scores for those considering themselves in the “high” category is attributable in large part to the turnover. While we didn’t quite hit our 30% target, we are pleased with the shift toward more people perceiving a moderate level of knowledge and skill in these critical areas. Additionally, we have been able to identify specific areas of concern for future interventions. This will help us modify our outcome measure, thus providing an answer to QO2: how we developed or changed a quality outcome measure based on evaluation data.

Hopefully, this will provide ideas for how you can aggregate data in your own provider units to look at trends over the course of a year that show how you are making a difference in the professional development of nurse learners.
NARS Update

For primary nurse planners: Thank you so much for your participation in our Nursing Activity Reporting System (NARS) webinars over these past 3 weeks. We appreciate your flexibility in incorporating a webinar into your busy schedules. Remember that you can have up to 4 additional users to input data into your system – it is up to you how you handle that, and we do not need to know who those additional people are. If there is a change in your primary nurse planner, however, remember that we do need to know that, as well as you making the change in your NARS system.

You should be inputting data for each 2017 activity into NARS. Once you have your January, February, and March data entered, additional activities can be added as they occur – or you can enter planned activities in advance, then just enter the number of participants after the activity to “close” the activity file. Please remember that each time you repeat an activity, the repeated session must be entered as a new activity with the new date. Use the copy feature on the activity page to eliminate the need to manually enter all of the course information. The only activities that are NOT entered as separate events are those that are part of a regularly scheduled series, like nursing grand rounds or a journal club with regularly scheduled sessions.

We have had very few questions and several positive comments about your initial experience with the system. We are pleased with how well the initial implementation has gone, and we’re sure it will make your data collection and reporting easier. One thing that we have clarified with ANCC’s Accreditation staff is that “participants” should be the number of people who attended the activity, not necessarily the number who received certificates. The specific question we had related to people who attend the activity but do not go online to get their certificates – yes, they are counted in the total number of people who completed the activity.

Please do remember that if you have questions about NARS, contact MNA, not the Accreditation program office as stated on your initial email. If we can’t answer your question, we will get the answer for you from ANCC. They are working with the accredited organizations; it is our responsibility to provide that support for our approved providers.

Upcoming MNA Events, Activities, and Opportunities

Healthy Nurse Webinars
First Wednesday, April - Dec, 2017

Continuing Education Provider Update Alaska
April 27–28, 2017 Anchorage, AK

Continuing Education Provider Update Montana
May 4-5, 2017 Helena, MT

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**MNA Annual Convention**  
October 4-6, 2017  
Helena, MT

**Seamless Health Care for Veterans Conference**  
November 9, 2017  
Helena, MT

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**National Professional Development Conferences in 2017**

**Continuing Nursing Education Symposium (ANCC)**  
July 18, 2017  
New Orleans, LA  
Registration open at [http://www.nursecredentialing.org/Accreditation/Accreditation-Misc-Pages-Category/CNESymposium](http://www.nursecredentialing.org/Accreditation/Accreditation-Misc-Pages-Category/CNESymposium)

**Association for Nursing Professional Development (ANPD)**  
July 18-21, 2017  
New Orleans, LA  
Registration open at [http://www.anpd.org/?page=Registration](http://www.anpd.org/?page=Registration)

**Professional Nurse Educators’ Group (PNEG)**  
November 10-12, 2017  
Pittsburgh, PA  
[http://www.pneg.org](http://www.pneg.org)  
Registration will open soon

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