Back to Basics: Guideline Review and Commenting 1.1 www.aorn.org/CE

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Event: #15544 **Session:** #0001

Fee: Members \$8.80, Nonmembers \$17.60

The contact hours for this article expire November 30, 2018. Pricing is subject to change.

Purpose/Goal

To provide the learner with knowledge of best practices related to reviewing and commenting on AORN guidelines.

Objectives

- 1. Discuss common areas of concern that relate to perioperative best practices.
- 2. Discuss best practices that could enhance safety in the perioperative area.
- 3. Describe implementation of evidence-based practice in relation to perioperative nursing care.

Accreditation

AORN is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

Approvals

This program meets criteria for CNOR and CRNFA recertification, as well as other CE requirements.

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Conflict-of-Interest Disclosures

Ramona L. Conner, MSN, RN, CNOR; Lisa Spruce, DNP, RN, ACNS, ACNP, ANP, CNOR, CNS-CP; and Rodney W. Hicks, PhD, RN, FNP-BC, FAANP, FAAN, have no declared affiliations that could be perceived as posing potential conflicts of interest in the publication of this article.

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ABSTRACT

Professional guidelines are based on evidence. AORN develops the Guidelines for Perioperative Practice based on a review of pertinent evidence; however, perioperative nurses should participate in the review and public commenting process for these practice guidelines. This article explains how nurses can participate to strengthen the guidelines and help make them accurate and applicable to perioperative practice. AORN J 102 (November 2015) 508-512. © AORN, Inc, 2015. http://dx .doi.org/10.1016/j.aorn.2015.08.006

Key words: quidelines, evidence for practice, perioperative practice, evidence review.

he AORN Guidelines for Perioperative Practice¹ provide the foundation for professional, evidence-based, perioperative nursing practice. Every perioperative RN has a responsibility to actively participate in the development and review of their professional guidelines. This participation is achieved through the public commenting process. Comments received from perioperative RNs strengthen the guidelines because they provide AORN with input from RNs practicing in a wide variety of facilities, specialties, roles, and locations throughout the United States and other countries. Although anyone may review and submit comments during the public commenting period, it is especially important that perioperative RNs and other members of the surgical team participate in the review process.

The AORN Guidelines for Perioperative Practice comprises a collection of 32 guideline documents that address a wide range of topics from surgical attire to the prevention of transmissible infections. The guidelines are developed, reviewed, revised, and updated every five years to provide current recommendations based on the highest level and quality of evidence available. As each guideline is revised, the draft guideline is posted at http://www.aorn.org for a 30-day public commenting period. Figure 1 shows the guideline creation process.

The lead author of the guideline and the editor-in-chief review all comments; consider them for inclusion in the final published guideline; decide whether to accept, accept with modification, or reject the comment; and amend the guideline draft as needed based on relevant comments. When submitting a suggested change, it is crucial for the participant to cite evidence to support the change and provide a rationale for the change. Without these important pieces of information, the guideline author may not find the suggestion persuasive and may not amend the draft to incorporate the suggested change.

HOW-TO GUIDE

Submitting a successful comment can be achieved by following these recommendations. To be persuasive, comments should

- use professional language,
- suggest alternative text,
- provide supporting evidence, and
- be courteous and respectful.

Using courtesy and professionalism when presenting a comment makes it more likely that the comment will influence the final guideline document. Alternative text should be

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