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Consensus Statement of Standards for Interventional Cardiovascular Nursing Practice

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Interventional cardiovascular nursing is a critical care nursing specialty providing complex nursing interventions to patients prone to clinical deterioration, through the combined risks of the pathophysiology of their illness and undergoing technically complex interventional cardiovascular procedures. No guidelines were identified worldwide to assist health care providers and educational institutions in workforce development and education guidelines to minimise patients' risk of adverse events.

The Interventional Nurses Council (INC) developed a definition and scope of practice for interventional cardiac nursing (ICN's) in 2013. The INC executive committee established a working party of seven representatives from Australia and New Zealand. Selection was based on expertise in interventional cardiovascular nursing and experience providing education and mentoring in the clinical and postgraduate environment. A literature search of the electronic databases Science Direct, Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL), Medline and Health Source was performed, using the search terms: clinical deterioration, ST elevation myocardial infarction, vital signs, primary percutaneous coronary intervention, PCI, AMI, STEMI, acute coronary syndrome, peri-procedural care, unstable angina, PCI complications, structural heart disease, TAVI, TAVR, cardiac rhythm management, pacing, electrophysiology studies, vascular access, procedural sedation. Articles were limited to the cardiac catheterisation laboratory and relevance to nursing based outcomes. Reference lists were examined to identify relevant articles missed in the initial search. The literature was compared with national competency standards, quality and safety documents and the INC definition and scope of practice. Consensus of common themes, a taxonomy of education and seven competency domains were achieved via frequent teleconferences and two face-to-face meetings.

The working party finalised the standards on 14 July 2017, following endorsement from the CSANZ, INC, Heart Rhythm Council, CSANZ Quality Standards Committee and the Australian College of Critical Care

Abbreviations: ACS, Acute Coronary Syndrome; ACLS, Advanced Cardiac Life Support; CCL, Cardiovascular Catheterisation Laboratory; CSANZ, Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand; EN, Enrolled Nurse; IAB, Intra-Aortic Balloon; IC, Interventional Cardiology; ICN, Interventional Cardiovascular Nurse; INC, Interventional Nurses' Council of the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand; PPCI, Primary Percutaneous Coronary Intervention; RN, Registered Nurse; STEMI, ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction

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Q4 Nurses (ACCCN). The resulting document provides clinical practice and education standards for interven-
 Q5 tional cardiac nursing practice.

Keywords

Interventional cardiovascular nursing • Practice standards • Patient safety • Interventional cardiology

Document History of the Competency Standards for Interventional Cardiovascular Nursing Practice

The recent acknowledgement of interventional cardiovascular nursing as a critical care nursing discipline and the lack of specific standards related to interventional cardiac nursing in Australia and New Zealand, led to the Interventional Nurses Council (INC) being inundated with requests for guidance, around the skills and knowledge interventional cardiac nurses needed to demonstrate to be competent practitioners, focussed on maintaining patient safety for those individuals

Q6 undergoing interventional cardiovascular procedures.

A previous working party and consensus conference was established to develop a definition and scope of practice for interventional cardiac nursing. From this consensus conference the need to establish competency standards and develop the minimum skills and knowledge required to maintain patient safety and optimise patient outcomes was identified. In 2013, on the completion of the definition and scope of practice for interventional cardiovascular nursing, the INC executive committee established a working party from the expert nurses who contributed to the development and refinement of the definition and scope of practice for interventional cardiovascular nurses. The working party were chosen by the INC executive committee based on their expertise in interventional cardiovascular nursing and also extensive experience in the provision of education and mentoring of interventional cardiovascular nurses in the clinical and postgraduate environment. The working party consisted of seven representatives from both Australia and New Zealand, and was charged with the development of the standards for practice, ensuring they were in line with the appropriate national nursing competencies, and quality and safety documents.

As the seven members of the group were spread across Australia and New Zealand, they began meeting in April 2013 via teleconference with two face-to-face meetings in Melbourne, Australia one in August 2013 and one in March 2014. Version 1 of the Interventional Nurses Council (INC) standards for interventional cardiovascular nursing practice (hereafter referred to as the Standards) were completed in March 2015 and endorsed by the Interventional Nurses Council at the AGM held at ANZET that year, in August 2015.

On 1 June 2016 the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council updated its competency standards for the registered nurse. The working party were asked to review and

update the standards to reflect these changes and ensure the document continues to align with the competency standards for the registered nurse for both Australia and New Zealand. This review process was completed and the working party finalised the standards document on 26 April 2017.

Changes to This Version of the Document

The following updates were made to version two of the Consensus Statement of Standards for Interventional Cardiovascular Nursing Practice:

- A background section was added to the document to better rationalise factors influencing the complexity of Interventional Cardiovascular Nursing in Australia and New Zealand.
- A section was added describing the role of the Interventional Cardiovascular Nurse in Australia and New Zealand, to better rationalise significance of Interventional Cardiovascular Nursing to contemporary cardiac care.
- The section of competency standards for Interventional Cardiovascular Nursing practice was amended to ensure it aligned with the 2016 Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council competency standards for the registered nurse and the New Zealand competency standards for the registered nurse.
- A section was added demonstrating how the standards could be utilised by hospital managers, administrators, nurse unit managers and Interventional Cardiovascular Nursing educators to develop a professional development framework guiding interventional cardiovascular nurse training and education at a clinical level.

Given Interventional Cardiovascular nursing is a highly technological area and is rapidly evolving as a critical care nursing discipline. It is anticipated that this standards document will be reviewed in 5 years to ensure it remains applicable to contemporary Interventional Cardiovascular Nursing practice in Australia and New Zealand.

How to Use This Document

The document is intended to be used by government and hospital administrators, cardiac catheterisation laboratory managers, nurse managers and university and clinical educators. The document should be considered in setting policy, guidelines and procedures pertaining to the

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