Nursing Services Certification in Brazilian Health Organizations

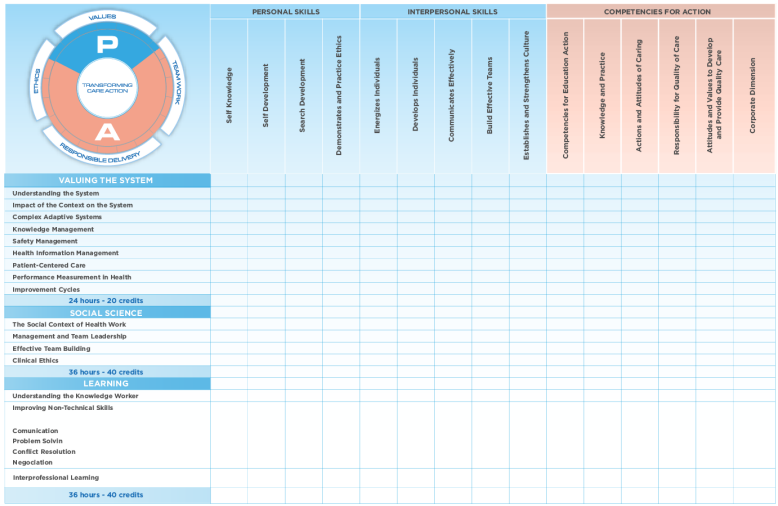
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Currently in Brazil the nursing workforce consists of a group of 541,903 nurses and 1,536,505 technicians and assistants. The most extensive survey on a professional category ever undertaken in Latin America is unprecedented and covers a universe of 2,078,772 professionals. The diversity in the distribution and development of nursing professionals impacts on the safety and quality of care offered to users of different health services and in different regions of the country. The program aims to improve quality care and assist the nursing team by defining roles and actions within the organizational structure. The program has a framework to expand as competencies required for the development of high performance nursing. The competency development program was structured in the form of a trail of mandatory knowledge that nurses will have to go through.

The team of nurses will have to fully fulfill the credits for the certification of the service (Image 1). The project has six phases distributed in 18 months and indicators that evaluate the performance of the institution.

The certification includes benefits for the country, such as the increase in national competitiveness provided by the improvement in the quality of health services, following the needs and reality of Brazilian culture. For professionals, certification is the recognition that they are technically qualified, committed to the quality of health services and able to cope with the risks of their activity and the job market. Certification is the provider of validation of the experience, knowledge and skills of nursing professionals. It supports continuing education and develops the clinical skills that are conducive to job satisfaction among nursing professionals. The certification process seeks to identify nurses as a profession; recognize signs of oppressive group behavior and discuss strategies to strengthen ourselves as individual and interdisciplinary work.



Recent Publications

1. World Health Organization. (2010). Framework for action on interprofessional education & collaborative practice. Geneva: World Health Organization. Retrieved from http://www.who.int/hrh/resources/framework_action/en/.
2. Canadian Nurses Association. (2005). Canadian nurse practitioner: Core competency framework. Ottawa: Author.
3. Association of Registered Nurses of Newfoundland and Labrador. (2007). Advanced practice-clinical nurse specialist [Position statement]. St. John's: Author
4. American Nurses Association. (2010b). Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice (2nd ed.). Silver Spring, MD: Nursesbooks.org.
5. Canadian Nurses Association. (2006a). Practice framework for nurse practitioners in Canada. Ottawa: Author



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