



THE CORRECTIONAL NURSE

Inspiring

Professional Correctional Nursing Practice

January 2025

This month, I would like to share that the American Correctional Nurses Association (ACNA), in conjunction with the American Nurses Association (ANA), have gathered a workgroup of correctional nursing experts from across the US to review and revise the Correctional Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice. Historically, the ANA has assembled and managed the workgroup, but this time, it has acknowledged that the ACNA is representative of correctional nursing and has given it responsibility for this revision. What a great honor! The ANA will still be responsible for approving the content and will still ultimately be responsible for publishing the book, which is expected in early 2026. Our last revision was the third edition, finished in 2020 and published in 2021.

The ACNA placed a call for participation in September of 2024, inviting all who were interested to apply for a position on the workgroup. The application included submission of a resume highlighting correctional nursing positions and activities, and a statement regarding what attributes one would bring to the workgroup. Acknowledgement of the time commitment required of all workgroup members was also included (a lot!!). Co-Chairpersons LaToya Duckworth, ACNA Board member and ANA representative on the National Commission on Correctional Health Care Board of Representatives and Mary Muse, immediate past president of ACNA, reviewed all applications and determined members of the workgroup. There are currently 14 workgroup members from across the US, representing correctional nursing in jails, prisons, juvenile settings, Federal Bureau of Prisons facilities, academia and correctional nursing consulting. I am honored to again be participating on the workgroup, and I look forward to getting to know and work with the other members.

Please know that this is YOUR document, upon which your correctional nursing practice should be based. As we move forward in this year-long process, the workgroup will be looking to you, correctional nurses, for feedback. What are the concerns you face in your ability to provide care to your patients? How can your Correctional Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice support your practice and patient advocacy? Are there specific topics you would like to see in the final document? Please let us know, either at the ACNA email: OurACNA@gmail.com, or you can email me, and I will forward to Ms. Duckworth and Ms. Muse. There will also be an opportunity for public comment on the draft document, most likely in September or October 2025, and I encourage you to do so. Truly, the workgroup's goal is to develop a scope and standards of practice for correctional nursing that is reflective of our unique practice and is user friendly. Its mission is to "illuminate, enhance, and elevate the quality of correctional nursing practice to reflect current evidence-based practice, emerging trends in practice and to enhance the care of the justice-involved population."

On another note, thanks to all of you, the CorrectionalNurse.Net Blog was read more than **302,000** times in 2024.....Incredible!

I wish you all a Healthy and Safe 2025!

Newsorthy Notes

The next American Correctional Nurses Association OPEN FORUM will be held in January 2025. Check the ACNA Website for the topic of the month. We have been having some very interesting conversations, and I invite you to become a member of ACNA and attend our Open Forum. Check out the [website!](#)

Upcoming conferences

[ACA](#) Winter Conference January 10-14, 2025 in Orlando, FL

[NCCHC](#) Spring Conference April 5 - 8, 2025 in Louisville, KY

[American Jail Association](#) May 17-21, 2025 in Fort Worth, TX

CorrectionalNurse.Net

This month at [CorrectionalNurse.Net](#) we will be discussing the clinical topic of Botulism and professional topics like Correctional Nursing.

As always, announcements for new blog posts will be posted on our FaceBook pages and on Instagram.

Please [FOLLOW US](#) and check back often to ensure that you get notification of new posts!

VISIT CORRECTIONALNURSE.NET NOW

Correctional Nurse Educator

Our 50% off featured class this month at [The Correctional Nurse Educator](#) is *Heart and Lung Auscultation for the Correctional Nurse*. I hope you enjoy it!

Remember The Correctional Nurse Educator will work with your group to provide quality, accredited continuing education classes at a discounted and affordable cost that are specifically for Correctional Nurses.

VISIT THE CORRECTIONAL NURSE EDUCATOR NOW

Nursing Behind the Wall

This month at [Nursing Behind the Wall](#) you will meet Mr. Mitchell, a patient with a "bump" in his axilla.

VISIT NURSING BEHIND THE WALL NOW

In closing, I appreciate you taking the time to read this newsletter, and I hope that you will find our sites interesting and educational. Our profession of Correctional Nursing is unique and sometimes challenging, but always very important to our patients. The impact we make is far-reaching, even if it is not always evident as we care for our patients. I have ALWAYS been proud to say that I am a Correctional Nurse – I hope that you are as well!

Lori

Inspiration

IN A GENTLE WAY, YOU CAN SHAKE THE WORLD.

-MAHATMA GANDI



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