Dear AANPCP Candidates and Certificants,

The national *Consensus Model for APRN Regulation: Licensure, Accreditation, Certification, and Education* is the regulatory model for APRNs and serves to delineate the standards for *Licensure, Accreditation, Certification, Education, and Practice*. The Consensus Model, published in 2008 with a target date for full implementation by 2015, provides guidance for the uniformity of advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) regulation across the United States.

The *Consensus Model* identifies and defines:

- **APRN roles**: Certified Nurse Practitioner (CNP), Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA), Certified Nurse-Midwife (CNM), and Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS).
- **APRN Core competencies**: Includes advanced pathophysiology, assessment, and pharmacology courses.
- **Population foci**: Competencies in at least one of 6 populations (family/individual across the lifespan, adult-gerontology, pediatrics, neonatal, women’s health/gender-related, or psych/mental health).
- **Focus of Specialty Practice beyond the role and population focus**: (e.g., oncology, orthopedic).
- **APRN practice**.

To meet the requirements of the APRN Consensus Model's regulations for adult and gerontology population foci, AANPCP launched both the *Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Certification Program (A-GNP)* and the National Certification Examination in January 2013, which are recognized by all State Boards of Nursing and accredited by national and international organizations. The Gerontologic Nurse Practitioner (GNP) examination was retired in 2012 to further comply with national regulatory requirements.

Additional information published about the upcoming retirement of the ANP exam can be found in the *JAANP - October 2014* issue, the *JNP - September 2014* issue, and on our website [www.aanpcert.org](http://www.aanpcert.org).

(continued)
What does this mean to you if you are currently enrolled in an Adult Nurse Practitioner educational program?

1. Most Adult NP educational programs have fully transitioned to the Adult-Gerontology NP educational program. Students who initially enrolled in Adult NP programs may have completed curricula that meet the Adult-Gerontology competencies.
2. All Adult NP students and recent graduates should clarify with their NP program director if they are eligible to take the Adult-Gerontology NP certification exam.

What does this mean to you if you are certified as an Adult Nurse Practitioner?

1. NPs currently certified by AANPCP as an Adult Nurse Practitioner will continue to be certified, credentialed, and recognized by AANPCP as an ANP-C as long as the requirements for recertification are met AND the certification DOES NOT expire.
2. Only the Adult National Certification Examination is being retired.
3. The ANP-C credential is not being retired.
4. ANP recertification is required every 5 years.
5. Adult NP certification can be maintained only through clinical practice hours and continuing education.
6. The option to recertify by examination will no longer be available after December 2016. Therefore, NPs who allow their certification to expire will be unable to renew their existing certification without meeting current requirements for the Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner certification.
7. If your certification expires, this may affect state licensing, employer credentialing, third-party reimbursement, and employment.

It is extremely important that you keep your current certification current. The application process may be started as early as 1 year in advance of expiration of your current certification.

Visit www.aanpcert.org for more information and to review certification renewal requirements. If you have further questions about the retirement of the Adult Exam, please email us at certification@aanpcert.org.

Create your AANPCP Online Profile.
Check your Online Profile for currency of your contact information.

Sincere Regards,

Richard F. Meadows, MS, RN, NP-C, FAANP
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