



PERIOPERATIVE CERTIFICATION

The certification program for perioperative Registered Nurses was established in 1995 by Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) in collaboration with Operating Room Nurses Association of Canada (ORNAC), whose motto is “Promoting Excellence”.

The certification exam measures the knowledge, skills, abilities, attitudes, and judgments in specific competency areas required of perioperative Registered Nurses in Canada.

The mission of ORNAC is the promotion and advancement of excellence in perioperative patient care, and the professional and personal enhancement of perioperative Registered Nurses. One of the objectives of the Association is to promote high standards of perioperative registered nursing practice in order to promote quality nursing care in Canada. Certification confirms this pursuit for quality and excellence.

ORNAC supports the CNA certification program and recommends that perioperative Registered Nurses in perioperative nursing practice write the certification exam and earn the national credential of Certified Perioperative Nurse (Canada) or CPN(C), in order to:

- promote high standards of perioperative nursing practice for optimal patient care;
- validate competency in perioperative nursing;
- meet national standards in perioperative nursing;
- confirm commitment to nursing excellence and personal achievement;
- confirm professional accountability for continuing education;
- promote risk management principles; (CNA, p. 108)
- enhance qualifications;
- maintain accountability to the public; and
- provide a nationally recognizable level of competency to the employer.

REFERENCE

Canadian Nurses Association. (2001). *Perioperative nursing certification exam prep guide*. Ottawa: CNA.

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