

REGULATION TERMINOLOGY:



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Version 1**

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Background

Definitions and words commonly used in the context of professional regulation often mean different things in different countries leading to confusion and misinterpretation. ICN identified common key terms and definitions and invited regulators and National Nurses Associations to provide alternative terms and definitions which are used in their countries. The responses have been collated and terms and definitions that were broadly similar to the ICN definition or repetitive have been excluded. Some ICN definitions have been amended in response to feedback. The information is shared in this document in order to promote understanding and facilitate dialogue.

Where there are differences in definition this may reflect a simple alternative usage of the word or may result from different policy positions or cultural perspectives. These differences highlight areas where care is need when entering into discussion across jurisdictions.

The continuously changing nature of public expectations, care delivery and regulation means that this glossary of terms will always be work in progress rather than a finished and definitive text. ICN would therefore encourage readers of this document to continue to submit definitions of terms that they feel could be added to this communications tool.

Layout

The following pages provide a numbered list of definitions of various terms. Where the term has an ICN recognised definition this is always stated in the left column and others in the right. Where there is no existing definition the term is simply stated in the left column and the definition(s) and source(s) provided in the right.

In some cases multiple alternative definitions have resulted in the table extending to the next page. Where this happens the original numbered heading and associated definition are repeated for clarity at the top of the next page.

1- Accreditation

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Accreditation</p> <p>A process of review and approval by which an institution, programme or specific service is granted a time-limited recognition of having met certain established standards beyond those that are minimally acceptable.</p>	<p>Accreditation is a process of external quality review by peers who scrutinize programmes to assure that an educational programme meets established standards for structure, function and performance. If all requirements are fulfilled, the school receives a time-limited recognition (accreditation).</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>
	<p><i>A process of quality assurance through which accredited status is granted to an educational institution or program of study by responsible authorities. It means that standards of education established by professional authorities have been met.</i></p> <p><i>Canadian Information Centre for International Credentials</i></p>

2 - Accrediting Body

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Accrediting Body</p> <p>A body with the authority to grant accreditation status to an institution, programme or specific service. Accrediting bodies can be voluntary or mandated by law.</p>	

3 - Advanced Nursing Practice

Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Advanced Nursing Practice</p>	<p>Advanced Nursing Practice is characterized by the integration and application of a broad range of theoretical and evidence-based knowledge that occurs as part of the graduate nursing education. The continuation of the nursing profession is also dependent on the continued expansion of nursing knowledge, and the development and adoption of policies consistent with values and assumptions that underlie the scope of professional nursing practice</p> <p><i>American Nurses Association</i></p>
	<p>Advanced nursing practice reflects a range of highly developed clinical skills and judgements acquired through a combination of nursing experience and education. Essentially, advanced nursing practice requires the application of advanced nursing knowledge, with practitioners drawing not only on their clinical experience, but also on the experience of the profession as a whole.</p> <p><i>Nursing Council of New Zealand</i></p>
	<p>Advanced practice registered nursing is based on knowledge and skills acquired in basic nursing education; licensure as a registered nurse; graduation from or completion of a graduate level APRN programme accredited by a national accrediting body and current certification by a national certifying body in the appropriate APRN role and specialty.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>
	<p>ANP is a term describing an advanced level of nursing practice extending the boundaries of nursing's Scope of Practice. It is not related to a person (unlike a NP or CNS).</p> <p><i>Canadian Nurses Association</i></p>

4 - Advanced Practice Nurse

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Advanced Practice Nurse</p> <p>A Nurse Practitioner / Advanced Practice Nurse is a registered nurse who has acquired the expert knowledge base, complex decision-making skills and clinical competencies for expanded practice, the characteristics of which are shaped by the context and/or country in which s/he is credentialed to practice. A Masters degree is recommended for entry level.</p>	<p>Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) are registered nurses who have acquired advanced specialized clinical knowledge and skills to provide health care. These nurses are expected to hold a masters or doctorate degree. They build on the practice of registered nurses by demonstrating a greater depth and breadth of knowledge, a greater synthesis of data, increased complexity of skills and interventions, and significant role autonomy. APRN is the umbrella term used to identify these advanced practice roles of certified registered nurse anaesthetist, certified nurse midwife, clinical nurse specialist, and nurse practitioner.</p> <p><i>American Nurses Association</i></p>
	<p>Advance Practice Nurse defines a level of nursing practice that utilises extended and expanded skills, experience and knowledge in assessment, planning implementation, diagnosis and evaluation of the care required.</p> <p><i>Royal College of Nursing of Australia</i></p>
	<p>Practice as an advanced practice registered nurse means an expanded scope of nursing in a category approved by the board, with or without compensation or personal profit, and includes the registered nurse scope of practice. The scope of an advanced practice registered nurse includes but is not limited to performing acts of advanced assessment, diagnosing, prescribing, selecting, administering and dispensing therapeutic measures, including over-the-counter drugs, legend drugs and controlled substances, within the advanced practice registered nurse's role and specialty appropriate education and certification.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>
	<p>Clinical Nurse Specialist Nurse Anesthetist Nurse Midwife Advance Nurse Practitioner</p> <p><i>Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools</i></p>

5 – Approval

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Approval</p> <p>A process of review by which an institution and/or programme is judged to have met the prescribed minimum standards set by the appropriate standards body. Approval is distinguished from accreditation in that the approval process is usually not voluntary, and the standards-setting body is usually governmental.</p>	<p>Accreditation' would also cover this definition.</p> <p><i>Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council</i></p>
	<p>'Official recognition of nursing education programmes that meet standards established by the board of nursing in a jurisdiction.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

6 – Assessment

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Assessment</p> <p>A systematic procedure for collecting qualitative and quantitative data to describe progress, practice and achievement.</p>	<p>A systematic, dynamic process by which the registered nurse, through interaction with the patient, family, groups, communities, populations, and healthcare providers, collects and analyzes data. Assessment may include the following dimensions: physical, psychological, socio-cultural, spiritual, cognitive, functional abilities, developmental, economic, and lifestyle.</p> <p><i>American Nurses Association</i></p>
	<p>Process by which the characteristics and needs of clients, groups or situations are evaluated or determined so that they can be addressed. The assessment forms the basis of a plan for services or action.</p> <p><i>Società italiana di nefrologia</i></p>
	<p>The identification and measurement of learning, credentials, and other forms of qualifications required for entry into programmes of study or occupations. Assessment may include testing, examinations, or other prescribed activities.</p> <p><i>Canadian Information Centre for International Credentials</i></p>

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	<p>Comprehensive assessment by an RN is an extensive data collection (initial and ongoing) for individuals, families, groups and communities addressing anticipated changes in client conditions as well as emergent changes in a client's health status; recognizing alterations to previous client conditions; synthesizing the biological, psychological, spiritual and social aspects of the client's condition; evaluating the impact of nursing care; and using this broad and complete analysis to make independent decisions and nursing diagnoses; plan nursing interventions, evaluate need for different interventions, and the need to communicate and consult with other health team members.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

7 – Bridging Programme

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Bridging Programme</p> <p>A programme of study designed to provide individuals with skills and knowledge required for entry into an occupation, or a higher-level educational institution. It supplements learning outside of a jurisdiction, or at another institution and may include workplace training, occupation-specific skills and language training.</p>	<p>Models of effective evidence based programmes that transition new nurses to practice, include both specialty and general knowledge; are post-graduation programmes; have the same mentor throughout who is properly educated for the role.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

8 – Career Development

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Career Development</p> <p>A process underpinned by life-long learning and risk taking, by which an individual incorporates personal values, aptitudes, and interests to shape a career path that supports personal growth and professional development, and enhances the contribution of the profession to society. Career development enriches current performance and builds a person's capacity to take advantage of, or create, future opportunities.</p>	<p>Nursing Professional Development: the lifelong process of active participation by nurses in learning activities that assist in developing and maintaining their continuing competence, enhance their professional practice, and support achievement of their career goals.</p> <p><i>American Nurses Association</i></p>
	<p>Career development enriches current performance, builds a person's capacity to take advantage of, or create, future opportunities, and to expand their clinical competency.</p> <p><i>Japanese Nursing Association</i></p>

9 – Certification

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Certification</p> <p>A voluntary time-limited process by which a non-governmental organization within a profession or specialty grants recognition of competence to an individual who has met pre-established eligibility requirements and standards.</p>	<p>In some US jurisdictions, certification is the term used for state-issued (governmental) authority [to an individual] to practice.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

10 – Clinical Judgment

Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Clinical Judgement</p>	<p>The application of the nurse's knowledge and experience in making decisions about client care.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

11 – Collaboration

Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Collaboration</p>	<p>Collaboration among healthcare professionals involves recognition of the expertise of others within and outside one's profession and referral to those providers when appropriate. Such collaboration also involves some shared functions and a common focus on the same overall mission</p> <p><i>American Nurses Association</i></p>

12 – Competence

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Competence</p> <p>The effective application of a combination of knowledge, skill and judgement demonstrated by an individual in daily practice or job performance. In nursing definitions, there is wide-ranging agreement that, in the performance of nursing roles to the standards required in employment, competence reflects the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Knowledge, understanding and judgement; ▪ A range of skills - cognitive, technical or psychomotor and interpersonal; and a range of personal attributes and attitudes. 	

13 – Content validity

Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Content Validity</p>	<p>Content validity - The degree to which an examination is representative of a defined body of knowledge.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

14 – Continuing Competence

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Continuing Competence</p> <p>The ongoing ability to integrate and apply the knowledge, skills, judgement, and personal attributes required to practice safely, competently and ethically in a designated role and setting.</p>	<p>Ongoing professional nursing competence according to level of expertise, responsibility, and domains of practice as evidenced by behaviour based on beliefs, attitudes, and knowledge matched to and in the context of a set of expected outcomes as defined by nursing scope of practice, policy, code of ethics, standards, guidelines, and benchmarks that ensure safe performance of professional activities.</p> <p><i>American Nurses Association</i></p>

15 - Continuing Education

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Continuing Education</p> <p>Continuing education refers to the whole range of learning experiences, from the time of initial qualification until retirement, designed to enrich the nurse's contributions to quality health care and her/his pursuit of professional career goals.</p>	<p>Learning experience undertaken to enhance one's competencies.</p> <p><i>Canadian Nurses Association</i></p>

16 - Continuing Education Credit (Unit, Contact Hour Or Point)

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Continuing Education Credit (Unit, Contact Hour Or Point)</p> <p>A unit of measure that gives a value to an approved organised continuing education learning activity, theoretical or practical.</p>	

17 - Continuing Professional Development

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Continuing Professional Development</p> <p>The establishment of higher levels of competence in the range of knowledge, skills and abilities needed to perform duties or support interventions, be they in clinical practice, management, education, research, regulation or policy-making.</p>	<p>Continuing professional development is understood to be planned and organised learning experiences, beyond pre-registration education programs. These experiences are designed to update or advance personal and professional growth and development, with the aim of improving professional performance, personal development and enhancing the practice of nursing.</p> <p><i>Royal College of Nursing of Australia</i></p>

18 – Credential

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Credential</p> <p>A credential is documented evidence of having met predetermined standards. It communicates to employers, payers, and consumers what to expect from a "credentialed" person, specialist, course or programme of study, institution of higher education, hospital or health service, or healthcare product, technology, or device. Credentials may be periodically renewed as a means of assuring continued quality and they may be withdrawn when standards of competence or behaviour are no longer met. Degree, diplomas, certificates, licences are examples of credentials.</p>	<p>Certification (given the renewal aspect of this definition).</p> <p><i>Canadian Nurses Association</i></p>
	<p>Evidence of having completed a recognized programme (not standards).</p> <p><i>Canadian Nurses Association</i></p>
	<p>Document issued by a school or university for a person who has graduated and is registered in the professional directory.</p> <p><i>Colegio Nacional de Enfermeras, AC. de México</i></p>

19 – Credentialing

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Credentialing</p> <p>Credentialing is a term applied to processes used to designate that an individual, programme, institution or product have met established standards set by an agent (governmental or non-governmental) recognised as qualified to carry out this task. The standards may be minimal and mandatory or above the minimum and voluntary. Licensure, registration, accreditation, approval, certification, recognition or endorsement may be used to describe different credentialing processes.</p>	<p>The recognition of professional or technical competence. The credentialing process may include registration, certification, licensure, professional association membership, or the award of a degree in the field. Credentialing also determines the quality of personnel by providing standards for evaluation competence and by defining scope of functions and how personnel can be used. Academy Health 2004</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

20 – Criteria

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Criteria</p> <p>Descriptive statements which are measurable and which reflect the intent of a standard in terms of performance, behaviour or circumstance.</p>	

21 – Cultural Bias

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Cultural Bias</p>	<p>Non-nursing elements of examination items that may influence the performance of culturally distinct groups of examinees.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

22 – Cultural Competence

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Cultural Competence</p>	<p>A practitioner's or institution's [attitudes], understanding and sensitivity to the cultural background and primary language of the patients in any component of service delivery, including patient education materials, questionnaires, office or health care setting or health care organization setting, direct patient care, and public health campaigns.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

23 – Delegation

Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Delegation</p>	<p>Delegation is the transfer of responsibility for the performance of a task from one person to another. Direct delegation is usually verbal direction by the registered nurse delegator regarding an activity or task in a specific nursing care situation. Indirect delegation is usually an approved listing of activities or tasks that have been established in the policies and procedures of the health care institution or facility.</p> <p><i>American Nurses Association</i></p>
	<p>Authority and power of decision-making will be moved to another person.</p> <p><i>Japanese Nursing Association</i></p>
<p>Delegation</p>	<p>"The reassigning of responsibility for the performance of a job from one person to another. Although the responsibility for the tasks is transferred, the accountability for the process or outcome of the task remains with the person delegating the activity."</p> <p><i>American Nurses Association</i></p>

24 – Distance Education

Definition	Other terms and definitions
Distance Education	<p>Teaching/learning strategies used to meet the learning needs of students, when the students and faculty are separate from each other.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

25 – Endorsement

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Endorsement</p> <p>Expression of support or approval by an authority in the field of a product, programme or service.</p>	<p>The granting of authority to practice based on an individual's licensure in another jurisdiction.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

26 – Equivalency

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Equivalency</p> <p>Equivalence refers to the process where, although two differing standards or procedures remain intact, they are treated as if they are the same because, in theory, they produce the same or similar result.</p>	<p>A term used to describe and/or determine a relationship of parity between one system, jurisdiction, or institution and another with respect to the value and significance of courses, diplomas, certificates, licences, and/or degrees.</p> <p>Ideally, these relationships are mutual so that holders of “equivalent” credentials are treated in the same way by institutions and occupations.</p> <p><i>Canadian Information Centre for International Credentials</i></p>

27 – Evaluation

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Evaluation</p> <p>A planned, systematic process of collecting information and comparison of this information with specific standards.</p>	<p>The means by which the effectiveness of a programme and outcomes is measured, taking into account the views of those affected by the process.</p> <p><i>New Zealand Nurses Organisation</i></p>

28 – Evidence Based Nursing

Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Evidence Based Nursing</p>	<p>Evidence-Based Nursing is the process by which nurses make clinical decisions using the best available research evidence, their clinical expertise and patient preferences.</p> <p><i>Japanese Nursing Association</i></p>

29 – Governance

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Governance</p> <p>Governance means the process of controlling or guiding the profession:</p>	<p>Governance means the process of controlling or guiding the profession through professional law.</p> <p><i>Institute of Basic and Continuing Education of Health Workers Hungary</i></p>
	<p>The process of controlling or guiding the profession by utilising the rules or guidelines of the profession in determining accountability</p> <p><i>Royal College of Nursing of Australia</i></p>
	<p><i>A framework through which NHS organisations are accountable for continually improving the quality of their services and safeguarding high standards of care by creating an environment in which excellence in clinical care will flourish</i></p> <p><i>Depart of Heath (England)</i></p>

30 – Grandfathering

Definition	Other terms and definitions
Grandfathering	Provision in a new law or regulation exempting those already in or a part of the existing system that is being regulated. An exception to a restriction that allows all those already doing something to continue doing it even if they would be stopped by the new restriction. <i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i>

31 – Guidelines

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
Guidelines Interpretative statements, which serve to extend and clarify meaning, but are not intended as an absolute standard.	Systematically developed statements that describe recommended actions based on available scientific evidence and expert opinion. Clinical guidelines describe a process of patient care management that has the potential of improving the quality of clinical and consumer decision-making. <i>American Nurses Association</i>
	A set plan for care of the typical patient in the typical situation. It is developed through a formal process that uses the best scientific evidence of effectiveness whit expert opinion. <i>Consociazione Nazionale delle Associazioni Infermiere</i>

32 – Harmonisation

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
Harmonisation Harmonisation refers to the process where two differing standards or procedures are converted into one standard.	

33 – Independent Nursing Strategies

Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Independent Nursing Strategies.</p>	<p>Nursing activities based on nursing assessment, within the nurse’s scope of practice and not subject to control by others.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

34 – Informatics

Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Informatics</p>	<p>Information technology that can be used to communicate, manage knowledge, mitigate error, and support decision-making.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

35 - Institutional Licensing

<p>Institutional Licensing</p> <p>The institution having complied with government regulation, determines the scope of practice for each worker, and does not need to consider limitations mandated by practice acts defining roles, qualifications and job standards for individual health professions. Instead each licensed institution would be the agent to define roles, qualifications and standards for the individual health professions.</p>	<p>Hospital licensing; Institutional credentialing.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

35 - Institutional Licensing

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Institutional Licensing</p> <p>The institution having complied with government regulation, determines the scope of practice for each worker, and does not need to consider limitations mandated by practice acts defining roles, qualifications and job standards for individual health professions. Instead each licensed institution would be the agent to define roles, qualifications and standards for the individual health professions</p>	<p>ICalls for the inspection of health care facilities to ascertain whether or not care can be provided safety and effectively. The concept of institutional licensure extends the state licensure of hospitals and other health care institutions to include nearly all "dependent" health care personnel in those institutions. The complying institution would determine the scope of practice of each worker with no consideration of the scope of practice mandated by practice arts licensing individual practitioners. The institution as the licensing agent would define roles, qualifications, and job standards. The institution would then be ultimately responsible to the consumer and would bear the expense of operating the certifying process.</p> <p><i>American Nurses Association</i></p>

36 – Interdisciplinary

Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Interdisciplinary</p>	<p>Reliant on the overlapping skills and knowledge of each team member and discipline, resulting in synergistic effects where outcomes are enhanced and more comprehensive than the simple aggregation of any team member's individual efforts.</p> <p><i>American Nurses Association</i></p>

37 – Interdisciplinary Team

Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Interdisciplinary Team</p>	<p>All individuals involved in providing a client's care, who cooperate, collaborate, communicate and integrate care to ensure that care is continuous and reliable.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

38 – Internationally Educated Nurse

Definition	Other terms and definitions
Internationally Educated Nurse	A nurse educated outside... [a country] who applies for licensure or seeks temporary authorization to practice as a graduate nursing student to complete program objectives. <i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i>

39 – Interpretive Statement

Definition	Other terms and definitions
Interpretive Statement	A statement developed by a Board of Nursing to provide guidance, clarification and direction regarding whether nursing practice procedures or policies comply with acceptable standards of nursing practice as defined in the Nursing Practice Act and rules. <i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i>

40 – Lapsed License

Definition	Other terms and definitions
Lapsed License	The termination of an individual's privilege to practice nursing due to the individual's failure to renew the nursing license within a specified period of time. <i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i>

41 – Licence

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Licence</p> <p>A document issued by a body charged with the exclusive right to determine eligibility for practice in a specified profession, or field in the profession. It is generally used within a regulatory system that prohibits practice without a license.</p>	<p>"License" means current legal authority to practice nursing as a registered nurse, licensed practical nurse or advanced practice registered nurse.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

42 – Licensed Independent Practitioner

Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Licensed Independent Practitioner</p> <p>A document issued by a body charged with the exclusive right to determine eligibility for practice in a specified profession, or field in the profession. It is generally used within a regulatory system that prohibits practice without a license.</p>	<p>Any individual permitted by law and by the organization to provide care and services, without direction or supervision, within the scope of the individual's license and consistent with individually granted clinical privileges.</p> <p><i>The Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Hospitals, 2004, Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations</i></p>

43 – Licensed Nurse

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Licensed Nurse</p> <p>A (licensed/registered) nurse is one who (a) has successfully completed a programme of education approved by the nursing board/council, (b) has passed the examination established by the nursing board/council (if appropriate), and (c) continues to meet the standards of the nursing board.</p>	<p>In the United States, a licensed nurse is an individual legally authorized to practice nursing at a specified level (either RN, LPN/VN or APRN) by meeting educational and other requirements, including passing a national examination.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>
	<p>Registered Nurse: A person licensed to practice nursing under an Australian State or Territory</p> <p><i>Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council</i></p>
	<p>A nurse who has passed the examination established by the national board".</p> <p><i>Japanese Nursing Association</i></p>

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44 – Licensed Practical Nurse/Licensed Vocational Nurse

Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Licensed Practical Nurse/Licensed Vocational Nurse</p>	<p>Practice as a licensed practical/vocational nurse means a directed scope of nursing practice, with or without compensation or personal profit, under the supervision of the registered nurse, advanced practice registered nurse, licensed physician, or other health care provider authorized by the state; is guided by nursing standards established or recognized by the board; and includes, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Collecting data and conducting focused nursing assessments of the health status of individuals. b. Planning nursing care episode for individuals with stable conditions. c. Participating in the development and modification of the comprehensive plan of care for all types of clients. d. Implementing appropriate aspects of the strategy of care within client centered health care plan. e. Participating in nursing care management through delegating to assistive personnel and assigning to other LPN/VNs nursing interventions that may be performed by others and do not conflict with the act. f. Maintaining safe and effective nursing care rendered directly or indirectly. g. Promoting a safe and therapeutic environment. h. Participating in health teaching and counseling to promote, attain and maintain the optimum health level of clients. i. Serving as an advocate for the client by communicating and collaborating with other health service personnel. j. Participating in the evaluation of client responses to interventions. k. Communicating and collaborating with other health care professionals. l. Providing input into the development of policies and procedures. m. Other acts that require education and training as prescribed by the board, commensurate with the licensed practical nurse's experience, continuing education and demonstrated licensed practical/vocational nurse competencies. <p>Each nurse is accountable to clients, the nursing profession and the board for complying with the requirements of this Act and for the quality of nursing care rendered; and for recognizing limits of knowledge and experience and planning for management of situations beyond the nurse's expertise.</p> <p>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</p>

45 - Licensing Body

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Licensing Body</p> <p>An authority charged with the exclusive right to determine eligibility for and issue licenses in a specific profession/occupation or set of professions/occupations.</p>	<p>Nurse and Midwife Regulatory Authority, i.e. the legally constituted body in each jurisdiction charged with the regulation of nursing and midwifery professional practice. The primary role of the Nurse and Midwife Regulatory Authority is to protect the public through ensuring nurses & midwives demonstrate an acceptable standard of practice.</p> <p><i>Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council</i></p>
	<p>The general term used in the UK for such bodies is "regulators" and regulators covers individuals, settings and products.</p> <p><i>Royal College of Nursing,, UK</i></p>
	<p>The institution that issues a document for a professional to help him practice his profession.</p> <p>Colegio Nacional de Enfermeras, AC. de México</p>

46 – Licensure

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Licensure</p> <p>The process, sanctioned by the law, of granting exclusive power or privilege to persons meeting established standards, which allows them to engage in a given occupation or profession, and to use a specific title.</p>	<p>The most restrictive form of occupational regulation, it is a process by which an agency of state government grants permission to an applicant to engage in a profession after demonstrating the minimal degree of competency necessary to perform a unique scope of practice. This regulatory method is used when regulated activities are complex, require specialized knowledge and skill and independent decision-making. The licensure process includes the predetermination of qualifications necessary to perform a legally defined scope of practice safely and an evaluation of licensure applications to determine that the qualifications are met. Licensure also provides authority to take disciplinary action should the licensee violate provisions of the law or rules.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Sheets, 1996.</i></p>
	<p>The term used in the UK to fit the definition is "registration".</p> <p><i>Royal College of Nursing, UK</i></p>

47 – Licensure by Exam

Definition	Other terms and definitions
Licensure By Exam	The granting of authority to practice based on an individual's passing of a prescribed examination. <i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i>

48 – Licensure by Reinstatement

Definition	Other terms and definitions
Licensure By Reinstatement	The procedure of restoring or re-establishing a nursing license that has lapsed or that has been suspended, revoked or voluntarily surrendered. <i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i>

49 - Licensure by Renewal

Definition	Other terms and definitions
Licensure By Renewal	The process for periodic reissuing of the legal authority to practice. <i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Model Nursing Practice Act, 2004</i>

50 – Lifelong Learning

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
Lifelong Learning All learning activity undertaken throughout life, with the aim of improving knowledge, skills and competence, within a personal, civic, social and/or employment-related perspective.	

51 – Mandatory Regulation

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Mandatory Regulation</p> <p>This term is usually applied when the authority for regulation is governmental usually through a statute, and approval for practice is legally required. Standards are usually set at the minimum required for public protection.</p>	

52 – Modified Licence

Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Modified License</p>	<p>A license to practice nursing within a scope of practice with limitations or with accommodations or both, as specified by the board through a non-disciplinary process.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

53 – Moral Turpitude

Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Moral Turpitude</p>	<p>Conduct that involves one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Intentional, knowing or reckless conduct that causes injury or places another in fear of imminent harm. - Conduct done knowingly contrary to justice or honesty. - Conduct that is contrary to the accepted and customary rule of right and duty that a person owes to fellow human beings and society in general. <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

54 – Multidisciplinary

Definition	Other terms and definitions
Multidisciplinary	Reliant on each team member or discipline contributing discipline-specific skills. <i>American Nurses Association</i>

55 - Multi-skilling

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
Multi-skilling Possession of a combination of skills and knowledge to work tasks that may fall outside the traditional boundaries of his/her original occupational or professional preparation.	Cross Training i.e. expanding the staff functions to improve workforce efficiency and flexibility and to decrease workload fluctuations. Cross training could include the training of registered nurses to other nursing specialties; to non-nursing clinical tasks; and/or to cover other hospital/institutional departments. <i>American Nurses Association</i>

56 - Mutual Recognition

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
Mutual Recognition A vehicle for regulatory co-operation, and it may be based on harmonisation, equivalence, or external criteria such as the host country's standards or other mutually agreed standards, or international standards. In a mutual recognition agreement, two or more parties agree to recognise and accept all, or selected aspects of each other's regulatory results because they are harmonised or judged to be equivalent, or because they satisfy other agreed-upon external criteria. Results may include assessment outcomes, qualifications, standards, rules, titles, and quality assurance system standards.	

57 - Mutual Recognition Agreement

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Mutual Recognition Agreement</p>	<p>A Mutual Recognition Agreement ("MRA") is an agreement between two or more jurisdictional authorities to facilitate temporary or permanent mobility of professionals. The MRA contains a series of reciprocal measures as between jurisdictions which are intended to reduce entitlement to practice barriers that may otherwise exist for professionals from one jurisdiction seeking to practice in the other jurisdiction. MRAs can be intra-national, when dealing with jurisdictional authorities within a single country, or international, when dealing with jurisdictional authorities across international borders, in scope. An MRA does not necessarily require either jurisdiction to lower their individual entry requirements, but rather is aimed at eliminating duplicative comparable entry requirements.</p> <p><i>Canadian Nurses Association</i></p>

58 – National Licensing Examination

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>National Licensing Examination</p>	<p>A standardized examination used throughout a country to assess licensure applicants' nursing knowledge, skills and abilities.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

59 - Nurse Practitioner

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Nurse Practitioner</p> <p>A Nurse Practitioner / Advanced Practice Nurse is a registered nurse who has acquired the expert knowledge base, complex decision-making skills and clinical competencies for expanded practice, the characteristics of which are shaped by the context and/or country in which s/he is credentialed to practice. A Masters degree is recommended for entry level.</p>	<p>Nurse Practitioner is a legally protected title reflecting this definition. Advance Practice Nurse is a term used to describe nurses with experience i.e. past beginning practice.</p> <p><i>Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council</i></p>

60 - Nurse Refresher Course

Definition	Other terms and definitions
Nurse Refresher Course	A formal program with both didactic and clinical components, designed to prepare a nurse who has been out of practice to re-enter into the profession. <i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i>

61 - Nurse Specialist

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
Nurse Specialist A nurse prepared beyond the level of a nurse generalist, and authorised to practise as a specialist with expertise in a specified field of the nursing.	Expertise with knowledge skills etc in a specific field of nursing Swedish Association of Health Professionals

62 - Nursing

Definition	Other terms and definitions
Nursing encompasses autonomous and collaborative care of individuals of all ages, families, groups and communities, sick or well and in all settings. Nursing includes the promotion of health, prevention of illness, and the care of ill, disabled and dying people. Advocacy, promotion of a safe environment, research, participation in shaping health policy and in patient and health systems management, and education are also key nursing roles.	Nursing is the protection, promotion, and optimization of health abilities, prevention of illness and injury, alleviation of suffering through the diagnosis and treatment of human response, and advocacy in the care of individuals, families, communities, and populations. <i>American Nurses Association</i>
	Nursing is a scientific process founded on a professional body of knowledge; it is a learned profession based on an understanding of the human condition across the lifespan and the relationship of a client with others and within the environment; and it is an art dedicated to caring for others. The practice of nursing means assisting clients to attain or maintain optimal health, implementing a strategy of care to accomplish defined goals within the context of a client centered health care plan, and evaluating responses to nursing care and treatment. Nursing is a dynamic discipline that is continually evolving to include more sophisticated knowledge, technologies, and client care activities. <i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i>

63 – Nursing Management

Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Nursing Management</p>	<p>The coordination and integration of resources through planning, organizing, directing and controlling the provision of nursing services while managing role differences and staffing to accomplish specific institutional goals and objectives within the context of legal considerations, regulatory issues, patient safety and continuous quality improvement.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

64 - Omnibus or Umbrella Laws

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Omnibus or Umbrella Laws</p> <p>A broad single act that encompasses a number of individual practice acts. The broader statute forms the umbrella legislation under which each licensing authority must work.</p>	<p>In the US, a centralized organizational structure such as a department of professional regulation composed of other boards and agencies may be referred to as an “umbrella” department.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

65 – Outcome

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Outcome</p> <p>The end result, comprising a measurable achievement or change.</p>	<p>The effect(s) that an intervention has on a specific health problem. It reflects the purpose of an intervention...</p> <p>Consociazione Nazionale delle Associazioni Infermiere</p>

66 – Oversight

Definition	Other terms and definitions
Oversight	Professional support and assistance provided to a health practitioner by a professional peer for the purpose of professional development. <i>New Zealand Nurses Organisation</i>

67 – Policy

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Policy</p> <p>Policy encompasses the choices that society, segment of society or an organisation makes regarding its goals, priorities or the ways it will allocate its resources to attain those goals.</p>	

68 – Prescriptive Authority

Definition	Other terms and definitions
Prescriptive Authority	The authority to determine the need for drugs, immunizing agents, or devices; selecting the remedy; and writing a prescription to be filled by a licensed pharmacist. <i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i>

69 – Professional Boundaries

Definition	Other terms and definitions
Professional Boundaries	The space between the nurse's power and the client's vulnerability – the power of the nurse comes from the professional position and access to private knowledge about the client. Establishing boundaries allows the nurse to control this power differential and allows a safe connection to meet the client's needs. <i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i>

70 – Professional Peer

Definition	Other terms and definitions
Professional Peer	A person who is registered with the same authority with which the health practitioner is registered. <i>New Zealand Nurses Organisation</i>

71 – Professional Self-Regulation

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
Professional Self-Regulation See self-regulation.	

72 – Public Protection

Definition	Other terms and definitions
Public Protection	The primary goal of nursing regulation, to assure that citizens have access to safe and effective nursing care; the primary responsibility charged to boards of nursing in the United States. <i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i>

73 – Quality Improvement Processes

Definition	Other terms and definitions
Quality Improvement Processes	To identify errors and hazards in care; understand and implement basic safety design principles, such as standardization and simplification; continually understand and measure quality of care in terms of structure, process, and outcomes in relation to client and community needs; and design and test interventions to change processes and systems of care, with the objective of improving quality. <i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i>

74 – Recognition

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Recognition</p> <p>Formal acceptance of an institution, programme or service by another institution or public authority. It may also mean the acceptance of knowledge, skills, or formal qualifications of an individual and the granting of advanced standing or credit.</p>	

75– Registered Nurse

Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Registered Nurse</p> <p>See licensed nurse.</p>	<p>Registered Nurse is licensed and authorized by a state, commonwealth, or territory to practice nursing.</p> <p><i>American Nurses Association</i></p>

76 – Registration

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Registration</p> <p>Process of providing authority to use an exclusive title to those persons entered on a register.</p>	<p>The authentic certification of the personal and professional data of the health care workers and/or people with health care qualification.</p> <p><i>Institute of Basic and Continuing Education of Health Workers, Hungary</i></p>
	<p>In Sweden it means both licensure and registration.</p> <p><i>Swedish Association of Health Professionals</i></p>
	<p>A level of regulation requiring an individual to apply to have one's name added to an official roster, maintained by administrative agencies, of individuals who provide services. Title protection may be provided to individuals who meet requirements – other individuals may still provide the service but cannot call themselves by the registered title. Registration does not involve state inquiry into competence and a scope of practice is not generally defined.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

77 – Regulation

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Regulation</p> <p>All of those legitimate and appropriate means-governmental, professional, private, and individual-whereby order, identity, consistency, and control are brought to the profession. The profession and its members are defined; the scope of practice is determined; standards of education and of ethical and competent practice are set; and systems of accountability are established through these means. See governance.</p>	<p>Regulation traditionally implies the intervention of the government to accomplish an end beneficial to its citizens, the power of the state to enact reasonable laws to protect the public. The delegation of regulatory authority to administrative authorities allows the legislature to use the expertise of agencies in the implementation of statutes.-</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

78 - Regulatory Body

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Regulatory Body</p> <p>A formal organisation designated by a statute or an authorised governmental agency to implement the regulatory forms and processes whereby order, consistency and control are brought to the profession and its practice.</p>	<p>Regulatory authority.</p> <p><i>New Zealand Nurses Organisation</i></p>
	<p>In the US, those governmental agencies, including boards of nursing, authorized to implement laws and promulgate rules in the regulation of a profession.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

79 - Reserved or Restricted Acts

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Reserved or Restricted Acts</p> <p>Tasks or services that are reserved exclusively to one profession (or shared jointly with another).</p>	<p>Restricted Activity.</p> <p><i>New Zealand Nurses Organisation</i></p>
	<p>Controlled acts.</p> <p><i>Canadian Nurses Association</i></p>

80 – Rule/Regulation

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Rule/Regulation</p>	<p>A statement promulgated by an authorized entity to interpret and support implementation of a statute or law. The promulgation of rules/regulations is set forth in the Administrative Procedures Act of each state. Any properly promulgated rule/regulation has the force and effect of law.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

81 - Scope of Practice

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Scope of Practice</p> <p>The range of roles, functions, responsibilities and activities, which a registered/licensed professional is educated for, competent in, and is authorised to perform. It defines the accountability and limits of practice.</p>	<p>Scope of Practice is a statement that describes the “who”, “what”, “where”, “when”, “why” and “how” of nursing practice. The profession of nursing has one scope of practice that encompasses the full range of nursing practice. The depth and breadth in which individual registered nurses engage in the total scope of nursing practice is dependent upon education, experience, role, and the population served.</p> <p><i>American Nurses Association</i></p>
	<p>The legal boundaries that provide the parameters for practice of a profession.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>

84 – Specialty Practice

Definition	Other terms and definitions
Specialty Practice	Specialty practice is a formally identified subset of focused practice. A clear description of that nursing practice assists the larger community of nurses, healthcare consumers, and others to gain familiarity and understanding of the nursing specialty. <i>American Nurses Association</i>

85 – Standard

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
Standard The desirable and achievable level of performance against which actual practice is compared.	

86 – Statute/Law

Definition	Other terms and definitions
Statute/Law	An act of a legislature declaring, commanding or prohibiting something...the written will of the legislative department of government, solemnly expressed according to the forms necessary to constitute it the law of the state. <i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i>

87 – Statutory Regulation

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
<p>Statutory Regulation Regulation that is mandated by law, act, decree or statute.</p>	<p>Legal regulation All nurses are legally accountable for actions taken in the course of professional nursing practice as well as for actions assigned by the nurse to others assisting in the provision of nursing care. Such accountability is accomplished through the legal regulatory mechanisms of licensure and criminal and civil laws.</p> <p><i>American Nurses Association</i></p>

88 – Supervision

Definition	Other terms and definitions
Supervision	<p>Provision of guidance by a qualified nurse for the accomplishment of a nursing task or activity with initial direction of the task or activity and periodic inspection of the actual act of accomplishing the task or activity.</p> <p><i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i></p>
	<p>Supervision in its broadest clinical context is the active process of directing, guiding, and influencing the outcome of an individual's performance of an activity or task</p> <p><i>American Nurses Association</i></p>

89 – Title

Definition	Other terms and definitions
Title	<p>A provision in legislation that authorizes use of a professional title.</p> <p><i>Canadian Nurses Association</i></p>

90 – Unlicensed Assistive Personnel (UAP)

Definition	Other terms and definitions
Unlicensed Assistive Personnel (UAP)	Any unlicensed personnel, regardless of title, to whom nursing tasks are delegated. <i>National Council of State Boards of Nursing</i>

91 – Validation

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
Validation The process of making judgements about professional, vocational and academic programmes, which may lead to a recognised award. This recognition will include meeting criteria reflected in the rules and regulations of the participating bodies.	Meeting criteria reflected in the rules and regulations of the participating bodies and approved by another authority. <i>Japanese Nursing Association</i>

92 – Voluntary Regulation

ICN Definition	Other terms and definitions
Voluntary Regulation Regulation that is conducted by an authority external to the government. The credential or qualification thus earned is not legally required for practice or the service to be rendered.	Certification <i>American Nurses Association</i>