Issues up close
Announcing ANA’s Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice, Third Edition

By Members of the Nursing Scope and Standards Revision Workgroup

**Who**
All RNs, including graduate level-prepared RNs and advanced practice RNs (APRNs), educated, titled, and actively licensed to practice nursing.

**What**
The definition of nursing provides a succinct, inclusive, and descriptive characterization of nursing.

**Why**
Nursing’s response to the changing needs of society to achieve positive healthcare outcomes in keeping with nursing’s social contract with and obligation to society.

**DEFINITIONS**
Nothing can be more central to nursing than the updated definitions of nursing and caring.

**NURSING**
Nursing is the protection, promotion, and optimization of health and abilities, prevention of illness and injury, facilitation of healing, alleviation of suffering through the diagnosis and treatment of human response and advocacy in the care of individuals, families, groups, communities, and populations.

**CARING**
The act of caring is viewed as the moral ideal consisting of human-to-human attempts to protect, enhance, and preserve humanity and human dignity, integrity, and wholeness by assisting a person to find meaning in illness, suffering, pain, and existence. Human caring helps another gain self-knowledge, self-control, self-caring, and self-healing so that a sense of inner harmony is restored regardless of the external circumstances.

The third edition takes a novel perspective on the who, what, why, when, where, and how of nursing.
STANDARDS

Enrich your daily practice with the latest standards of practice and professional performance. All standards have been updated to reflect additional competencies for the graduate level-prepared nurse and APRN.

Standards of practice
Standard 1: Assessment
Standard 2: Diagnosis (expanded for APRNs)
Standard 3: Outcomes identification
Standard 4: Planning
Standard 5: Implementation
  - Standard 5A: Coordination of care
  - Standard 5B: Health teaching and health promotion
Standard 6: Evaluation

Standards of professional performance
Standard 7: Ethics (Check out ANA's new Code of Ethics for Nurses with Interpretive Statements)
Standard 8: Culturally congruent practice*
Standard 9: Communication
Standard 10: Collaboration
Standard 11: Leadership
Standard 12: Education
Standard 13: Evidence-based practice and research
Standard 14: Quality of practice
Standard 15: Professional practice evaluation
Standard 16: Resource utilization
Standard 17: Environmental health

*By adding standard 8, the nursing profession recognizes the need to address culture as an essential part of planning and providing care. The expanded glossary, appendices, and references are rich with resources to assist the nurse to practice in a culturally congruent manner.

We call all registered nurses to action to RAISE the bar by:

Reading Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice, Third Edition
Assessing the document and contemplating what it means to you and your practice
Integrating the scope and standards into practice by developing culturally congruent care in every situation and setting
Sharing the word and encouraging other nurses to integrate the scope and standards into practice
Excelling in using knowledge and conducting and applying research to achieve the highest-quality, evidence-based care.

This document guides your practice as a nurse. Keep it handy and refer to it often. Keep a copy on your laptop, bookshelf, nursing unit, or program syllabus or in the classroom. Share this document with your nurse colleagues, students, administrators, and friends.

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When
Whenever there is a need for nursing knowledge, wisdom, caring, leadership, practice, or education—anytime, anywhere

Where
Across all geographic, political, socioeconomic, and professional boundaries

How
The ways, means, methods, and manners nurses use to practice professionally