Memorandum

To: Advanced Practice Registered Nurses in Oregon and Interested Parties

From: Tracy Klein, MS, FNP, FAANP, Advanced Practice Consultant

Date: February 24, 2010

Board Meeting Update: Continuing Education

Background
At its February 11, 2010 meeting the Board discussed proposed revisions to Division 54 related to continuing education requirements for Clinical Nurse Specialist state certification renewal, following adoption of similar requirements for Nurse Practitioners at its November meeting. Currently, the OSBN has no requirement for continuing education for registered nurses and licensed practical nurses in Oregon with the exception of a one time pain management CE requirement. The following categories of OSBN licensure/certification require continuing education hours to renew in Oregon:

- Certified Medication Aides (8 hours per 2 years)
- Certified Registered Nurse Anesthesists (40 hours per 2 years and national certification)
- Nurse Practitioners (100 hours per 2 years with 15 hours of pharmacology, national certification if licensed after 2011 and can use national certification currently for up to 50% of total CE requirement)
- Clinical Nurse Specialists (40 hours per 2 years, no national certification, 100 hours per 2 years with 15 hours of pharmacology if holding prescriptive authority)

The following factors have generated ongoing analysis at the Board related to continuing education hours:

- A comprehensive audit in 2007 by the Department of Administrative Services for the State of Oregon of the Board of Nursing, which strongly recommended institution of continuing education for all levels of licensure/certification;
- Direction from the Oregon Legislature to all regulatory boards that CE requirements be instituted in conjunction with other discipline specific requirements;
- The Oregon State Board of Nursing's Strategic Plan objectives adopted by the OSBN in 2008 found at: http://www.oregon.gov/OSBN/pdfs/OSBNstrategic_plan9-15-08.pdf.
- Implementation of the following specific measures of the OSBN strategic plan by 2010:

- Audit 10% of CEs for AMA/Advanced Practice
- Audit 5% for meeting practice hour requirements
- Process 75% of licenses within five business days

- Review of models of continued competency in 2011, including:
  - Ccntinuing education, auditing, compliance/civil penalty, non-traditional education, active nursing practice, re-entry for advanced practice, non-US educated nurses.

Current Board regulations and CE Guidelines

- Specific requirements are found in regulation for each role recognized as an advanced practice nurse in Oregon: CNS, CRNA, CNM or CNP. See the OSBN website for regulations which pertain to your specific level of licensure/certification.
- The Board publishes an FAQ related to CE at: http://www.oregon.gov/OSBN/advanced_practice_FAQs.shtml
- Pain management CE information can be found at: **http://www.oregon.gov/OSBN/pain_management.shtml**

Board Direction and Comments Received: Division 50 Rule Changes

- A comprehensive survey done via the listserv in 2009 (n = 210) indicated overall support for national certification for NPs as an initial requirement provided that grandfathering for currently licensed persons is maintained.
- Comments were also received from Clinical Nurse Specialists (12.1%), CRNAs (6.1%) and other interested parties including insurers and students (6.1%).
- Current national certification is held by 64.3% of NP respondents, 79.3% of CNS respondents, and all CRNA respondents.
- Based upon survey feedback the Board proceeded to institute changes to Division 50 for Nurse Practitioners which introduced national certification requirements as well as permitting acceptance of national certification to partially meeting the continuing education requirement for structured learning. This change was consistent with existing CRNA requirements.
- Feedback has been positive from both the licensing department and licensees regarding the option to use national certification to help meet renewal requirements.
- A list of ANCC approved CE providers was adopted into rule with additional provisions for continuing education approved by a Board of Nursing or nursing professional association such as the Oregon Nurses Association.

Board Direction and Comments Received: Division 54 Rule Changes

- The Board directed that similar regulations for Clinical Nurse Specialists codifying recognized accrediting bodies in rule be adopted in order to clarify continuing education questions.
- A comprehensive review was done by the OSBN Advanced Practice Consultant of the following resources in order to obtain an analogous list of CNS CE granting bodies:
  - www. Nacns.org National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists
  - www. Ons.org Oncology Nursing Society

- www. Nursingworld.org American Nurses Credentialing Center
- www. Aacn.org American Association of Critical Care Nurses
- www.awhonn.org/awhonn/ Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
- http://www.pncb.org Pediatric Nursing Certification Board

- Individual CNSs contacted the Board inquiring whether or not national certification could be used to meet CE requirements similar to the regulations for CRNAs and Nurse Practitioners.
- A letter was received from Sue Davidson on behalf of OCCNS at the February 11, 2010 meeting and follow-up will be scheduled with OCCNS.
- An email requesting that we add the American Board for Transplant Certification (ABTC) to the list of providers approved for CE was considered by the Board at its February 11, 2010 meeting. The Board made the following determinations related to continuing education:
  - Approval of the existing guidance and regulations for continuing education for NP and CRNA;
  - Limitation at this time to nursing, pharmacy and medicine accredited organizations, consistent with national certification and Medicare criteria;
  - Continued consideration of draft proposed rules at the June 17, 2010 Board meeting;
  - Further exploration of continued competency generally in accordance with the Board's strategic plan, scheduled for 2011 after audits are completed in 2010;
  - Removal of the proposed Division 54 option to apply national certification to partially meet the structured CE requirement for Clinical Nurse Specialists due to continued dialogue at the national level regarding national certification for CNSs and ANCCs recent removal of the Core CNS exam.

Next Draft and Deadlines for June 17, 2010 Board meeting

- A revised draft will be prepared by Board staff for consideration at the June Board meeting by early May and posted to the OSBN website and listserv.
- OCCNS has been invited to present at the June Board meeting, which is open to the public.
- Comments and hearing testimony will be received by the Board at this meeting.