



Montana Nurses Association Approved Provider Newsletter September 2020



MNA Provider Unit Accreditation

MNA's accredited provider unit has achieved accreditation with distinction for a new 4-year accreditation period! This truly is an honor, as the bar is set very high for achieving distinction for a provider unit. This achievement is the culmination of 4 years of dedication and effort by our professional development team in ensuring exemplary adherence to accreditation criteria while providing professional development opportunities to our members and other nurses, supporting the mission of MNA.

Have You Considered Pharmacotherapeutic Contact Hours?

The ANCC certification program provides guidance on awarding pharmacotherapeutic contact hours for ANCC certified advanced practice nurses with prescriptive authority. Here is the information provided by ANCC:

1. If a provider is developing content to meet the ANCC pharmacotherapeutic hour requirement, content must specifically address pharmacotherapeutics.
2. Pharmacotherapeutic content does not need to be presented by a nurse for the hours to be eligible for re-certification however the presenter must have content expertise in pharmacology.
3. When developing the content for an educational activity, it is recommended that the provider delineate the number of pharmacotherapeutic contact hours.
4. Existing continuing education courses/programs that include pharmacotherapeutic content may be reviewed to calculate the appropriate number of pharmacotherapeutic contact hours.
5. When a speaker develops content for an educational activity, it would be advised that pharmacotherapeutic contact hours contained within the presentation be calculated at that time.

**Pharmacotherapeutic content may include but is not limited to drug specific information, safe prescribing practices, safe medication administration, prescribing methodologies, new regulations or similar content.*

During planning, the nurse planner and planning committee make the decision to award pharmacotherapeutic hours in appropriate situations. It is helpful for an APRN with prescriptive authority participate on the planning committee to help determine the appropriate level of content for APRNs. The content would need to be related to prescribing considerations of the APRN. If a portion of the content relates to pharmacotherapeutics, the certificate would state, "5 contact hours, including 3 pharmacotherapeutic hours".

Please contact us if you have questions regarding applying this information to your activities.

Montana Nurses Association is accredited with distinction as an approver of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

MNA Staff Transitions

Kristi is continuing transition to her new role at MNA. Please direct questions about approved provider criteria-related aspects of your approved provider unit's functions to Kristi as she continues with her orientation. She will consult with Pam to answer questions. Caroline Baughman continues to be the "glue" for the professional development department in her critical role as professional development associate. Please continue to email or call Caroline with logistical and operational questions.

Creating Virtual Exhibit/Vendor Space

As you continue to transition programs to a virtual format, there are considerations regarding exhibit/vendor space. As a reminder, there must be a separation of the educational activity from the virtual exhibit. Please see below for a few general examples of incorporating exhibit/vendor space in the virtual setting:

- Create a separate, individual tab on your activity webpage
- Have a QR code on a slide playing before the sessions get started
- Send a separate email to your learners that simply shares the link to the webpage

Click on the link to access an excellent resource for creating exhibit/virtual space in the learning environment: <https://twitter.com/ANCCcne/status/1260934933800861696>

References and Resources

Here are some references and resources that you might find helpful in your provider unit work. Please email us if you have something you would like to share with your colleagues.

Carter, K. et al. (2020). Educating health professions educators to address the "isms." NAM Perspectives. Commentary, National Academy of Medicine, Washington, DC. <https://doi.org/10.31478/202008e>

Jones-Schenk, J. (2020). Changing Your Mind. *Journal of Continuing Education in Nursing*, 51(9), 397-398.

Mary, S. (2020). How to Develop Soft Skills in the Workplace. Retrieved from <https://trainingmag.com/trgmag-article/how-develop-soft-skills-workplace>

Tenley, J., Powers, S., Tracy, M., (2020). Implementing an Electronic Poster Fair. *Journal for Nurses in Professional Development* 36(4), 191-198

Additionally, we are excited to share that we have an article published ahead of print in JNPD– featuring a resource update for the PD associate role!

https://journals.lww.com/jnsdonline/Abstract/9000/Professional_Development_Associate_Resource.99905.aspx

ANPD Webinar this month: [Enhancing Adult Learning with QR Codes™](#) FREE for ANPD members!

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NARS

I have good news and bad news. The good news: I'm expecting a tiny human! Our family is set to welcome a little girl in November this year, which we're very excited about. The bad news: I won't get to be here for my favorite season...bugging you about NARS attestations! Many of you may recall that we provided a webinar and some resources last year regarding how to enter data into NARS. You can access that information/recording [via this page](#) and by entering the password: 2019APU (in the right column, under "Other Resources")

Please be sure to have all activities entered and your attestation complete by January 31, 2021. If you have any trouble, please don't hesitate to reach out to MNA.

Have something you think would be a good topic for the NARS Corner? Email me at caroline@mtnurses.org

National Professional Development Conferences in 2020 – 2021

ANPD Virtual Convention – September 14-17, 2020; registration information available at www.anpd.org/page/virtual-convention-2020 and [2020 schedule at-a-glance](#)

2021 ANPD Annual Convention **UPDATED** – August 3-6, 2021 – Chicago, IL ([Save the Date – download calendar appointment](#)): Aspire to Inclusivity Live & Virtual Conference

Contact Information

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Find self-study modules for nurse planners at:



To access the self-study modules for nurse planners, visit the approved provider site accessed from the MNA web site's home page, <https://www.mtnurses.org/professionaldevelopment/apus/> and use password **2019APU**.

Here you will find additional helpful resources such including:

- Monthly newsletters
- Provider Unit materials including documentation templates and application materials
- Links to monthly calls
- And more!