

## **National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists 2013 - 2015 Legislative and Regulatory Agenda**

The mission of NACNS is to enhance and promote the unique, high value contribution of the clinical nurse specialist to the health and well being of individuals, families, groups, and communities, and to promote and advance the practice of nursing. NACNS is committed to build, support and work with policy makers, healthcare organizations and other professional groups and industry to promote an agenda to address the most pressing issues facing the nursing profession. Our goal is to effectively represent the clinical nurse specialist perspective in all aspects of the practice environment through advocacy efforts.

### **Education and Workforce**

- Advocate for an increase to the FY 2013, FY 2014 and FY 2015 federal appropriations for the Nurse Education Act, Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act. Given the fiscal environment, it is essential to work to hold the line on federal funding of these critical programs.
- Broaden the funding opportunities available for nursing programs outside the direct purview of the Department of Health and Human Services. This includes funding opportunities within the Departments of Education, Labor and Homeland Security.
- Collaborate with the Department of Labor to recognize the clinical nurse specialist as a “detailed occupation” in the standard occupation classification.
- Support the efforts of the federal departments such as Center for Medicare and Medicaid, Departments of Defense, Indian Health Service and Veterans Affairs to ensure a high quality and appropriately educated Federal nursing workforce and utilize the clinical nurse specialist role.

### **CNS Role**

- Collaborate with partners such as the NCSBN, LACE and the State and Federal regulators and government officials to ensure that proposed regulatory changes achieve desired results and do not limit or have a negative impact on patient safety, access

- of patients and the economic the role and employment of the clinical nurse specialist.
- Work within taskforces and other aligned groups and associations to ensure clinical nurse specialist as knowledge-based, advanced practice professionals are able to function within their full education and professional training.
  - Promote the IOM recommendations that articulate the need to utilize nurses to the full extent of their education and professional training.

### **Information Technology**

- Advocate for the role of nursing in the design, acquisition and implementation of information systems
- Effectively represent the role of the clinical nurse specialist in the legislative and policy arenas of information technology in order to document the impact of CNS care within the different patient care environments.

### **Continued Healthcare Reform Efforts**

- Pursue legislative efforts to promote reimbursement for clinical nurse specialist services in all settings, including home health services.
- Support efforts to validate advanced practice nursing contributions in value- based purchasing, accountable care organizations, and medical (primary care) homes, among other models of care.
- Advocate for and support programs and initiatives that will ensure a safe and quality driven environment for patients and patient care providers.
- Work with Federal and State legislators to shape policies that govern the work environment that recognizes the unique contribution of the role of the clinical nurse specialist.
- Continue to monitor and promote the role of CNS.
- Collaborate with other nursing organizations in the work to implement the CMS- directed GNE Demonstration that optimizes successful analysis of the role of nurses.