



## National Clinical Nurse Specialist Recognition Week Begins September 1

**[Hospital/Health Care System] Will Celebrate with [Activity]**

September 1 – 7 marks Clinical Nurse Specialist Recognition Week, and [hospital/health care system] is participating this year by [describe activity].

Clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) are a crucial part of the health care team. [Insert quote from hospital or health care system spokesperson about the importance of clinical nurse specialists.]

[Hospital/health care system] employs [number of] CNSs who work in different departments and with different patient populations, creating, monitoring and evaluating cost-effective, evidence-based policies, procedures, protocols and best practice models. [Describe a way in which a CNS-led team has had a direct impact, for instance, reducing medication errors, patient falls, readmissions or something similar].

Nursing theorist Dr. Hildegard Peplau created the CNS role in health care. In 1952, she published her landmark book, *Interpersonal Relations in Nursing*, which emphasized the nurse-client relationship as the foundation for nursing practice, and is the basis of the CNS role in health care. In 1956, at Rutgers University School of Nursing, Dr. Peplau established the first nursing Master's Degree program focused exclusively on clinical practice. The graduates of this program were called clinical specialists.

In 2009, the [National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists](#) created CNS Recognition Week to celebrate CNS contributions to ensuring patient safety and improving health care and health care delivery. The theme for CNS Recognition Week this year is *Clinical Nurse Specialists: Leading Change for Healthier Lives*.

Today, there are approximately 72,000 CNSs nationwide.