

WHY YOU SHOULD BECOME A CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST(CNS)

Clinical nurse specialists provide advanced care to patients within a specialty area (direct care) and improve nursing outcomes and system processes (indirect care).

- Are you passionate about improving nursing practice?
- Do you speak up when you see a problem?
- Are you an advocate for patients, families, & nurses?
- Do you enjoy teaching patients, families, & nurses?
- Do you become bothered by workplace issues that need to be fixed?
- Do others come to you to solve problems?
- Do you enjoy collaborating with others?
- Do you have expertise or certification in a certain area of practice?

AM I A FUTURE CNS?

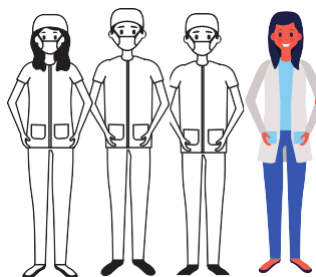


If you answered “**Yes**” to any of these questions, **you should consider becoming a CNS.**

DID YOU KNOW?



CNS IS 1 OF THE 4 TYPES OF APRN

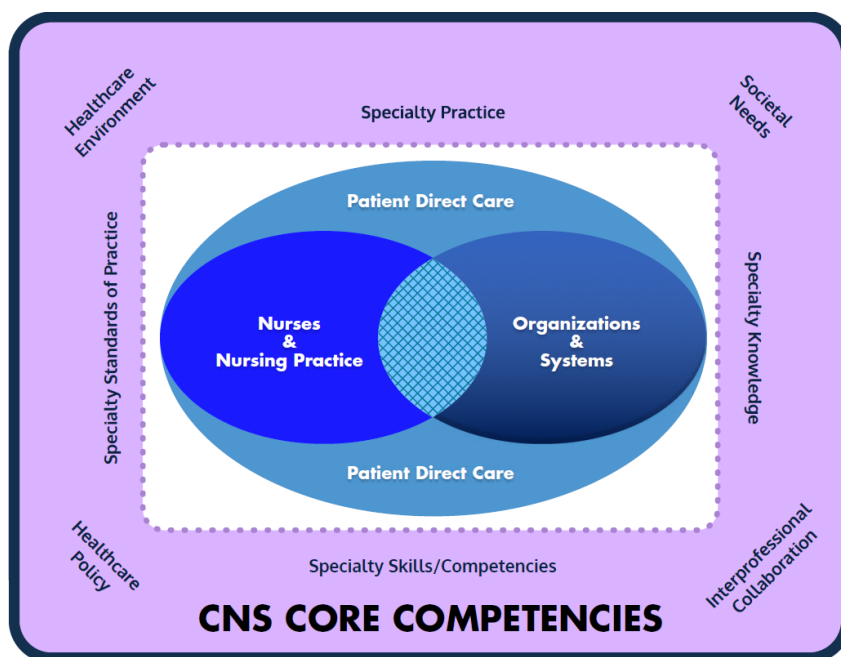


- CNSs are one of the 4 advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs)-clinical nurse specialists, certified nurse midwives, nurse anesthetists, certified nurse practitioners.
- CNSs can prescribe and bill for services according to Medicare laws and rules. (State laws and rules vary, but many have the same rules for CNSs and NPs.)
- CNSs work in acute care, outpatient/ambulatory settings, home health care, or as consultants/entrepreneurs.
- CNSs practice in 3 spheres of impact (patient, nurse, and systems) to provide advanced care, improve nursing practice, streamline system processes, and reduce costs.
- The demand for CNSs has increased and will continue to increase.

Scan this QR code to watch award-winning [videos](#) about the CNS role:



Clinical Nurse Specialists work within 3 Spheres of Impact to ensure the highest quality of care:



Patient Direct Care

CNSs provide direct specialized care to patients and assist other nurses with direct patient care.

Nurses and Nursing Practice

CNSs are go-to experts for other nurses in the practice area and serve as teachers and mentors to ensure standards of patient care are met.

Organizations/Systems

CNSs work with interdisciplinary teams to make improvements within their organizations, such as implementing new evidence-based practice guidelines.

Articles comparing APRN roles:

Doherty, C., Pawlow, P. & Becker, D. (2018, January 17). The consensus model: What current and future NPs need to know. <https://www.myamericannurse.com/consensus-model-nps/>

Becker, D., & Dechant, L. M. (2020). Practice Analysis: Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner and Clinical Nurse Specialist. *American Journal of Critical Care*, 29(2), e19–e30. <https://doi.org/10.4037/ajcc2020918>

Mohr, L. D., & Coke, L. A. (2018). Distinguishing the Clinical Nurse Specialist From Other Graduate Nursing Roles. *Clinical Nurse Specialist: The Journal For Advanced Nursing Practice*, 32(3), 139-151. doi:10.1097/NUR.0000000000000373