



Nurses Identify Need for Specialized Education in Preparing and Implementing RNCM Practice Roles

Since the 2010 passage of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) there has been a significant increase in the call for Registered Nurses to practice in case manager, care manager, and care coordination roles in all practice settings. Demonstration projects taking place from the early 1980s to present describe evidence based nurse practice models that have emerged and are being implemented in contemporary practice. The PPACA specifically highlights care coordination via case management as “an essential component of high quality care” and is a requirement of both Accountable Care Organizations and Patient Centered Health Care Homes.

The complexity of patients with multiple chronic conditions concurrent with the changes occurring within the U.S. healthcare system require specialized knowledge that expands on basic principles of care coordination learned in undergraduate and graduate nursing education. To date, most practice sites provide “in-house” or “on the job training” for RNs hired to fill contemporary roles. Reliance on “on the job training” is simply not enough to ensure success in the full implementation of these new and emerging RNCM roles. Data from the **National RN Case Manager Certificate Program** shows that RNs - both employed and practicing in the role (45%) as well as those preparing for the role and seeking employment (55%) recognize that additional knowledge and skills are needed to ensure their professional success

RNs also have specific reasons for enrolling in the **National RNCM Certificate Program**. These include gaining specialized knowledge, increasing confidence in role performance, and positioning themselves for specialty/board certification.

National RNCM Nurse leaders recognize that specialized education of RNs as they adopt new and emerging case manager, care manager and advanced care coordination roles is essential to assure success of both the nurse and the healthcare organization. **The design of the National RN Case Manager Certificate Program provides Registered Nurses with the opportunity to:**

1. Acquire the essential knowledge needed to fill emerging roles in case management, care management and care coordination across patient care settings.
2. Utilize evidence based strategies consistent with national initiatives designed to support health equity, ensure patient centered care delivery, and address social determinants of health.
3. Gain confidence in their ability to implement RN Case Manager and Advanced Care Coordination role development into practice.
4. Position themselves to meet CE eligibility requirements for specialty credentialing through ANCC, the American Nurses Credentialing Center and for recertification with both ANCC, and CCMC, the Commission for Case Manager Certification.

Completion of this program addresses the education standards needed to expand traditional care coordination and case management roles in direct practice and in leadership and management.