

AMERICAN  
ASSOCIATION  
*of* CRITICAL-CARE  
NURSES

[www.aacn.org/community](http://www.aacn.org/community)

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# A Community of Exceptional Nurses

Connecting **YOU** to solutions

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## **YOU** are an inspiration ...

to your patients who need the most care, who are in the most pain, with whom you experience some of life's most profound moments. You have the privilege of seeing and knowing things that most people never will.

AACN is a community of nurses like you who understand the demands of nursing and are here to support you, applaud you and inspire you in your professional journey, just as you inspire us.

We've created this resource so you'll know what is possible when our AACN community joins together to share our challenges and our knowledge. Together, we create solutions that make our work easier and our practice better. In the pages ahead, you'll find a sampling of what the AACN community offers you.

To learn more, visit us online at [www.aacn.org/community](http://www.aacn.org/community).



When you're a nurse you know that every day you will touch a life or

a life will touch you. —Anonymous

AACN [connects you to people and resources

that help solve issues that are important to] **YOU**

Patients and their families rely on nurses ...

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AACN resources are for  
nurses who care for patients  
at the bedside ...

**staff nurses**

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... and the nurses who support them ...

**advanced practice nurses**

**educators**

**nurse managers**

**administrators**

... at the most vulnerable times of their lives.



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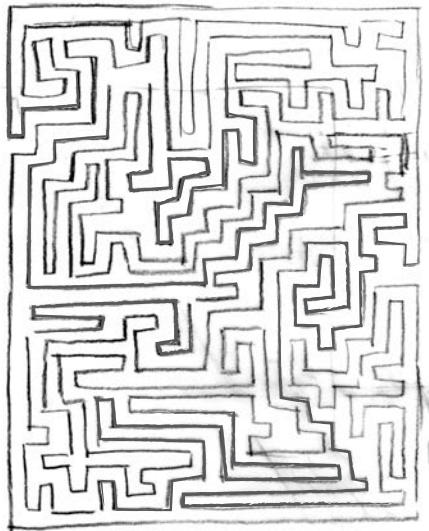
## Problems & Solutions

The benefit of community is hearing about what's going on in nurses' lives around the country. Because AACN is a community of more than 150,000 nurses, we know what problems you face. Your membership in AACN connects you to other acute and critical care nurses, creating a community that is more influential than any individual nurse. Our highest priority is to support you in influencing your practice environment so you can better care for your patients. We have access to clinical and practical expertise and insights that allow us to create the standards for acute and critical care nursing.

We understand the challenges you encounter day-to-day and want to provide you with easy access to solutions developed with you, your practice and your patients in mind.

Acute and critical care nurses rely on AACN for expert knowledge ...

Not enough time at the bedside ...



## Problem

The to-do list is growing longer. Staffing often is not optimal. Increased documentation takes you away from your patient's bedside. New technologies meant to make your job easier frequently make things more difficult.

... being with your patients is why you became a nurse.

## Solution

We can't add more hours to your day, but our resources can provide you with better ways to manage the constant time crunch.

**Pocket Reference Guides,** quick resources to answer the most common clinical questions [bookstore]

**Practice Alerts,** easy references to ensure your practice is evidence-based [free download]

**AACN Critical Care Webinar Series,** live presentations to keep you current on the latest research and evidence-based practices [free]

**AACN Scope and Standards for Acute and Critical Care Nursing Practice,** includes measurement criteria and how nurses meet each standard [bookstore]

**AACN CriticalCare eNewsline,** weekly e-newsletter to keep you up-to-date on nursing practice issues [free]

**Practice Resource Network (PRN),** experts to answer your pressing clinical questions [free]

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... and the influence to fulfill their promise to patients and families.

Communicating the hard stuff ...

## Problem

Communicating the hard stuff is hard. Speak up about an important issue or keep quiet? It's a choice you face every day. You know having tough conversations is an important part of advocating for your patients, but you don't always feel you have the time or the skills.



AACN drives excellence because nothing less is acceptable.

... someone's life depends on you talking about it.

## Solution

AACN provides the resources you need to say the things that need to be said. Develop a bolder voice with these resources.

**Promoting Excellence in Palliative and End-of-Life Care**, an e-learning course designed to help ease stress in caring for patients in transition [website]

**AACN Standards for Establishing and Sustaining Healthy Work Environments**, the standards for communication and collaboration [free download]

**Crucial Conversations: Tools for Talking When Stakes Are High** [bookstore]

**When Nurses Hurt Nurses: Overcoming the Cycle of Nurse Bullying** [bookstore]

**Four A's to Rise Above Moral Distress** [free download]

**Crucial Accountability: Tools for Resolving Broken Promises, Violated Expectations, and Bad Behavior** [bookstore]

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Work-life balance ...

## Problem

Finding your work-life balance.



AACN is dedicated to creating a healthcare system ...

... you have to care for yourself to be able to care for others.

## Solution

AACN provides resources and experiences to help you re-energize your mind, body and spirit. As nurses, we know you're likely to spend significant time nourishing your mind—gaining new clinical knowledge to advance your practice. But do you take enough time to nurture your body and spirit? Like most nurses, you put everyone and everything before yourself. We're here to remind you to give yourself the same great care you give your patients.

**B is for Balance: A Nurse's Guide for Enjoying Life at Work and at Home** [bookstore]

**The REAL Healthcare Reform: How Embracing Civility Can Beat Back Burnout and Revive Your Healthcare Career** [bookstore]

**National Teaching Institute & Critical Care Exposition**, largest annual gathering of acute and critical care nurses, laughing and learning together [conference]

**Four A's to Rise Above Moral Distress** [free download]

**A Daybook for Critical Care Nurses** [bookstore]

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Providing what you need for yourself and your patients is why we exist. This is a small sampling of the hundreds of resources we offer ...

... driven by the needs of patients and families ...

## free resources

Practice Resource Network (PRN)

AACN CriticalCare eNewsline

Standards

AACN Bold Voices

Clinical Links

AACN Critical Care Webinar Series

Advocacy Resources

Practice Alerts

AACN CSI Academy Innovation Database

## other essential resources

National Teaching Institute & Critical Care Exposition

AACN Procedure Manual for Critical Care

Unlimited free CNEs with membership

AACN Essentials of Critical Care Nursing

Online Bookstore with hundreds of practice resources

To learn more about everything we've created and collected for you, we invite you to visit our website, [www.aacn.org/community](http://www.aacn.org/community). Or you can call us toll-free for live, personal assistance at (800) 899-2226. We'd love to get to know you.

## How are AACN's resources selected?

Our community of experts determines the most pressing gaps where nurses need resources. In many cases, we create the resource ourselves. In other cases, we've found excellent existing products from other sources. The nurses on our staff gather and review resources that we think are best-in-class and will be most effective in helping you stay up-to-date on the latest evidence-based practices.

AACN is referred to as the "gold standard" by those who know acute and critical care nursing. We have earned this reputation, because our community of experts has been setting the standards for acute and critical care since critical care emerged as a specialty in 1969. Having access to best practices nationwide through the best clinical minds in our profession is the most important benefit we can offer nurses and patients.

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We compile best practices and the evidence that supports them into standards, protocols, procedures and practice alerts—resources that guide nurses in how to keep patients safe.

... where acute and critical care nurses make their optimal contribution.

AACN is a community of equals who move in different but complementary directions toward a common goal, giving strength and support to each other.



## volunteers

are the experts who create standard-setting resources that drive evidence-based practice.

## you

are a leader of positive change in your organization, with the support of the AACN community.

## chapters

are the local community of nurses collaborating to further their knowledge, advocate for what nurses and patients need, and support and encourage each other.

## board of directors

are nurses from around the country who set the direction of our community, based on what we need to give excellent patient care.

## members

join the AACN community to show their pride—the pride of becoming an expert nurse and advancing the profession.

## staff

keep the AACN community connected. We ensure your stories are told. We make and collect the resources you need.

Get to know more about your AACN community—visit [www.aacn.org/community](http://www.aacn.org/community)



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Give the best of yourself ...  
... and to yourself.

Only good things will come of it.

This resource is available online at [www.aacn.org/community](http://www.aacn.org/community), so you can share it with a colleague you think would benefit from knowing more about AACN.