



Community Updates

Forensic Nursing Certification Board-FNCB



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Spring 2025 Updates

It's been an exciting few months collaborating with the accomplished forensic nurses serving on the board and committees. Together, we continue the journey Virginia Lynch began with her 1986 master's thesis—to define forensic nursing for future generations. Last year, we reached a major milestone with the publication of the Forensic Nursing Core Competencies for Generalist and Advanced Forensic Nurses in JAFN (Speck et al., 2024). This research, developed through consensus among practice and academic leaders, updated the forensic nursing domains and outlined competencies aligned with the AACN Essentials—laying the groundwork for certification. If you haven't read the article yet, check it out here: [\[Speck et al., 2024 – JAFN\]](#).

As more forensic nurses pursue graduate degrees, many question why some programs focus on sub-specialties instead of offering a comprehensive forensic nursing curriculum. This important question fuels our next research phase—defining a national core curriculum for graduate-level forensic nursing. In the coming months, we'll convene expert clinicians and educators to develop this curriculum for all accredited graduate nursing schools interested in expanding or launching forensic nursing programs.

Certification continues to grow: nearly 150 nurses have earned their GFN-CTM, AFN-CTM, or IVSE-CTM credentials over the past three years. The 2024 exam pass rate is 80.3%! Nurses consistently credit the study guides for their success and deeper learning. Congratulations to our CERTIFIED FORENSIC NURSES!

We look forward to connecting with many of you at the upcoming AFN Regional Conferences. Stop by the FNCB booth for updates, swag, and giveaways! Also, follow the Forensic Nursing Certification Board on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn for our most popular content—pediatric abuse and strangulation case studies, survivor interviews, and more. You can even vote on our next case study topic: Abusive Head Trauma or Sexual Assault. Cast your vote on Facebook today! In May, we launch our live Zoom question and answer sessions, *"Have questions about Certification? We've got answers."* For more, visit FNCB's website at <https://goforensicncb.org/> and email us at forensicncb@gmail.com.