

# AORN Education News

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Center for Perioperative Education



*“It’s what you  
learn after you  
know it all that  
counts.”*

*John Wooden*

## What’s New?

### Confidence-Based Learning

Easily accessible online learning that enhances  
patient and workplace safety

Creating mastery of knowledge in the workplace, AORN’s confidence-based learning (CBL) modules are based on *AORN’s Perioperative Standards and Recommended Practices*.

#### Be Confident in Your Knowledge

Right away, CBL questions determine level of knowledge and the learner’s confidence in that knowledge. As a learner progresses through the module(s), educational resources explain the correct answers to questions answered incorrectly or without confidence. The learner continues through the module(s) until mastery is achieved, which means that his or her knowledge is correct with a high level of confidence.

Coming soon:

- Hand Hygiene
- Cleaning and Care of Surgical Instruments
- Care of the Older Adult (in addition to the RP series)
- Tissue Banking (in addition to the RP series)
- Moderate Sedation
- Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection

For more information, visit our web page at

[www.aorn.org/Education/ContinuingEducation/ConfidenceBasedLearning/](http://www.aorn.org/Education/ContinuingEducation/ConfidenceBasedLearning/)

## Upcoming Events

- ◆ Webinar - Standardized Perioperative Framework - July 22
- ◆ Executive Symposium - Aug 30 - Sept 1
- ◆ Informatics Conference Sept 11 - 12

## Webinars - Your “Virtual” Education Connection

Learn about the latest regulatory changes or improvements in the health care field from the comfort of your workplace or home. AORN will offer webinars **every quarter** on important ‘hot topics’ such as Infection Prevention in the Ambulatory Setting.

Webinars are an invaluable tool that allows efficient use of time and money to train, market and inform a vast audience base. Many webinars are interactive - so you can ask questions and give feedback. Some of the hot topic webinars are focused on the ambulatory setting and are intended to provide critical information on new conditions of coverage from CMS.

For more information, visit our website at

[www.aorn.org/Education/ProfessionalDevelopment/AORNWebinars/](http://www.aorn.org/Education/ProfessionalDevelopment/AORNWebinars/)

## What's New? Periop 101 - Modified Courses

To help ensure quality care in the L&D OR suite, education must be comparable to that of the main OR. Encouraging nurses who circulate in the L&D OR suite to participate in the Periop 101 curriculum is one step in the right direction.

--Katie Schimmelpfennig, RN  
Women's Center Clinical Instructor  
St. Luke's Health System

### Periop 101: A Core Curriculum - Considerations for the OB RN Circulator

This new module is intended to provide supplemental information for the OB RN circulator who is caring for the obstetric patient in the OB surgical suite. The information in this module builds on the content of the previous modules that comprise Periop 101: A Core Curriculum. This module should be accessed after the learner has successfully completed the 23 modules that comprise the Periop 101: A Core Curriculum course for the OB RN circulator. The module content is based on the *AORN Perioperative Standards and Recommended Practices* which can and should be implemented in all areas of the facility where surgical or other invasive procedures are performed, including the OB surgical suite.

Special considerations in prepping, positioning, electrode placement and other areas will be covered in the module. For more information, email [periop101@aorn.org](mailto:periop101@aorn.org).

The **Periop 101 Achievement Pin** is an award that Periop 101 Administrators can give to students who successfully pass the final exam for the Periop 101 course. Pins are \$10. For more information, call 800-755-2676, Ext. 1.



### Med Student and Physician Assistant Curriculum

AORN is now offering an education program for orientation of medical students and physician assistants to the perioperative setting. This group of six modules covers the following topics:

- The Surgical Environment
- Aseptic Technique
- Safety in the Surgical Suite
- Surgical Instruments
- Scrubbing, Gowning and Gloving
- Hemostasis, Sponges and Drains

For Periop 101 license holders, this "modified course" is available for \$185. Students will have access to the course on AORN's Learning Management System for a six-month period. For more information, email [periop101@aorn.org](mailto:periop101@aorn.org).

### Prep for CNOR Update

This online course prepares you for successful completion of the CNOR examination. The goal of this course is to assist perioperative nurses in preparing to take the CNOR exam, reduce the level of intimidation, and increase the probability of passing the CNOR exam. For more information, visit our website at [www.aorn.org/Education/ProfessionalDevelopment/PreparingForTheCNORExam/](http://www.aorn.org/Education/ProfessionalDevelopment/PreparingForTheCNORExam/)

Now updated with the new Standards and more practice questions!

### Taking the Show on the Road

AORN, in partnership with Cross Country Education, will now offer the opportunity to earn CEs at convenient and affordable locations nationwide. Stay tuned for more information on these one-day seminars and workshops, coming soon to a city near you!



## AORN Center for Perioperative Education

**Lisa Alikhan** is the Congress Education Program Coordinator in the Center for Perioperative Education. She works closely with the Education Specialists, the CPE Director, and other departments within AORN to facilitate the planning and operational components of this annual event. She is the Staff Liaison for the Congress Education Planning Committee, and prepares and organizes education proposals for committee review. She is also responsible for ensuring that speakers are in compliance with ANCC Content Provider Guidelines when presenting on behalf of AORN.

**Susan K. Bakewell, MS, RN-BC** is the Director, Center for Perioperative Education, for the Association of perioperative Registered Nurses (AORN). Susan has been a member of the staff of the AORN Center for Perioperative Education for fourteen years. Susan has been involved in nursing education in various roles. She has been a faculty member at three- and four-year nursing programs. Her teaching experience includes working with generic and BSN completion students in the classroom and clinical setting. She has worked in the field of nursing continuing education and staff education in several clinical areas. Susan is administratively responsible for the American Nurses' Credentialing Center's (ANCC) accredited provider and approver units, and the state board of nursing provider unit held by AORN. Susan previously worked for the Colorado Nurses Association as an Education Specialist responsible for the provider and approver units through ANCC. Susan is a member of AORN, ANA, the Colorado Nurses Association, Sigma Theta Tau, ASAE, and ASTD. Susan is the Vice Chair of the American Nurses' Credentialing Center (ANCC) Commission on Accreditation and Chair of the Accreditation Review Committee.

**Laurie Clark** is the Periop 101 Program Manager and has been with AORN for nearly nine years. Her current work includes providing customer support to the current Periop 101 online licensees, mainly through contact with the Course Administrators. She also promotes and sells Periop 101 to new customers (visit <http://www.aorn.org/Education/Periop101/>), as well as keeps the online Perioperative Nursing Program Directory and Periop 101 database updated with new Periop 101 facility and contact information (visit <http://www.aorn.org/Education/EducationResources/PeriopNursingCourseDirectory/>). In the past, Laurie managed the CD-ROM/paper-based Periop 101 course, as well as education videos and all other independent studies.

**Cathy Halterbaum** is the Instructional Designer/AORN Learning Center (ALC) Administrator. She has been with the Center for Perioperative Education for five years. She came from the corporate sector working at Lucent Technologies and Accenture Learning as an instructional designer and trainer. Cathy's main job at AORN is keeping the Periop 101 modules up to date per the new and revised Recommended Practices. Other areas in which she has responsibilities include the AORN Learning Center administrator, communication with our ALC vendor, GeoLearning, and troubleshooting an issues that may arise for our students and administrators as they access our online courses. In addition to revising the current Periop 101 modules, she works with RN's at AORN and within our membership to develop new modules to complement and enhance the Periop 101 course such as the newest module due out next month called "Considerations for the OB RN Circulator."

**Sue Hardin**, Education Program Coordinator, previously worked for AORN as Congress and World Conference Program Coordinate for five years. She returned to AORN in January 2009 to coordinate CPE's face-to-face events, such as the Magnet, Leadership, Executive Symposium, and Fall Multispecialty Conferences. Sue also assists with the annual Congress by coordinating the Poster Sessions and Moderator/Session Assistant assignments. She has cross-trained in the processes used for on-line courses, webinars, and is helping review the Periop 101 modules. Sue supports the International Relations Committee and will coordinate the International Symposium held at Congress.

**Holly Heston**, Instructional Designer, has seven years of experience creating online education programs for nurses. She manages the content development, staff training, and implementation of the new Confidence-Based Learning (CBL) programs. She recently completed the updates on the Preparing for the CNOR online course and is working on the upcoming Older Adult Competency and Tissue Banking CBL modules. Other responsibilities include ongoing maintenance and update issues on the ALC.

**Warm Fuzzies ...**

*I went into the CE Approval Process section of the website today to check on the new prices. I found your power point presentation & just wanted to say you did a very nice job--it is VERY well done. Kudos to the author(s).*

--Kathy

*You have been a great help to me in making our seminar come to life. Thanks for all of the help over the past year. I plan to help Mellissa and Karen with the programs next year, otherwise you are done with me! Thanks again for all of the help.*

--Cindy

*The Periop 101 online program is going very well. I like the format. My new students are doing great!*

--Sandra Buckley, RN, BSN, CNOR, OR Clinical Educator

*AORN is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation*

*AORN is provider-approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider Number CEP 13019.*

**Radhika Pradhan**, Education Program Coordinator. Radhika's position at AORN involves working in collaboration with members of the Center for Perioperative Education. She communicates status and updates related education activities and assures accreditation by managing the electronic ANCC file. Her job includes managing functions of the continuing education activities for all online education modules like Ambulatory Surgery and Periop 101, education videos and webinars.

**Ellen Reeder**, Project Coordinator, Approver Process. For the past five years, Ellen has worked closely with Nurse Education Planners at AORN to coordinate and plan logistical aspects of many programs, including Congress 2006 and the Multispecialty Fall 2006 conferences. Ellen has been in the role of project coordinator, Approver Unit since June 2006, and is currently working on instructional design projects for AORN CBL. She's also helping to edit and update Periop 101 as necessary. Ellen currently holds an MA in Communications and will begin working toward her Master's degree in Instructional Design and Adult Education at the University of Colorado, Denver this Fall.

**Susan Root, RN, MSN, CNOR** joined the AORN Center for Perioperative Education in October 2003. She brought with her almost 30 years of progressive perioperative experience ranging from staff nurse to educator, to manager and director of surgical services in northern California hospitals. Susan has taught as adjunct faculty at a local community college. Prior to coming to AORN, Susan served as director for multiple acute care departments, including ICU, OR, ED, SPD, and Endoscopy. Susan is currently the Education Products Manager with AORN. In this position, she is responsible for managing, designing and executing a wide range of educational products including AORN's online Periop 101: A Core Curriculum, specialty conferences, Perioperative Management Resource manuals and various clinical and management online programs utilizing multiple teaching modalities in collaboration with peers, association staff, volunteers and other business entities.

**Kim Simkins** provides administrative support for the Center of Perioperative Education. She has over 22 years of experience with AT&T and Lucent Technologies as an administrative manager, including 6 years as a technical instructor for Fortune 500 companies. She supports the CPE by scheduling and coordinating meetings, taking and transcribing minutes, processing expenses and ordering supplies, and assisting the approval process Program Coordinator with monitoring applications for contact hours when submitted for approval, according to current ANCC requirements. Kim also assists the Periop 101 Program Manager with new and renewed purchases, printing and mailing free membership offer letters, and mailing copies of completed contracts to the subscribing facilities. Kim also works closely with the CPE Director assisting in various administrative tasks, and supports other members of the CPE team on projects, as needed

**Marisa Tapia, RN, MSN, CNS** Prior to her current position as a Perioperative Education Specialist at AORN, Marisa Tapia was the System Clinical Nurse Specialist for Surgical Services at Lee Memorial Health System. Her past experience as a Clinical Nurse Specialist includes education and staff development for all members of the surgical team. She served on numerous committees to facilitate educational outcomes management initiatives and served on "the Road to Magnet" committees both at the unit level and at the system level. Tapia served on Active Duty in the US Army from 1993 to 1998 where she attended the US Army Nurse Corps Perioperative Course. In March 2003, Tapia was activated and served two consecutive years at Womack Army Medical Center, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Her primary role at Fort Bragg was that of education for Operative Nursing Services, as well as maintaining her clinical skills in the operating room.