



AORN and CCI Commit to Increase Educational and Certification Opportunities for Perioperative Nurses

(Denver, CO) Oct. 8, 2019 – The Association of periOperative Registered Nurses ([AORN](#)) and the Competency and Credentialing Institute ([CCI](#)) have announced a new partnership to develop improved educational opportunities to support the career development of perioperative nurses. The organizations share a commitment to lifelong learning and professional development for the nurses who work in the pre-, intra- and post-operative care of surgical patients and the belief that quality education provides the foundation for safe patient care.

In 2020, AORN and CCI will present new educational offerings and resources aligned to better assist individuals and facilities to take advantage of certifications and additional pathways to certification.

AORN was established in 1949 as a membership association. Today, the organization unites and empowers perioperative nurses, healthcare organizations, and industry partners to support safe surgery for every patient, every time. AORN resources are used in every hospital and ambulatory center across the country, including the evidence-based *Guidelines for Perioperative Practice*, perioperative staff education, leadership development, career guidance, and facility and health system solutions.

“At AORN, our goal is to support a perioperative nursing workforce that is engaged in lifelong learning. For all the nursing challenges that health care transformation present, it offers just as many opportunities,” said AORN CEO/Executive Director Linda Groah, MSN, RN, CNOR, NEA-BC, FAAN. “But those opportunities are only available to the nurses who are prepared to take advantage of them. This partnership with CCI will enable perioperative nurses in hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers to perform at the highest level of competency.”

CCI is a leader in credentialing, nursing competency assessment and education for the perioperative nursing community. For more than 35 years, CCI has administered the CNOR credentialing program, and now also administers the CSSM and CNS-CP credentialing programs. The company currently certifies more than 40,000 nurses.

“Perioperative nursing is a demanding, technology-intensive specialty with a rapid pace of change. Certification programs such as the CNOR credential validate the knowledge needed to practice in the specialty. The recertification processes for the CNOR credential facilitate lifelong learning designed to enhance the competency of a perioperative nurse practicing in a variety of perioperative roles,” said James Stobinski, PhD, RN, CNOR, president of CCI.

AORN and CCI partnered to create the Professional Educator, Perioperative Certificate of Mastery ([PEP COM](#)) Pre-Conference Program which has been updated by CCI for presentation as a workshop on March 27, 2020, one day prior to the start of the [AORN Global Surgical Conference & Expo](#) in Anaheim, CA. This workshop will provide new and seasoned educators the knowledge and tools needed to provide exceptional orientation and professional development opportunities for the entire perioperative team.