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**NEWS RELEASE**



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## **ANA and International Association of Forensic Nurses Co-Publish First Standards for Forensic Nursing**

**Silver Spring, MD** – The American Nurses Association (ANA) and the International Association of Forensic Nurses (IAFN) today released *Forensic Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice*, a comprehensive reference guide that identifies and defines the expectations for the role and practice of the forensic nurse. Forensic nursing focuses not only on providing patient care, but its practitioners also collect evidence, counsel patients and communicate with professionals in legal systems.

Developed by a panel of nurse experts convened by the ANA and the IAFN, the guide outlines six standards for forensic nursing practice and nine standards for professional performance. In addition, the guide articulates the essentials of this specialty, its accountabilities and activities – the who, what, when, where and how of its practice – both for specialists and generalists and those who work with them. Forensic nurses are among the most diverse groups of clinicians in the nursing profession with respect to patient populations served, practice settings, and forensic and healthcare services provided. Yet all forensic nurses apply a unique combination of processes rooted in nursing science, forensic science, and public health to care for patients.

In addition to recommended standards of professional performance, the book's summary discussion of the scope of forensic nursing practice -- including characteristics, trends,

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### ***ANA and IAFN Co-Publish First Standard for Forensic Nursing, Cont'd. 2/2***

education, practice environments, and its ethical and conceptual bases -- lends an informative and broad context for the reader's understanding and use of these standards.

While *Forensic Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice* is a reference primarily for practicing nurses and nursing faculty and students, it is also an essential document for other specialists in forensic care, such as healthcare providers, researchers, scholars, and those involved in funding, legal, policy, and regulatory activities.

Review copies for educators and press copies for media contacts are available upon request by sending an email to [francine.bennett@ana.org](mailto:francine.bennett@ana.org). Educators should include name of school, contact information, course/program title and student enrollment in course using the book. Press should include name of publication, organization, reviewer name and address information including phone and email address.

#### **ABOUT THIS BOOK**

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#### **About ANA**

*The American Nurses Association (ANA) is the only full-service professional organization representing the interests of the nation's 2.9 million registered nurses through its 51 constituent member nurses associations and its 24 specialty nursing and workforce advocacy affiliate organizations that currently connect to ANA as affiliates. The ANA advances the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting the rights of nurses in the workplace, projecting a positive and realistic view of nursing, and by lobbying the Congress and regulatory agencies on health care issues affecting nurses and the public.*

*Nursesbooks.org, the publishing program of the American Nurses Association, publishes a variety of books and monographs. These works translate the latest in evidence-based and related healthcare activities into practice-centered resources for nurse leaders, managers, practitioners, educators, and students. To learn more, go to [www.nursesbooks.org](http://www.nursesbooks.org), a part of the ANA website, [www.NursingWorld.org](http://www.NursingWorld.org).*

#### **About IAFN**

*The International Association of Forensic Nursing is a not-for-profit professional membership organization whose mission is to provide leadership in forensic nursing practice by developing, promoting, and disseminating information internationally about forensic nursing science. Founded in 1993, the International Association of Forensic Nursing has more than 3,000 members in 24 countries. Members include practicing forensic nurses, academic personnel, researchers, law enforcement, advocates, and others. The association's 32 chapters are located throughout the United States. More information about the Association can be found online at [www.iafn.org](http://www.iafn.org).*