

The ANA Innovation Awards™

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Evaluation Criteria and Definitions

Extraordinary innovation: The activities of the nominated product, program, project, or practice (henceforth to be known as “the innovation”) are unique or creative in the means utilized to address the identified problem or need. The innovation activities go beyond what is usual, regular, customary, or merely incremental in their approach. A higher level score reflects evidence of a thorough *review of the literature* and other available sources identifying the absence of their unique or creative approach addressing the stated problem or need. The innovation has a profound impact on patient safety and/or outcomes.

Nurse initiated or led: Evidence that the innovation was initiated and is led by a nurse or nurses. Nurses are involved in the leadership, development, implementation, and evaluation of the innovation.

Nurse involvement at all levels: Evidence that the innovation related activities include nurses representing direct care clinicians, nurse leaders, and other disciplines, as appropriate. A higher level score reflects nurses from all levels of the organization remaining involved in the innovation.

Dissemination externally: Evidence that information about the innovation is being presented outside the organization and/or system for potential replication. This may include published articles, podium and/or poster presentation, or other methods to disseminate the information. A higher level score reflects this external dissemination through published or acceptance in peer-review publications, and poster and/or podium presentations at regional and national conferences. Evidence of another organization that has successfully replicated the innovation also is noteworthy.

Sustainability: Evidence that the innovation has been able to remain in operation for an extended period of time, by obtaining support through donor, parent organization, fees for service, or other funding. There is evidence that the innovation has a strategy to keep the innovation operating in the future. A higher level score reflects expansion of the innovation and the ability to acquire support to meet identified needs.

Replicability: Evidence that the innovation can be reproduced partially or in total by a different organization. A higher level score reflects the innovation has been reproduced in total or partial, demonstrating similar outcomes.

Transformative of patient safety/outcomes: Evidence that there has been measurement of the innovation's results in patient safety and/or patient outcomes through supportive data and testing. The identified outcomes have trended positive and have been transformative in nature through the innovation. There is evidence of the ongoing evaluation of the results and outcomes. The evaluations of the results/outcomes identify changes made to improve or stabilize the innovation. A higher score reflects evidence of the innovation identifying results/outcomes goals, evaluation of progress to the stated goals, and plans of action identifying initiatives implemented to achieve stated goals. A higher score reflects that the impact or outcome of the innovation is beyond just nursing and/or a specific unit.

Progress to date: Evidence of clear progression of the innovation over time is presented. A higher score will indicate a timeline with objectives met in reasonable time increments

Please direct all questions to ANA via e-mail at holly.carpenter@ana.org or (301) 628-5105.