Acute Care Nurse Practitioners: The Intensivist Theory©
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Role Development
• Involved inter- and intra-professional conflicts
• Legal battles over acceptance of the various roles and the APN’s scope of practice
• Impact of societal forces
• Wars, crisis, environmental disasters, terrorism
• Federal government funding and legislation
• Economic conditions
• Organizational efforts
• Certification at the national level
• Evolution of graduate education requirements

Regulation and Scope of Issues
• Regulated by state practice acts and ACNP scope and standards of practice
• Regulatory authority over ACNP practice is predominately governed by the board of nursing within each state, some with AMA involvement
• New coalition, ANA and key stakeholders to change collaborative practice
• New class of patient: the chronically critically ill
• Increase in invasive medical devices
• All but 6 of the 50 states, regulatory control of NP practice falls under the control of the board of nursing
• Five states (Florida, South Dakota, North Carolina, Virginia, Massachusetts) NP practice is regulated by board of nursing and board of medicine control
• Two states (Illinois and Nebraska), NP practice is regulated by a separate advanced practice board

Awareness
• The fight for prescriptive authority for ACNPs characterized the 1980s and continues
• Multiple roles for NPs continued to develop
  • ACNP
  • DNP
  • FNP
  • NNP
• Throughout the 1980s, NPs worked tirelessly to convince state legislatures to pass laws and reimbursement policies that would support their practice
• Evolution of the ACNP the next new intensivist

ACNP Innovation
• A catalyst to the future
• Facilitate development, provide education
• Observation and provide solutions
• Offer insight
• Listen then provide feedback, stimulate
• Encourage optimism
• Focus on achievement
• Facilitates the art of thinking
• Develop the team and the practice
• Facilitating care
• Setting the standards
• Model of success
• Focus on success
• Pass the torch

ACNP Goals
• Increase patient safety
• Attuned to the minute
• Decrease nosocomial infections
• Monitoring patient outcomes
• Patient safety focus
• Research focus
• Being prepared
• Anticipating the next wave
• Riding the surf
• Maintaining the normalcy
• Providing detailed evidenced based practice

ACNP Internship Program
• Planning for the shortage
• Weekly rotation internship
• Involves ACNP students
• Three 12 hour days per week
• CCNE guidelines
• Goals
• Patient care management
• Ventilator management
• Procedural management
• Pharmacological management

ACNP Residency Program
• Near graduation
• Post clinical completion
• Hire into residency
• Goal
• Full education as ACNP in SICU
• Patient care management
• Ventilator management
• Procedural management
• Pharmacological management

Clinical Simulation Laboratory
• Provided at clinical classes in Universities
• Provided on site at simulation laboratory
• Clinical case scenarios
• Cardiac arrest
• Respiratory arrest
• Intubation, chest tubes
• Septic shock
• Central line placement
• Percutaneous tracheostomy

Goals
• Collaboration with interdisciplinary team
• Continuous and comprehensive care
• Holistic model
• Inpatient focus
• Acute episodic critical conditions
• Facilitate communication with teams
• Patient and family liaison
• Staff education
• Quality improvement Initiatives
• DNP Focus:
  • Prepare experts in specialized advanced nursing practice
  • Innovative and evidence-based practice
  • Application of credible research findings
  • Require a practice application-oriented Capstone Project

Revenue and Medicare Reimbursement
• Central lines $188,536
• Arterial lines $57,208
• PICC $8,657
• Percutaneous tracheostomy $110,000
• Not including
  • Chest tube placement
  • Bronchoscopy
  • Pulmonary Artery Placement
  • Daily assessment

Staffing Ratios
• How much is too much?
• Intensivist ratio
• 1:7.5 vs. 1:15 showed an increased LOS, but no difference in mortality
• ACNP ratios
• Responsibility
• Critical conditions
• Measurement scores
• Apache

Educational Levels of Healthcare Providers

Comparison of Staff Mix

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• New class of patient: the chronically critically ill
• More patients living longer with chronic disease, immunosuppression, life prolonging therapies
• Reduced RN care, increased home care
• Increase in invasive medical devices

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