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New Guidance on Advanced Practice Nursing from the International Council of Nurses

Geneva, Switzerland, 21 May 2008 – Today a number of nations are electing to introduce, prepare and support the advanced practice nurse (APN) as a provider of direct patient care within their health care systems. As the role of APNs is increasingly accepted around the world, the International Council of Nurses (ICN) is pleased to support this development with the release of *The Scope of Practice, Standards and Competencies of the Advanced Practice Nurse*. This new publication focuses on the scope of practice, standards and competencies of the role of the advanced practice nurse and was developed as a result of the growth of this professional role and a response to multinational changes in the health care systems, such as globalization, economic constraints, reform, technology and consumer demand.

“Increasingly, it is the realization of advanced nursing practice throughout the world that will contribute to the provision of accessible and equitable health care services to many of the world’s citizens who previously were unserved,” stated Hiroko Minami, President of ICN. “This publication will provide guidance and direction to nurses, the nursing profession, educators, regulatory authorities and the consumers of care.”

It can be ordered on the ICN web site: www.icn.ch/bookshop.htm

Editor’s note

The **International Council of Nurses** (ICN) is a federation of 131 national nurses associations representing the millions of nurses worldwide. Operated by nurses and leading nursing internationally, ICN works to ensure quality care for all and sound health policies globally.

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