

IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL ASSESSMENTS FOR LICENSING TO PRACTICE (HIGHER CERTIFICATE IN AUXILIARY NURSE; DIPLOMA IN STAFF NURSING; ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN MIDWIFERY AND BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN PROFESSIONAL NURSING AND MIDWIFERY)



OBJECTIVE

To inform and empower nurses about future prospects when new nursing programmes are implemented



BACKGROUND

- □ The vision and mission of the South African Nursing Council is to protect the public and ensures that Nursing Education Institutions have a responsibility of producing new graduate nurses that are prepared to practice safely.
- Nursing Education Institutions have autonomous role to register students and conduct examinations on various programmes accredited by South African Nursing Council.



ASSESSMENT STRUCTURE

- The framework of patient needs is selected for the examinations because it provides a universal structure for defining nursing actions and competencies and focuses on patient in all settings
- The content of National Professional Assessment is organised into four major patient needs categories.
- Two of the four categories are divided into 2 subcategories.
- ☐ Safe and effective care environment
- Psychological integrity
- Physiological integrity



ADMINISTRATION OF THE ASSESSMENT

- It should be a variable length computerized adaptive test.
- The length of the assessment is determined by the candidate's responses to the items.
- The candidates should select a pace that will permit them to complete the assessment within the allotted time should the maximum number of items to be administered.



BENEFITS OF NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL ASSESSMENTS

- Protecting the public, ensuring safety and welfare in receipt of nursing practice.
- Meeting the needs of employers, practitioners and the public by identifying individuals with certain knowledge and skills.
- Assuring consumers that professionals have standards of practice.
- Demonstrating an individual's commitment to a profession and life-long learning.
- Providing an individual with a sense of pride and professional accomplishment.
- Shared accountability for enhancing safe patient care.