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The Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP): Is it for Me?

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Upon completion of this course, the participant will be able to:

1. Examine the rationale for the development of the Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree and the eight essential role competencies;
2. Identify the dynamic roles of the DNP in today's health care environment and its methods to improve patient care outcomes through evidence-based practice;
3. Examine the curriculum which provides nurses with the clinical and management expertise to improve health care outcomes and become collaborators in solving health care problems in systems; and
4. Compare and contrast the roles of the PhD and DNP in nursing.

I. The Clinical Practice Doctorate

II. The Eight Essential Role Competencies of the DNP

- A. Scientific underpinnings for practice
- B. Organizational and systems leadership for quality improvement and systems thinking
- C. Clinical scholarship and analytical methods for evidence-based practice
- D. Information systems/technology and patient care technology for the improvement and transformation of health care
- E. Health care policy for advocacy in health care
- F. Interprofessional collaboration for improving patient and population health outcomes
- G. Clinical prevention and population health for improving the nation's health
- H. Advanced nursing practice

III. Roles of the DNP: Clinical Practice, Administration, Management, and Teaching

- A. Member of the interdisciplinary team
- B. Health care policy, bioethics, and statistic systems management
- C. Advanced science, pathophysiology, and genetics
- D. Evidence-based practice and research
- E. Clinical residency

IV. PhD and DNP: Curriculum

V. The Choice and the Journey to Excellence

Resources:

American Academy of Nurse Practitioners. (2007). *Discussion paper: Doctor of nursing practice*. Retrieved January 7, 2010, from http://www.aanp.org/NR/rdonlyres/9DC9390F-145D-4768-995C-1C1FD12AC77C/0/DiscussionPaperDoctor_of_NursingPrac.pdf

American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (2007). *The doctorate in nursing practice (DNP): Background, current status and future activities*. Retrieved January 7, 2010, from

http://www.aana.com/uploadedFiles/Professional_Development/Nurse_Anesthesia_Education/Educational_Resources/DTF_Report/background_on_dnp.pdf

American College of Nurse-Midwives (2007). *Position statement: Midwifery education and the doctor of nursing practice (DNP)*. Retrieved January 7, 2010, from

http://www.midwife.org/siteFiles/position/Midwifery_Ed_and_DNP_7_09.pdf



ENA Leadership Conference 2010

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The American Association of Colleges of Nursing. (2006). *The essentials of doctoral education for advanced nursing practice*. Retrieved January 7, 2010, from <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/DNP/pdf/Essentials.pdf>



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