



International Council of Nurses

ICNP

International Classification for
Nursing Practice

ICN Accredited Centres for ICNP Research & Development

International Council of Nurses

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1 Background

The International Council of Nurses (ICN), a federation of more than 130 national nurses associations, works to advance nursing, healthcare and nurses' welfare worldwide. Many aspects of ICN's work are carried out in collaboration and coordination with member associations, ICN Networks, affiliates, WHO, ILO, other UN agencies, and other nursing and non-nursing groups. Progress requires information, knowledge and sound partnerships.

An ICN Centre for ICNP Research & Development ("ICNP Centre") is an institution, faculty, department, national association, or other group that meets ICN criteria and has been designated by ICN as a Centre for Research and Development. An ICN Centre may provide resources and outcomes in terms of information, services, research and training. An ICN Centre is designated by ICN after an application is received and reviewed. ICN Centres are organised into a consortium. The concept of a consortium of Centres fits well within ICN's values of inclusiveness, partnership, flexibility, excellence and visionary leadership.

The International Classification for Nursing Practice (ICNP) was created to advance information and knowledge. It is apparent that if ICNP is to remain relevant to the nursing domain it must undergo continuous development, in terms of new knowledge in nursing science, and application, specifically in electronic health records. Currently, nurses around the world are working with ICNP with the objective of making it dynamic and relevant, today and in the future. ICN wants to acknowledge and work with these groups to both concentrate and disseminate new thinking and promote new applications that support the advancement of ICNP. The introduction of ICNP Centres and an ICNP Consortium supports the on-going development and application of ICNP.

2 ICN Centres with a focus on ICNP

ICN Centres are an important component in developing the profession and creating information and knowledge which will shape nursing for years to come. ICNP aims to be an integral part of the global information infrastructure informing health care practice and policy to improve patient care worldwide. Pursuit of this aim requires the collective involvement of national associations, nursing leaders and specialty groups globally.

ICN is promoting Centres focused on ICNP research and development, with the Centres identifying the specific aspects of their work (e.g. translation or validation of ICNP, ICNP applications, etc.). ICN Centres may be organised at a number of levels, including, but not limited to country, inter-country, regional and global levels. Centres may be organised by any categorisation that is meaningful to the work. For example, ICNP Centres may be organised by language, area of specialisation or research expertise.

The Centres have an important role in continuing the progress of ICNP. For that reason, ICN encourages Centre applications. Working on their own projects and, at the same time, communicating with others, these Centres constitute the **ICNP Consortium**. Through the consortium, Centres are able to share programmes and products that strengthen nursing and health locally, regionally and globally.

2.1 Criteria to become a ICNP Research and Development Centre

The International Council of Nurses (ICN) seeks to establish and maintain a global network of ICNP Research and Development Centres. These centres play a crucial role in the ongoing development, refinement, and validation of the International Classification for Nursing Practice (ICNP). To be eligible for becoming an ICNP Research and Development Centre, entities must meet the following criteria:

- **Relationship with National Nursing Association:** The entity must establish and maintain a strong working relationship with the national nursing association in its country. This collaboration should involve sharing knowledge, resources, and expertise, as well as promoting the adoption and implementation of the ICNP at the national level. The entity should also work closely with the national nursing association to advocate for nursing practice, education, and research, and to support the advancement of nursing policy within the country.
- **Organizational Status:** The entity must be a recognized institution or organization, such as an academic institution, research center, or nursing organization with a demonstrated commitment to nursing practice, education, research, and/or policy development.
- **ICNP Expertise:** The entity should have a team with expertise in nursing informatics, nursing classification systems, or related fields. Team members should have a proven track record of research, publications, or projects involving ICNP or other relevant nursing classification systems.
- **Research Capability:** The entity must demonstrate its capacity to conduct research, including access to necessary resources, such as data, facilities, and funding. This includes the ability to collaborate with other organizations or researchers and engage in international research initiatives.
- **Commitment to ICNP Collaboration:** The entity must commit to actively participating in ICNP-related activities, including sharing research findings, contributing to the ongoing development of the ICNP, and participating in ICN-sponsored events, workshops, or conferences.

- **Education and Training:** The entity must demonstrate its capacity to provide education and training opportunities related to ICNP, such as workshops, seminars, or online courses, for nursing professionals, researchers, and students.
- **Sustainability:** The entity must present a clear plan for ensuring the long-term sustainability of the ICNP Research and Development Centre, including financial stability, staffing, and ongoing commitment to the ICNP's goals.
- **Ethical Standards:** The entity must adhere to high ethical standards in research and practice, including compliance with relevant international and national ethical guidelines for research involving human subjects.
- **Support for Multilingualism:** The entity should demonstrate a commitment to promoting and supporting the use of ICNP in multiple languages and should be prepared to collaborate with other ICNP Research and Development Centres or stakeholders to facilitate translation and adaptation efforts.
- **Dissemination of Findings:** The entity must commit to disseminating research findings and outcomes through various channels, such as peer-reviewed publications, presentations at conferences, and sharing of resources with the ICN and the broader nursing community.
- **Alignment with ICN's Mission and Vision:** The entity's objectives and activities must be in line with the ICN's mission to represent nursing worldwide, advance the profession, and promote the wellbeing of nurses and the communities they serve.

Entities that meet these criteria and can demonstrate their capacity to contribute to the ongoing development and validation of the ICNP may be considered eligible to become an ICNP Research and Development Centre.

3 Establishing an ICN-accredited Centre for ICNP research and development

Beginning in 2003, ICN developed and tested the idea of ICN Centres through the ICNP Programme. Particular attention was paid to the application process, criteria, scope of work and responsibilities of ICN Centres, along with maintaining the infrastructure to facilitate ongoing collaboration. Based on this work, with contributions from the ICNP German-Speaking User Group and the ICNP Strategic Advisory Group, information and processes were developed for establishing ICN Accredited Centres for ICNP Research & Development. The application process has been updated periodically since that time. Partnerships include both

advantages and obligations.

4 Advantages of being an ICN-accredited Centre

The advantages of being an ICN Accredited Centre for ICNP for Research & Development include local, regional and international recognition and opportunities for collaboration through participation in the ICNP Centres Consortium.

4.1 Recognition as an ICN-accredited Centre

Centres may use the designation "ICN Accredited Research & Development Centre" on letterhead and other communication tools for ICNP related activities. Guidelines for use of the ICN title and logo are provided to each Centre upon designation and with every three-year re-accreditation.

4.2 Membership in the ICNP Consortium

ICN Centres with a focus on ICNP research, development and application become members of the ICNP Consortium (see also obligations below). The ICNP Consortium may be invited from time to time to provide specific advice on programme issues. It will have an opportunity to contribute with respect to issues, trends and strategies for ICNP development, maintenance and application, and also for policies and actions relating to ICN's wider Digital Health agenda. Contributions from the Consortium and from individual Centres will be acknowledged in ICN's own work.

5 Obligations of an ICN-accredited Centre

The Centres for ICNP Research & Development will be designated by ICN after an application review. ICN reserves the option of designating ICN Centres based on the identified criteria that are based on ICN priorities and organisational goals.

Each Centre for ICNP Research & Development will specify clear goals that are consistent with the direction of travel for ICNP, as well as with ICN's overall mission. Applicants will prepare a four-year outline plan for approval by ICN, outlining the Centre's goals, objectives, activities, timelines, responsible personnel, outcomes and resources. Following accreditation, each Centre will submit a self-study report every three years, which will include a review of the Centre's work plan with progress on goals and objectives. At the time of the self-study, the Centre will also submit an updated work plan for the upcoming four years.

ICN encourages the participation of its ICN member National Nurses Associations (NNA) in Centre activities. When the appropriate NNA is not a direct participant in the work of an ICN Centre, the Centre Director or designee is expected to

communicate with the NNA on a regular basis and keep it fully informed about their work in a timely fashion.

Representatives of each Centre are required to attend and actively participate in the ICNP Editorial Board. Each Centre is also strongly encouraged to maintain an active presence at the SNOMED International Nursing Clinical Reference Group (CRG). The Nursing CRG oversees nursing content (Including ICNP) within SNOMED CT. Centres also will agree to have member(s) attend and participate in the ICNP Centres Consortium, held every two years in conjunction with ICN Congresses and Conferences. Other requests and opportunities will be provided by ICN to facilitate communication and dissemination of the Centres' activities and outcomes.

6 ICN-accredited Centre application process

The institution, faculty, department, national association, or other group must submit an application to ICN in order to be considered for designation as an ICN Accredited Centre for ICNP Research & Development (Appendix A).

The application should comprise no more than 4 pages.

ICNP Centre applications will be evaluated by members of the ICNP Editorial Board according to the following criteria:

1. The Centre's mission (or mandate) is compatible with the ICN mission.
2. The Centre's goals clearly specify the group's area(s) of ICNP development and contribution, for example:
 - the application of ICNP to support care delivery;
 - research and evaluation - including, but not limited to, use of ICNP;
 - education - including serving as a resource for information about ICNP;
 - communication and dissemination of ICNP - including, but not limited to, presentations and publications related to the Centre's work with ICNP.
3. The Centre's future outline work plan is achievable and contributes to the uptake, implementation and use of ICNP.
4. There is evidence of a commitment to participate in the ICNP Editorial Board, the Nursing CRG and the ICNP Consortium, including clear plans for attendance at consortium meetings.
5. There is evidence of commitment to link with the appropriate ICN member National Nurses Association (as agreed by ICN), including clear plans for regular communications with the NNA.

7 ICN-accredited Centre management and evaluation

ICN will maintain communication with ICNP Centres and facilitate communication between Centres.

A review of each ICNP Centre will be conducted every three years. The review will include a self-study report completed by each Centre. The following criteria will be used by ICN to evaluate each Centre:

1. The Centre demonstrates support of ICN's mission.
2. The Centre evidences how it has achieved its specified goals through its previous outline work plan.
3. The Centre's future outline work plan is achievable.
4. There is evidence of active participation in the ICNP Editorial Board, the Nursing CRG and the ICNP Consortium (including attendance at consortium meetings).
5. There is evidence of ongoing two-way communication with the appropriate ICN member National Nurses Association.

Based on review, ICN will determine whether to re-accredit an ICNP Centre. The review process will provide opportunities for ongoing improvement and future planning for ICN accredited centres. In all cases, ICN reserves the right to terminate designation of a Centre based on the accreditation criteria or on ICN priorities and goals.

8 Notification of accreditation or re-accreditation

The ICN CEO will notify the applicant of the decision for accreditation or re-accreditation. A letter will be sent to the Centre Director with copies to the ICN Programme and Membership Manager and to the President of the appropriate National Nurses Association.

9 Contact

Please contact the ICN for more information or for questions about the application process: kamilindi@icn.ch; icnp@icn.ch

Appendix A

ICN Accredited Centre for ICNP Research & Development Application / Re-accreditation

The application consists of two parts and should be submitted to ICN in English.

This same document may be used for a re-accreditation submission.

The application should comprise no more than 4 pages.

Part 1. Description of the Centre

A. TITLE

B. MISSION

C. ADDRESS

Centre Name:

Centre Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Website:

Name and position of the person filling this application:

D. DIRECTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Director Name:

Director Address:

Telephone:

Email:

E. PARTICIPANTS OR GROUPS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CENTRE

F. ORGANISATIONAL CHART SHOWING LINKS WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS AND SECTORS Application must include a description of the Centre's relationship with the ICN member National Nurses Association(s).

Part 2. Terms of Reference and Work Plan (Four-Year Plan)

A. WORK PLAN

1. Centre goals (should be relevant)
2. For each goal briefly list the following:
 - Planned activities (should be specific)
 - Responsible person(s)
 - Anticipated outcome(s) (should be measurable and achievable)
 - Time Frame

B. RESOURCES FOR MEETING GOALS

(e.g. institutional support, information systems support, library/reference resources, ICNP Consortium attendance resources)