

Jordanian Nursing Council

National Framework of Emergency Nursing: Scope of Practice, Standards, and Competencies

2022

The Jordanian Nursing Council

The Jordanian Nursing Council (JNC) is a national regulatory institution for nursing and midwifery in Jordan. The JNC is governed by a board headed by her Royal Highness Princess Muna Al Hussein as president of the council. The board is comprised of 14 key representatives from healthcare institutions and regulates and governs the nursing profession in education, practice, and research.

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AENS	Advance Emergency Nurse Specialist
ENS	Emergency Nurse Specialist
ECG	Electrocardiogram
ED	Emergency Department
EDNS	Emergency Department Nurse
	Specialist
EMS	Emergency Medical Services
ENS	Emergency Nurse Specialist
НСР	Healthcare Providers
JNC	Jordanian Nursing Council
NIC	Nursing Interventions Classification

Acronyms

Introduction

This document presents the scope of practice, professional standards and essential competencies for specialized emergency department nursing practice in Jordan. This was developed by the Jordanian Nursing Council (JNC) and partners as part of the JNC mission to promote the health status of communities through a sound regulatory system that assures quality services and safe practice to protect the public and the profession. JNC recognizes the importance of the role of emergency department specialized nurses and is committed to strengthening their practice to support the quality of emergency care services and ultimately protect the public. It can be used as a framework for self-assessment, development, and maintenance of a nurse's knowledge, skills, and attitudes required for improving the emergency nurse quality of care. This framework also provides guidance for nursing education by including emergency department care competencies in the post-graduate education programs of emergency department care and influence curriculum development. In addition, this document will provide an assessment tool that will help professional development as well as assess professional performance to ensure delivery of high quality service to clients and their families.

The current framework defines who is an Emergency Nurse Specialist (ENS), Advanced Emergency Nurse Specialist (AENS), scope of practice, standards, and competencies.

Methodology

The Emergency Department Nurse specialist (EDNS) is a clinical nurse professional who is expert in evidence-based nursing practice in emergency health care. The EDNS works independently and collaboratively with other health care professionals to integrate knowledge of disease process into assessment, diagnosis, planning, implementing, and ongoing evaluation of patients, for health promotion and optimizing of health and well-being of individuals in addition to the development of crises planning and management.

The EDNS has two main levels; the Emergency Nurse Specialist (ENS) and the Advanced Emergency Nurse Specialist (AENS). The role of the EDNS specialists take place at different settings including but not limit to, hospitals, ambulatory care

clinics, and academic institutions. The EDNS specialists provide leadership to enhance optimal quality of care considering the availability of resources. This role goes beyond that to include consultation, education, advocating, staff mentoring, coaching, and researching.

Since the role of EDNS is multidimensional, participating in the development of current nursing practice, reviewing health care policies, and interacting mutually with multidisciplinary health team for change, are other clinical responsibilities. Hence, the EDNS adheres efficiently with ethical, legal, and professional standards and plays the role model for peers and colleagues to maintain the implementation of these standards in sustainable manner.

Scope of practice

The EDNS specialists adhere to the standards and regulations that guide nursing profession in Jordan. Their role focuses on the health of the emergency department patients, issues in nursing practice, health care system, and crises management. The JNC views the primary role of the AENS is to manage and improve nursing care while the primary role of the ENS is to provide competent direct nursing care to patients and their families. The role of the EDNS can be assessed at the personal level, patient level, organizational level, and the national level.

The Client

The EDNS specialists utilize evidence, knowledge and advanced skills to perform the assessment, reach diagnosis, set the plan of care, implement the interventions, evaluate the delivered care, and improve the patient outcomes. For example, the focus of patient care can be directed toward symptoms management and functional problems.

Nurses and Nursing Practice

The EDNS specialists practice and improve patients' outcomes by enhancing staff's adherence to the evidenced-based practice (EBP) and providing scheduled surveillance on nursing care to track their compliance to the standards. EBP can be assessed at the patient's level, family's level and institutional level. The EDNS specialist undertakes clinical inquiries in order to identify the area of improvement in nursing care. To promote optimal care delivery, EDNS specialists should influence nursing staff through role modelling, mentorship, consultation, research, and educational activities. Further, they are concerned with leading, sharing, developing, and practicing nursing research to generate evidence-based policies, procedures, protocols, and evidenced-based guidelines.

Organizations and health Systems

The EDNS specialists participate, influence, and encourage changes in the health care system leading to develop an acceptable environment at the satisfactory level of nurses, patients, and families. The role of EDNS specialist involves also commitment to the national legislation emerged from official organizations, professional bodies and agencies that work jointly to develop nursing practice in emergency and disaster situations.

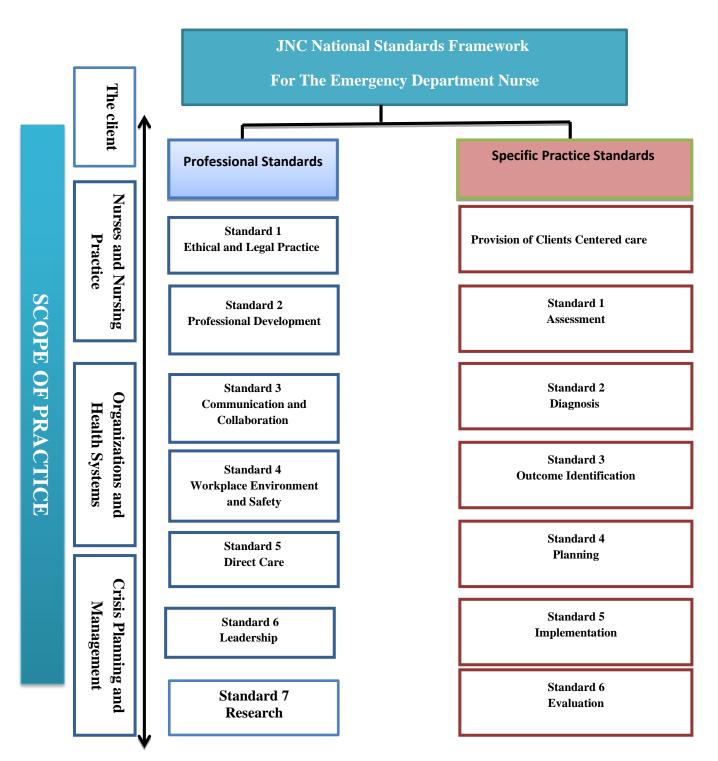
The EDNS specialists work in collaboration with interdisciplinary team to establish, develop, and refine client caring strategies; that undertake health care needs of patients, families, and communities. In addition, they support the process of evaluating the effectiveness of current nursing practices and its compatibility with the predetermined competencies and standards of care. It is also emphasized that the

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value of EDNS specialty is embodied in the organizational culture reaching to the highest level of congruency between policies, decision making, and caring outcomes.

Crisis planning and management

The EDNS specialist is concerned with the local, national, and regional crisis planning and management. This includes the assessment of current strategies for crisis management and recommending the required changes to meet the international standards. The EDNS specialist should interact mutually with interdisciplinary crisis planning committees using the principles of crisis management and considering the availability of resources.



Professional and Specific Practice Standards and Competencies Framework

National JNC 2022 Professional and Practice Standards and Competencies:

Professional Standards

1. Standard 1: Ethical and legal practice

The EDNS demonstrates ethical and legal decision making in situations that comprises complex issues and arise from ethical dilemmas in the health care system

A. Emergency Nurse Specialist (ENS) core competencies

- Demonstrate understanding of the ethical and legal frameworks related to emergency nursing practice.
- Practices in a manner that complies with the Islamic Arabic culture and the Jordan Nursing and Midwives Council legal and ethical policies.
- Utilizes ethical principles and theories to guide professional practice and ethical decision making.
- Preserves and protects patients' rights, dignity and autonomy.
- Ensures patients' rights of informed consents, confidentiality and privacy in accordance to patient's legal rights.
- Identifies ethical dilemmas related to patients' care issues, multidisciplinary team, organizational, societal, access to resources and justice .
- Mediates ethical decision making to resolve ethical conflicts through using effective communication skills.
- Creates an ethical practice environment through promoting equality of care, raising awareness to environmental barriers to ethical practice.
- Demonstrate competency in applying the ethical principles for vulnerable populations and intervenes appropriately.
- **B.** Additional competencies for Advanced Emergency Nurse Specialist (AENS)
- Coaches ENSs and other nurses in ethical and legal decision making.
- Designs a quality improvement program to promote safe, efficient, equitable patient-centered care.
- Evaluate and revise policies that limit ethical conflicts and developing policies and procedures to handle ethical dilemmas within the health care system.

2. Standard 2: Professional Development

The EDNS takes responsibility for keeping own and other staff's knowledge and clinical practice up to date through continuous professional development and consultation

A. Emergency Nurse Specialist (ENS) core competencies

- Keeps ongoing professional development and continuous education towards the attainment of higher professional competencies.
- Provides clinical consultation to nurses, physicians and other interdisciplinary colleagues regarding emergency patient care, systems, processes, technology and equipment.
- Engages in determining learning needs of ED professionals and trainees.
- Analyze local resources, policies, and opportunities for improvement to enhance optimal emergency care.
- Provides evidence-based recommendations for interdisciplinary ED staff to promote rapid emergency response and management.
- Participates in multidisciplinary educational activities to promote effective conduction of care.
- Attend conferences and workshops pertinent to their roles and responsibilities.
- Identify own developmental needs
- **B.** Additional competencies for Advanced Emergency Nurse Specialist (AENS)
- Coaches ENSs, other nurses, and multidisciplinary team members to improve patient-centered care.
- Designs, implements, and evaluates continuing education programs to higher professional performance.
- Establishes an effective mechanism for implementing and evaluating emergency nursing standards.

3. Standard 3: Communication and Collaboration

The EDNS works jointly to optimize communication reaching to a higher level of collaboration with patient, family, colleagues, and system

A. Emergency Nurse Specialist (ENS) core competencies

- Demonstrates self-awareness towards the facilitators and barriers to interpersonal communication.
- Exhibits knowledge and understanding of human reaction and behavior to different emergency situations.
- Communicates effectively with respect, empathy and warmth while interacting with patients, significant others and heath care team members.
- Recognizes the different styles of communication exhibited by patients, significant others and heath care team members.
- Conveys clear and simple language information to patients, significant others and heath care team members.
- Keeps open and facilitates communication with multidisciplinary team to prevent errors, risks associated with the delivery of care, and unnecessary delay.
- Maintains compassionate and effective relationship with peers and colleagues.

- Contributes to a supportive, productive, and healthy work environment.
- Able to work effectively in a team
- Competent in documenting all aspects of administered care.

B. Additional competencies for Advanced Emergency Nurse Specialist (AENS)

- Mentors and provides clinical supervision to ENSs and other nurses in the clinical area in establishing effective communication with patients, significant others and heath care team members.
- Exhibits an expert practices to interdisciplinary team members.
- Participates mutually with the interdisciplinary teams to structure and develop advanced nursing practice in the ED .
- Develop and evaluate strategies to enhance the quality of nurse-client and nurse-health care providers communication.
- Provides consultation to the interdisciplinary teams in regard to continuous education, management and technical issues processing and development.

4. Standard 4: Workplace Environment and Safety

The EDNS demonstrates safe practice through recognizing hazards of the environment, limitations, and misconduct.

A. Emergency Nurse Specialist (ENS) core competencies

- Establishes a safe environment of care through the use of quality assurance and risk management strategies.
- Serves as a mentor and a role model for nurses, pre-hospital personnel, interdisciplinary colleagues, and trainers in relation to conducting safety measures.
- Employs infection control procedures, policies and standards to maintain safe practice.
- Ensures safe transferring and moving of clients and equipment in the emergency department.
- Understands the potential triggers for workplace violence and intervene appropriately.

B. Additional competencies for Advanced Emergency Nurse Specialist (AENS)

- Improves knowledge and understanding of health, safety regulations, and reporting incidences.
- Identifies actual and potential workplace environment risks using proper assessment tools.
- Shares workplace environment risks and exposure reduction strategies to patients, families, colleagues and communities.

- Develops, implements, and evaluates training programs for ED staff regarding triage, trauma, CPR response, and disaster response.
- Encourages partnerships that support workplace environment policies and safety.
- Analyzes the effect of social, political, and economic issues on workplace environment and health exposures.
- Assists ENSs and other nurses in advocating for safety measures in the workplace environment.
- Performs risk assessment for workplace environment across all stages of care from admission to discharge.

5. Standard 5: Direct Care

The EDNS understands the holistic perspective of the specialised nursing practice while interacting with patients, families, and community to promote health, well-being, and quality of life.

A. Emergency Nurse Specialist (ENS) core competencies

- Performs advanced life-saving interventions to complex ED patients who have rapid changes in the physiological or psychological status.
- Provides competent and effective care to patients with various emergency medical conditions including: respiratory, cardiovascular, shock, neurological, gastrointestinal, renal, fluids and electrolytes, endocrine, haematological, oncological, and toxicological emergencies.
- Understands and apply the knowledge of mechanism of injury
- Provides competent and effective care to patients with various traumatic injuries including: head, spinal, thoracic, abdominal, orthopedic, burn, maxillofacial, pediatric, and obstetric traumas.
- Demonstrates effective triage system which prioritizes differential diagnoses and anticipates appropriate plans of care for ED patients and families.
- Applies up-to-date evidence-based algorithms for assessment, diagnosis, planning, and implementation of care for ED patients and families.
- Prioritizes differential diagnoses and implements a plan of care appropriate for emergency patients and families.
- Exhibits skilful and culturally sensitive practice when dealing with critical and vulnerable patients in addition to their families.
- Demonstrates optimal performance of essential ED assessment, intervention, and monitoring of basic and advanced life support practices.
- Determines outcome criteria based on individualized patient need.
- Evaluates programs/innovative models of practice across the continuum of care.
- Provides critical care to patients in the emergency department, this includes invasive hemodynamic monitoring (e.g., arterial and central lines) and intracranial blood pressure monitoring.

B. Additional competencies for Advanced Emergency Nurse Specialist (AENS)

- Provides competent and effective care to patients with complex emergency medical conditions including: gynaecological, dental and ENT, ocular, obstetric, paediatric, and behavioural health emergencies. In addition to, child, intimate partner, elder, and substance abuse. In addition to, sexual assault, communicable diseases, and influenza.
- Provides clinical consultation to nurses, physicians and other interdisciplinary colleagues regarding emergency patient care, systems, processes, specialty technology, and equipment.
- Provides and translates evidence-based recommendations for complex patients with critical illness and injury.
- Develops, implements, disseminates, and evaluates evidence-based practice guidelines for emergency patients in various severity of illnesses.
- Provide holistic care for patients with pain.

6. Standard 6: Leadership

The EDNS integrates the role of a leader, a mentor, and a role model for emergency nursing staff, helping them achieve higher levels of professional development and decision making.

A. Emergency Nurse Specialist (ENS) core competencies

- Provides direction and leadership to increase staff participation in improving client outcomes, and enhancing the effectiveness of health care.
- Encourages nurses to participate with healthcare team in the organization to incorporate performance improvement, quality and safety initiatives into practice.
- Conducts formal and informal teaching and mentoring about nursing practice and care that enhances change and improves health outcomes.

B. Additional competencies for Advanced Emergency Nurse Specialist (AENS)

- Being a member of the organization management system.
- Assumes the role of a head nurse, nursing supervisor, or an in-charge nurse; as appropriate and considering complexities of the working environment
- Develop indicators to assess and evaluate quality of nursing care in emergency department.
- Enhances nursing staff involvements and initiatives to review evidence-based practice protocols and guidelines to address emerging problems and their required change.
- Evaluates current regulations to develop policies and protocols guided by clinical practice guidelines for situations related to emergency crises and disasters.

• Analyzes the role of other parties in the systems such as regional trauma systems and EMS/prehospital systems and personal.

7. Standard 7: Research

The EDNS works through systematic inquiry which includes searching for, interpreting and using of research evidence in clinical practice along with active participation in conducting research

A. Emergency Nurse Specialist (ENS) core competencies

- Participates in interdisciplinary research and integrates knowledge of robust emergency evidence and guidelines into practice.
- Facilitate the adoption of practice and management guidelines in the clinical setting.
- Integrates evidence-based practice into new or existing policies and procedures of direct patient care.
- Integrates valid and reliable measurements and instruments into clinical practice.
- Participates in activities that facilitate the dissemination of research findings, such as meetings, club journals, conferences, and publications.
- Competent in carrying out descriptive statistics.

B. Additional competencies for Advanced Emergency Nurse Specialist (AENS)

- Continuously review research and up to date evidence related to the emergency department and emergency patient care.
- Contributes to the development of protocols for complex and high-risk emergency cases through field observation and staff surveillance.
- Incorporates research into practice and assist the nursing staff in evaluating evidence, and analyzing sources of evidence-based guidelines.
- Develops innovative interventions and cost-effective tools to examine nursing care outcomes.
- Evaluates the need for reviewing the process of care delivery to promote safety, efficiency, reliability and quality.
- Fosters the scientific inquiry across the spheres of practice considering barriers and facilitators.
- Competent in inferential statistics.

8. Standard 8: Crisis Planning

The EDNS contributes effectively with the crisis planning committee through the implementation of updated strategies that facilitate the care delivery to the majority of the affected people.

A. Emergency Nurse Specialist (ENS) core competencies

• Identifies the nature of the disaster and resources required.

- Utilizes a rapid triage system to determine priority of emergency treatment, categories, and mode of transport.
- Participates in disaster management activities for the facility, external agencies and the community.
- Collaborates with other disaster personnel and incident commands for situational awareness, safety, and security measures.

B. Additional competencies for Advanced Emergency Nurse Specialist (AENS)

• Participates in formulating and developing crises plans on the institutional, community, and national level.

• Utilizes up-to-date strategies for crisis management through inquiring other international crisis management plans' strengths and weaknesses.

• Demonstrates ability to assess the impacts and consequences of any susceptible crises and identify the most effective response plan.

Specific Practice Standards

The EDNS is able to conduct emergency nursing practice in a safe, efficient, and timely fashion manner. Including basic and advanced emergency care interventions using the standardized nursing process.

Provision of Client-centred Care

1. Assessment

A. Emergency Nurse Specialist (ENS) core competencies

- Utilizes reliable and valid assessment tools to collect data.
- Identifies barriers of effective communication to facilitate development of therapeutic relationship and to collect information.
- Assesses and reassess the effect of interventions among patient and family.
- Conduct primary and secondary surveys for patients with traumatic injuries.

B. Additional competencies for Advanced Emergency Nurse Specialist (AENS)

- Demonstrates optimal performance of ED assessment tools.
- Uses advance and update evidence based algorithms or tools in the assessment of the airway, breathing and circulation.

2. Diagnosis

EDNS identifies the problems and needs for care in collaboration with client and his family. Recognizes the actual and risk causative factors

- Adopt evidence –based clinical practice guidelines in screening and diagnostic activities.
- Demonstrate effective triage system which prioritizes differential diagnoses to the rapidly changing physiological and psychological status of complex emergency care clients.
- Document problems accurately.

3. Outcome identification

The EDNS determines outcome criteria based on individualized clients' needs.

A. Emergency Nurse Specialist (ENS) core competencies

- Identifies nursing care outcomes that address clients' health status, problems and illness responses.
- Reviews and updates expected outcomes.
- Collaborates with multidisciplinary health team to develop measurable outcome criteria.
- Formulate achievable, cost-effective outcome criteria.
- Documents expected outcomes in a simple clear language.
- Defines the expected outcomes taking into consideration client's culture, values, and ethics.
- Formulates expected outcomes that its benefits outweighs its risks.

B. Additional competencies for Advanced Emergency Nurse Specialist (AENS)

- Assists ENSs and multidisciplinary team in identifying expected outcomes and modifies it according to changes in client's condition.
- Develops and revises clinical policies and guidelines to promote positive outcomes.

4. Planning

EDNS determines goals for care and formulates specific, measurable, and achievable objectives with the client and family while considering client's needs, values and culture to develop ongoing individualized plans to attain expected outcomes.

A. Emergency Nurse Specialist (ENS) core competencies

• Create care plan that addresses each diagnosis in a holistic approach (physical, psychosocial, and spiritual).

- Collaborates with other HCPs to develop and prioritize care plans.
- Facilitates care coordination and transitions for critical, complex, or vulnerable patients as well as their families.
- Documents the care plan in client's records.
- Provides care plan in a therapeutic environment.

B. Additional competencies for Advanced Emergency Nurse Specialist (AENS)

- Integrates evidence-based care in the planning process.
- Consults with other HCPs or social agencies when needed.
- Modifies the plan depending on client's response to interventions.
- Coordinates plans to utilize different treatment modalities to prevent complications.
- Utilizes and mobilizes resources to carry out the care plan.

5. Implementation

EDNS implements care plan in a safe and timely manner in collaboration with other HCPs, client and family. This implementation is in line with national and institutional policies and within the scope of practice.

A. Emergency Nurse Specialist (ENS) core competencies

- Utilizes available resources and organizations to implement care plan in collaboration with healthcare consumer and provider
- Perform advanced lifesaving interventions.
- Perform the core interventions as per NIC:
- Abuse protection
- Airway management
- Anaphylaxis management
- Blood products administration
- Cardiac care: acute
- Circulatory care: arterial insufficiency
- Circulatory care: venous insufficiency
- Code management
- Crisis intervention
- Documentation
- Dysrhythmia management
- Electrolytes management
- Family presence facilitation
- First Aid
- Fluid/electrolytes management
- Fluid resuscitation
- Heat exposure treatment
- Hypovolemia management
- IV insertion
- IV therapy
- Medication administration
- Neurological monitoring
- Oxygen therapy
- Pain management
- Phlebotomy: venous blood sample
- Rape trauma treatment

- Respiratory monitoring
- Resuscitation
- Seizure management
- Shock management
- Teaching: individual
- Teaching: family
- Temporary pacemaker management
- Triage
- Vital signs monitoring
- wound care
- Splint application for supporting fractures and dislocations.
- Management of death in emergency department.
- Uses best-practice guidelines to addresses client's needs.
- Utilizes skillful, culturally sensitive and crucial communication during crises or conflicts.
- Documents the implementation.
- Understands the principles of advanced care plan and preferences of the clients with life-threatening illnesses and their families.
- Assist families to grief and bereavement according to resources available.
- Utilizes the most relevant technology to measure, assess, and record client's data.
- Specific implementation practices include the following,
 - Assesses the effectiveness of ventilation method.
 - Differentiates normal and abnormal breath sounds.
 - Uses all types of oxygen mask devices correctly
 - Performs and/or assists with arterial/venous/capillary blood sampling
 - Interpret of blood gas results.
 - Recognizes types and treatment of shock syndromes: cardiogenic, hypovolemic, distributive, and obstructive.
 - Initiates early sepsis screening and interventions
 - o Differentiates normal and abnormal heart sounds.
 - \circ Assists with insertion and maintenance of intraosseous access.
 - Utilizes the principles of rapid fluid administration and devices.
 - Utilizes the principles of blood transfusion.
 - Utilizes the principles of massive transfusion.
 - Obtains venous blood from central lines and intravenous access devices.
 - Monitors basic cardiac ECG.
 - Interprets 12 and 15/16 lead ECG's.
 - Utilizes the fibrinolytic therapy protocol.
 - Performs /or assists with defibrillation, cardioversion and external pacing.
 - Identifies the most common pharmacological protocols used for the cardiovascular system (i.e. antiarrhythmics, antihypertensives, vasopressors, inotropes)
 - Assists with diagnostic peritoneal lavage (DPL).
 - Applies topical and local anesthetics.
 - Recognizes the various toxicological emergencies.
 - Access to poison control information.
 - Recognizes the specific antidote products and methods of administration.
 - Administration of charcoal.

- Assists with gastric lavage.
- Assists with whole bowel irrigation.

B. Additional competencies for Advanced Emergency Nurse Specialist (AENS)

- Respects the boundaries of a professional relationship in working with clients and other HCPs.
- Supervises other nursing staff in carrying out nursing interventions.
- Integrates new knowledge and strategies to initiate changes in care plan.
- Provides health education to clients and their families.
- Initiates appropriate interventions for violence, neglect, and abuse (e.g., physical, psychological, sexual, substance).
- Maintains awareness of known causes of mass casualty incidents.
- The AENS administers and prescribes independently the following medications: Oxygen, NSAIDs used for pain management, IV fluids, Diazepam, Hyoscine butylbromide (Buscopan), Metoclopramide (plasil), Enalapril, Naloxone, Omeprazole, Ranitidine, Ipratropium bromide, and Salbutamol. In addition to any medication the health institution decides to give the authority to the AENS to prescribe and administer to the patient, according to a written form prepared for this purpose.
- Grants independently sick leaves to patients and, as appropriate, to their families and caregivers.
- Specific implementation practices include the following,
 - Performs and/or assists with insertion and maintenance of supraglottic airways.
 - Performs and/or assists with intubation (Endotracheal Tube).
 - Monitors CO2 level for patients with Endotracheal Tube.
 - Assists with emergency cricothyrotomy and/or emergency tracheostomy.
 - Performs nursing care for patient on ventilator (Intermittent, continuous, positive pressure).
 - Proficient in advanced ECG interpretation, specifically narrow and wide complex arrhythmias.

6. Evaluation

A. Emergency Nurse Specialist (ENS) core competencies

- Collects data pertaining to client's response to implement an ongoing systematic evaluation process.
- Evaluates the accuracy of diagnoses and effectiveness of interventions.
- Documents findings of the evaluation process.
- Revises and modifies diagnoses, expected outcomes, and care plans based on advanced knowledge, evidence-based practice, and research

B. Additional competencies for Advanced Emergency Nurse Specialist (AENS)

• Analyzes the cost-benefit impact of the care plan

Admission to the education program prerequisites

The following is required as a pre-requisites to admission to any EDNS educational program,

- BLS course
- ACLS course
- PALS
- MS Excel course, only for ENS

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