All about CPPS certification

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Panel Introductions

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Chair, Expert Oversight Committee of the Certification Board for Professionals in Patient Safety
Vice President, Clinical Risk, Aurora Health Care

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Expert Oversight Committee Member for CBPPS
Chief of Staff to the Executive Vice President, Duke University Health Systems
Today’s Topics

- NPSF and the Certification Board for Professionals in Patient Safety (CBPPS)
- The Expert Oversight Committee (EOC) and certification exam
- Logistics and Frequently Asked Questions about the certification
- Questions via chat platform
Patricia McGaffigan, RN, MS, CPPS

Chief Operating Officer and Senior VP Program Strategy
National Patient Safety Foundation
Background/History of Exam

The National Patient Safety Foundation started the development of the Certified Professionals in Patient Safety designation for three reasons:

- To define patient safety science
- To advance expert patient safety practice
- To measure favorable practitioner and patient outcomes
Professional Advancement

• Rigorous and comprehensive credentialing process that attests to patient safety competencies and expertise

• Evidence-based examination (practice and credentialing exam)
  – Establishes core standards for the field of patient safety, benchmarks requirements necessary for health care professionals, and sets an expected proficiency level.
  – Gives those working in patient safety a means to demonstrate their proficiency and skill in the discipline.
  – Provides a way for employers to validate a potential candidate’s patient safety knowledge and skill base, critical competencies for today’s health care environment.
The Value of Certification

A perspective from Patricia McGaffigan
Kathy Rapala, DNP, JD, RN, CPPS
Chair, CBPPS Expert Oversight Committee and Vice President, Clinical Risk, Aurora Health Care

Gail Shulby, RN, MA, CPPS
CBPPS Expert Oversight Committee and Chief of Staff to the Executive Vice President Duke University Health Systems
The Expert Oversight Committee (EOC)

• Advisory body to the Certification for Professionals in Patient Safety (CBPPS) Board

• Responsible for overseeing the examination and re-credentialing processes for the CPPS

• Assures that certification continues to define and meet the high standards required for the profession
Expert Oversight Committee Members

Kathryn Rapala, DNP, JD, RN, CPPS
EOC Chair
Vice President, Clinical Risk Management, Aurora HealthCare

Franchesca J. Charney, RN, MS, CPHRM, CPPS, CPHQ, CPSO, DFASHRM
Director, Risk Management
American Society for Healthcare Risk Management (ASHRM)

Kerry Dease, RN, BSN, IA, CPHRM, CPPS
Clinical Risk Manager
Southwest General Health Center, Partnering with University Hospitals

Ellen S Deutsch, MD, MS, FACS, FAAP, CPPS
Medical Director, PA Patient Safety Authority, ECRI Institute

Barbara Olson, RN-GA, MS, CPPS, FISMP
Senior Patient Safety Officer
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Alicia B. Perry, PharmD, CPPS
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Senior Vice President Patient Safety and Quality, Executive Director
Michigan Health & Hospital Association
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Louise White, BA, RN, CJCP, CPPS, CPHQ
Clinical Documentation Specialist
Hospice of the Bluegrass

Anne Matlow, MD, FRCP, CPPS
Faculty Lead, Strategic Initiatives, Post Graduate Medical Education
University of Toronto
EOC first step: Job analysis review

– Since patient safety practice ranges from broad systems theories to specific patient responses, it follows that patient safety professionals are a diverse group representing a wide variety of disciplines.

– Whether patient safety professional may be at the bedside, teaching, performing research, or serving in administration, the underlying patient safety concepts are the same. It follows that there is a need for standards by which these diverse patient safety professionals define core patient safety practices and theories.

– The job analysis review defined what a patient safety professional is for the first time. It, by consensus, defined the scope of practice for a patient safety professional. Developed by a group of patient safety experts.

– Job analyses were completed in 2011 and 2015. This is a shorter interval than typical job analyses in other professions, as patient safety science is rapidly developing.
Exam Content Outline

The patient safety professional job analysis resulted in 5 domains of competencies:

- Culture
- Leadership
- Patient Safety Risks and Solutions
- Measuring and Improving Performance
- Systems Thinking & Design / Human Factors

Each domain has a series of underpinning competencies. The competencies serve as the exam outline, and questions are developed around the outline.

http://cbpps.org/cpps-exam/content-outline
Exam Questions

• The EOC develops the exam questions and evaluated them for validity
• CPPS certificants have an opportunity to assist with question development as a way to maintain certification
• The process is rigorous and evidence-based
• All questions on the exam are validated statistically
• The questions encompass the spectrum of patient safety—from patient-centered, to outpatient, to hospital
• The questions are designed with consideration of international candidates
Test Taking Tips:

• The CPPS exam tests for basic competencies through application of patient safety concepts to real world patient safety scenarios

• 86% of exam questions are focused on the candidate’s ability to analyze and apply patient safety principles and practices; only 14% are recall questions

• Read the question carefully and completely before selecting your answer

• The pretest, available on the NPSF website, is the best way to learn how the questions on the exam look.
The Value of Certification

*Perspectives from Kathy and Gail*
Janine Carpenter
Assistant Vice President, Programs
National Patient Safety Foundation
Certification Board for Professionals in Patient Safety
Certification Website –
a wealth of information at www.cbpps.org
Eligibility

• Individuals from across the health care spectrum may sit for the Certified Professional in Patient Safety (CPPS) examination providing they possess a baseline combination of education, experience, and a commitment to improving the safety of patient care.

• Candidates for the CPPS credential are those who include patient safety practices as an integral component of current or future professional responsibilities. In addition, candidates must possess academic and professional experience at one of the following levels:

  – Baccalaureate degree or higher plus 3 years of experience (includes time spent in clinical rotations and residency programs) in a health care setting or with a provider of services to the health care industry

  – Associate degree or equivalent plus 5 years of experience (includes time spent in clinical rotations) in a health care setting or with a provider of services to the health care industry
How Do I Prepare for the Exam?

• Fully review Candidate Handbook

• CPPS Exam Content Outline: http://cbpps.org/cpps-exam/content-outline/

• CPPS Practice Exam
  – 50 question test taken online, at any time

• Resource list: www.cbpps.org/resources

• NPSF review course (live, module, webinar formats)
  Next webinar review course on September 29th
Scheduling the Exam

– Administered at neutral testing centers through the US and world
– Pre-register with test exam company (www.goAMP.com)
– Select test center location, date and time
– Proctored, no personal belongings
  *(see Candidate Handbook for full details)*

Exam cost

– ASPPS member: $295
– Non-member: $400
– International: add $100
The CPPS Exam Experience

Taking the Exam
- You have the opportunity to work with the software features prior to starting the exam
- 2 hour time limit (110 questions of which 100 are graded)
- Ability to bookmark questions to come back to later!

Passing the Exam
- You will find out if you passed at the end of the exam
- Scores and performance on specific questions is not provided
- Overall pass rate: approx. 70%
Maintaining your CPPS designation

- 3-year recertification period

- Recertification may be achieved by:
  - 45 credits of documented continuing education and/or other qualified activities
  - Re-testing

- Continuing education credits and other qualified activities that relate to areas covered in the most current exam content outline are accepted towards CPPS recertification

- Full details in the Recertification Handbook at www.cbpps.org
When you become certified...

- Pride
- Recognition
- Esteem
- Respect
- Press release
- Web posting and NPSF member news
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Thank you for joining us!