

## C4N: A PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALING SCHEME FOR SPECIALIST NURSING

# Meet Australia's first Credentialed Emergency Nurses!

### Credentialed Emergency Nurse, Liz Quinn



**Liz is passionate about the use of evidence based practice in emergency departments and wants to ensure that her regional facility is kept clinically up to date. Critical care and trauma care in the emergency department are her major areas of interest.**

After completing a Graduate Certificate and Masters of Emergency Nursing at Griffith University, Liz commenced a Masters Honours Dissertation "Meeting Trauma Call Criteria in a regional Australian Emergency Department". Liz is a member of the Australasian Trauma Society, Trauma Nurses Network, College of Emergency Nurses Australasia, and a qualified Abbreviated Injury Scale coder. For the past two years, Liz has worked as Acting Clinical Nurse, Clinical Facilitator and Nurse Educator in the Rockhampton Hospital ED, the Trauma Review Committee and CENA Trauma Nurse Program Faculty. Liz has worked tirelessly to collect trauma data and promote trauma education. She hopes to eventually become the first Trauma Nurse Specialist at Rockhampton Hospital.

*"I am very grateful to CENA for making this decades-long goal available to emergency nurses. Specialist credentialing recognises many years of expert clinical practice, contributions to professionalism in emergency nursing, networking, education, teaching, and of course the post graduate qualifications that cultivate the mind of a clinician into an expert. Credentialing is a streamlined process that acknowledges the extra effort that specialist nurses make and empowers us when networking and collaborating, to improve health both in our facilities and globally."*

### Credentialed Emergency Nurse, Angela Devlin



**Angela graduated from QUT with a Bachelor of Nursing in 1995. She attained a Masters in Emergency Nursing in 2004 and a Post Graduate Certificate in Health Simulation and Flexible Learning in 2013.**

Angela started her emergency nursing career at the Princess Alexandra Hospital ED in 1998 where she gained experience as a flight nurse and clinical facilitator. She has worked in EDs in both Melbourne and Canberra and as a Trauma Clinical Nurse Consultant in Townsville.

Angela is an Army Reserve Nursing Officer, recently promoted to the rank of Major, who has served in Bougainville, East Timor and Solomon Islands, and has been involved in instructing on health courses within Defence. Angela works part time as one of the Clinical Nurse Consultants at Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Hospital ED Brisbane, is a member of the College of Emergency Nursing Australasia (CENA), and sits on the Queensland Branch Committee. She has recently progressed to become Faculty on the CENA Trauma Nursing Program, which she is delighted about, as she is able to learn from colleagues and use her skills to facilitate learning for others in trauma care.

*"Being a credentialed emergency nurse is a demonstration of my passion for emergency nursing; it's a reflection of my commitment to education and practice in my field and something of which I am extremely proud."*

**So what is Professional Credentialing? >**



Find out more at [www.c4n.com.au](http://www.c4n.com.au)

Credentialing for Nurses is a collaboration between:



The Department of Health, Queensland, through the Office of the Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer, provided funding to the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses to establish the C4N initiative.



# So what is Professional Credentialing?

**Credentialing is a way to recognise a nurse as a specialist nurse in their area of practice. It is a professional validation process that recognises the qualifications, skills, expertise and experience of nurses who are practicing within a given nursing specialty.**

A specialist nurse Professional Credential demonstrates to employers, colleagues, consumers/patients and their families, that a nurse has achieved the professional standard for practice in their nursing specialty. Credentialing also increases the awareness of the contribution that specialist nurses make to the health of the community.

Credentialing is a core component of clinical and professional governance, or self regulation, where members of a profession set standards for practice and establish a minimum requirement for entry, continuing professional development, endorsement and recognition.

Registered nurses working in specialised fields and other disciplines have developed credentialing as a means to ensure standards of practice and competence within their specialist domain beyond entry to practice.

## What are the requirements and standards?

To meet the requirements and standards for a Specialist Nurse Credential, you must meet the following criteria:

1. Hold a current registration as a Registered Nurse (Division 1) with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia
2. Hold qualifications that meet the criteria for your specialty

3. Provide evidence of working a minimum of 12 weeks full time equivalent over the preceding 12 months or the equivalent length of experience over the preceding 2 years, or over the preceding 3 years in the area of specialty.
4. Provide evidence of completion of 50 hours of continuing professional development in the previous 12 months, which must incorporate:
  - a certain number of hours relating to the area of specialty
  - a certain number of education related activities
  - a certain number of practice related activities
  - meeting any specific requirements as detailed by specialist colleges/organisations
5. Support from two referees who are familiar with your practice.

## Yes, I'm interested! Now what do I do?

Credentialing is now open to nurses working within specialist emergency care settings around Australia. The application process is all online and is easy to use, but it does require some organisation and preparation on your part. The C4N website [www.c4n.com.au](http://www.c4n.com.au) has all the information and guidance that you will need.

If you would like to contact a Credentialed Emergency Nurse Ambassador to find out more, please see our list of Ambassadors available here: [www.c4n.com.au/#!find-ambassadors/c1ci3](http://www.c4n.com.au/#!find-ambassadors/c1ci3)



Find out more at [www.c4n.com.au](http://www.c4n.com.au)

Credentialing for Nurses is a collaboration between:



Queensland Government

The Department of Health, Queensland, through the Office of the Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer, provided funding to the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses to establish the C4N initiative.



the Australian College  
of Mental Health Nurses inc.

