Background Information: Middlesex Hospital became Connecticut’s First Magnet Hospital in 2003. The nursing department’s strategic plan placed a high priority on facilitating specialty certification. Each unit was charged with implementing a plan to reach this outcome.

Objective of the project: All perianesthesia nurses will be certified by ABPANC.

Process of Implementation:
- Gain support and interest of peers through education about specialty certification and its rewards.
- Arranged for CAPA exam to be given locally.
- Study materials identified, obtained and distributed.
- Study groups formed.
- Hospital resources were tapped including review courses, reimbursement for practice tests and reimbursement for successful completion of exam.
- The first group successfully became certified, encouraging and inspiring their non-certified colleagues to get on board.
- Nursing Grand Rounds education encouraged and inspired all specialties to follow our example.

Statement off the Successful Practice: All perianesthesia nurses at Middlesex Surgical Center became certified, achieving our goal. They successfully achieved recertification at the required three year intervals.

Implications for advancing the practice of perianesthesia nursing:
- Nurses identified as experts in their specialty.
- Improved patient outcomes.
- Increased consumer confidence.
- Indicated attainment of practice standards.
- Perianesthesia nurses became role models for certification.
- Hospital wide direct care nursing specialty certification has gone from less than 30% in 2000 to over 60% in 2010.