

American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses (ASPAN)

Collaborative Advocacy Strategic Work Team (SWT)

Charter

May 2022 – May 2023

PURPOSE: Collaborative Advocacy Strategic Work Team (CASWT) promotes nursing impact through deliverable actions focused on improving frontline care and healthy workplace environments. By means of collaborating with internal and external entities, promoting nursing advocacy education, clinical Inquiry initiatives, and improving community outcomes.

AUTHORITY: Appointed by the Vice President/President-Elect with oversight from the President.

SCOPE:

1. Advocate for nurses and patient safety to empower and advance the unique specialty of perianesthesia nursing.
 - a. Identify common problems in care delivery that lend themselves to be translated into policy issues.
 - b. Translate issues into healthcare policy recommendations that advocacy activities can move forward.
 - c. Collaborate with internal and external entities, organizations, or individuals in advocacy activities.
 - d. Inform the board of directors and members of activities.
2. Identify perianesthesia workplace issues.
 - a. Identify and prioritize professional issues to be addressed related to ASPAN's Strategic Plan.
 - b. Query ASPAN members regarding professional priorities and/or practice issues.
 - c. Engage perianesthesia members to identify best practices and influential professional changes.

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- d. Design initiatives with timelines to address identified issues through advocacy actions, into best practices.
 - e. Develop a formal EBP question to drive a literature search.
 - f. Design an appropriate search strategy.
 - g. Search the evidence or utilize the research librarian available through members' university or work.
 - h. Critical appraise and synthesize the evidence.
 - i. Identify practice recommendations to promote quality patient care and advance perianesthesia nursing practice.
 - j. Prepare a manuscript for publication for dissemination within ASPAN.
4. Participate in strategies to increase ASPAN members' knowledge and involvement in advocacy practices.
- a. Elicit ASPAN member or component evidence-based proposals.
 - b. Provide consultation services for ASPAN committees or members attempting to translate an evidence-based practice proposal or project.
 - c. Propose and manage a forum on the Advocacy home page of the ASPAN website that members can utilize for asking questions about advocacy and a repository of resources.
 - d. Create education for ASPAN members to increase nurse advocacy understanding, identification of issues for healthcare policy changes and improved ability to participate.
5. Participate in activities to disseminate evidence-based advocacy practice findings.
- a. Present formal/informal presentations regarding the evidence-based advocacy practice, the evaluation, and the translation of these evidence-based findings into practice. Team leaders and select members of the team to present at National Conference, Leadership/Component Development Institute (LDI/CDI), pre-conference, or post-conference board meetings with manuscripts on the practice submitted to ASPAN publications.
 - b. Participate in oral presentations and poster displays, create position statements and/or whitepapers.
6. Collaboratively work with Governmental Affairs SWT to strategize communications plans for members to disseminate notification for important healthcare legislation/policy matters of concern.

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7. Nursing professions lead by empowering their practices and share their effective voice for advocacy. Identifying nursing opportunities to advance the profession and safer patient care can be adopted when the nursing voice is acknowledged and includes key stakeholders to jointly influence healthcare initiatives.

- a. Embracing nursing advocacy at a variety of legislative levels: state, federal government, agencies, and regulations issues.
 - i. Advocating to decision-makers, such as Congress, include requesting nurse representation as champions, expertise, and change agent voices as policies are created, negotiated, and executed.
 - ii. Monitor and assess trends for nursing-related legislation.

8. Identify and educate on the differences between advocacy and lobbying.

- a. Lobbying is described as sharing or exchanging information with legislation representatives who are the decision-makers (such as elected officials or staff, and voters choosing on proposed ballot initiatives or measures) about existing or potential legislation, and requesting a vote in favor or against.
- b. Lobbying influences contains these three combined elements collectively:
 - i. Decision-makers
 - ii. Actual legislation enforcements
 - iii. Requesting a vote
- c. Non-profit advocacy encircles all manners of communication sharing, board advocacy is influenced and acknowledged by means of adhering to their mission and members they serve. Lobbying has a limited range.
- d. Lobbying per the Internal Revenue Code Section (IRS) suggestions, note non-profits can be exposed to some lobbying, but too much adds an increased risk of losing established status. IRS recommends less than 20% for exempt purpose expenses related to measuring lobbying activities.

DECISION MAKING: Formal recommendations of findings are communicated to the President, Directors for Research and Education for dissemination to the ASPAN Board of Directors. If applicable, recommendations and advocacy activities will be brought before the board of directors to be endorsed; some recommendations may proceed to the representative assembly (RA) for a vote.

OUTCOMES: The Directors for Clinical Inquiry, Clinical Practice, and Education collaborate with the Collaborative Advocacy SWT and if indicated Governmental Affairs SWT to translate findings into ASPAN's advocacy for nursing practices or improved patient care.

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1. Increase knowledge and improve healthcare outcomes for the perianesthesia nurse regarding nursing advocacy practices promoting healthier workplace environments and safer patient care through initiatives.

2. Promote advocacy education and utilization to empower perianesthesia nurses to be proactive in healthcare practices.