

## **ASPAN Your Mind**

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**Background Information:** Nurses Week 2018 was celebrated in our PACU with an “ASPAN” quiz bowl. Questions for the contest were taken from a CPAN study guide. Staff really enjoyed the game and were shocked at how much they didn’t know. Once Nurses week was over – as well as the game – several requests came from the staff asking if we could continue to play. We decided to make it more than a game. We turned it into a quest for knowledge.

**Objectives of Project:** The objective of our project was to develop an educational program that would prepare the PACU nursing staff for the CPAN exam. Our ultimate goal is to have at least 75% of the nursing staff complete the CPAN or CAPA exam by 2020. We are shooting for the ABPANC Certification Achievement Award. At the start of this project – we had 0% staff with certification.

**Process of Implementation:** The first thing we did was order study materials and reference books. We then made a 100 question “pre-test” that covered all the areas in the actual exam. All nursing staff participated. After the initial “test” period, everyone was given two questions a week to answer. We continued to keep score but found it difficult to maintain a weekly schedule of games. We have since moved on to weekly questions emailed to the whole unit. Staff responds individually and correct answers with rationale are given out the next week. Weekly drawings are held to acknowledge the high scores.

**Statement of Successful Practice:** Staff is more confident and has shown more interest in taking the CPAN/CAPA exams. Three of the 16 staff have successfully completed the exam and several others have committed to taking Fall 2019.

**Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing:** Provides the nursing staff an educational format that encourages participation and inspires staff to become CPAN/CAPA certified.