

SOUTH DAKOTA



## President's Message

MARCH  
2002



Thank you for electing me as the South Dakota ENA president for the next 2 years. I am looking forward to learning more about what the ENA has available for us as a state organization, and as a nurse working in the many healthcare settings that we are. I am also looking towards what we as individuals can do to strengthen our state organization.

One of the many benefits that I have received over the past years as an ENA member is the opportunity to network with other ER nurses from various parts of the state. I hope that many of you have the same opportunity.

Injury prevention has always been a goal of mine. There are several programs through the ENA that focus on this. I would encourage you to consider becoming involved and if you are already, sharing your ideas with your co-workers, education departments in your facility and others in surrounding communities.

Specific programs through the ENA are available such as Alcohol Awareness (ENCARE), Domestic

Violence Prevention, Child Passenger Safety, Gun Safety, and Bike/Helmet Safety. If you are interested in any of these, feel free to contact me. My email address is [fosterj@prairielakes.com](mailto:fosterj@prairielakes.com). I can be reached by phone at work at 882-7833 or at home at 532-5889. You can also obtain information on ENA on their website at [www.ena.org](http://www.ena.org).

On the home front, I am married to a great guy, Tom, who is a farmer. I have 2 sons; Jordan who is 13 and Blake who is 10. I live about 30 miles from Watertown near a small town called Henry.

Again, I am looking forward to the upcoming year.

Jody Foster

SD ENA Officers:  
President- Jody Foster  
Secretary- Cindy Baldwin  
Treasurer- Francie Miller

Committee Chairs:  
Trauma- Clara Johnson  
Pediatrics- Mindy Laufflin  
Legislative- Kathy Haack  
Carol Fonken  
Injury Prevention- Tom Berg  
Newsletter- Tammy Dohman

# TRUAMA NURSING CORE COURSE (TNCC)

The magnitude of traumas a national and international problem is documented by data that identifies injury as being the primary cause of death in persons under age 45. The optimal care of the trauma patient is best accomplished within a framework in which all members of the trauma team use a systemic, standardized approach to the care of the injured patient. Emergency nurses are essential members of the trauma team. Morbidity and mortality of trauma patients can be significantly reduced by educating nurses to provide competent trauma care.

ENA developed and implemented the TNCC for national and international dissemination as a means of identifying a standardized body of trauma nursing knowledge. The TNCC (Provider) is a 16-20 hour course designed to provide the learner with cognitive knowledge and psychomotor skills. TNCC may be officially attended by registered nurses (RN's). Other health care providers may attend the course as observers.

TNCC was designed for the RN to help them develop a systematic, standardized approach in the treatment of the trauma patient. RN's are an important member of the trauma team. After successfully completing the TNCC (Provider), the professional nurse will learn to:

Demonstrate the concepts and

principles of patient assessment  
Establish and manage priorities in a trauma situation

- ♦ Initiate a primary and secondary management necessary for acute life threatening emergencies
- ♦ Demonstrate the skills necessary for initial management of trauma patients

There are many courses available throughout the state during the course of a year. To sign up, inquire about courses near you or for more information, contact any of the contacts listed by TNCC courses to the right or contact Jody Foster at [fosterj@prairielakes.com](mailto:fosterj@prairielakes.com) or at work 882-7833. If you are a nurse who takes care of trauma patients in any capacity, this course is strongly recommended and extremely helpful in understanding the treatment of trauma patients. If you have limited education monies budgeted at your hospital, contact Clara Johnson at McKennan Hospital 322-2080 or email her: [clarajohnson@mckennan.org](mailto:clarajohnson@mckennan.org) for information regarding reimbursement.

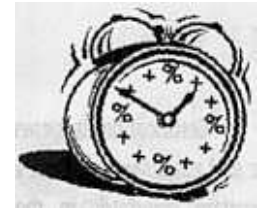


Have you logged on to [www.ena.org](http://www.ena.org) lately? You can learn the newest information on the BCEN, acquire the BCEN pretest, read journal articles, learn the latest ENA news, shop at the ENA marketplace and much much more. Log on today.

# WRITE IT UP!

The Journal of Emergency Nursing is always looking for unsolicited manuscripts. If you have an interesting Triage or Case Review, a new ED program of some kind, a clinical tip for other emergency nurses, or something that would fit in any of our many columns, please let us know. Send query e-mails to Editor, Gail Lenehan at: [glenehan@aol.com](mailto:glenehan@aol.com) for content questions or Managing Editor, Karen Halm at: [karen.halm@attbi.com](mailto:karen.halm@attbi.com) for administrative questions. We will get back to you and/or will forward your submission to the appropriate section editor. You don't have to know anyone at the Journal or have elaborate credentials to publish an article. If you have something interesting and valuable for emergency nurses, remember to "write it up."

## Dates & Times to Remember



- March 20-21-TNCC(Trauma Nursing Core Course) @ Sioux Valley Hospital. Contact Cindy Baldwin.**
- April 9-10-TNCC(Trauma Nursing Core Course) @ Webster Contact Cindy Baldwin @ Sioux Valley Hospital**
- May 1-2-TNCC (Trauma Nursing Core Course) @ Chamberlain Contact Cindy Baldwin @ Sioux Valley Hospital**
- May 2223-CATN (Course in Advanced Trauma Nursing) Western Dakota Technical Institute, Rapid City Contact: Clara Johnson @ Avera McKennan 322-2080 or email: clara.johnson@mckennan.org**
- June 1-Speaker Applications for SDENA Conference due.**
- July 18-Excellence in EMS Banquet @ Tea. Contact Julie Dykstra @ Sioux Valley Hospital for information.**
- July 19-TNCC(I)-Trauma Nursing Core Course Instructor Contact: Clara Johnson @ Avera McKennan 605-322-2080**
- July 23-24-TNCC (Trauma Nursing Core Course):Avera St. Luke's. Contact Monica Eske @605-622-5588. Cost is \$170.00 and includes all books and materials.**

***What is the best way to treat diarrhea?***

**Ask for a specimen!**

# BCEN

Certification, in general, is a mechanism in which the public and employers are able to identify practitioners who have met certain standards in their particular nursing specialty. Because of this, there are certifications in many areas of nursing. The BCEN certification is the certification specific to emergency nursing and measures the attainment of a defined body of nursing knowledge pertinent to that particular specialty.

For emergency nurses, the certification provides:

- Personal satisfaction through increased confidence and personal growth
- Validation of emergency nursing expertise
- Career advancement opportunities
- Monetary differentials
- Job opportunities

The Board of Certification for Emergency Nursing (BCEN) was established in the early 1980's to develop and administer the certification for emergency nurses (CEN). BCEN maintains the highest standards for certification.

Upon successful completion of the certification exam, the CEN credential is valid for a period of four years. Re-certification is through reexamination (CEN-RO) or by continuing education (CE). A new option, for those whose certification expired after August 31, 2001, to renew your CEN is thru CEN-RO open book. To qualify for the exam, the applicant must be a registered nurse with a current unrestricted license.

The CEN exam is administered via computer five days a week at AMO Assessment Centers. Currently Rapid City and Sioux Falls offer exam sites. The exam is 175 items and each applicant is allowed 3 hours to complete the exam. The applicant receives their score report prior to leaving the testing center. Computer experience is not necessary to take the exam.

CEN practice exam is now available on [www.ena.org](http://www.ena.org)

Taking the practice exam has many distinct advantages:

- It gives the learner the opportunity to take an exam that matches the CEN exam (not the same questions) via computers. The questions on the practice exam are presented essentially in the same computer format as the CEN exam; the screens and commands are similar.
- It gives the learner an opportunity to experience the types of questions that will be asked on the CEN exam. All the questions on the practice exam have been used previously in a version of the CEN exam.
- It gives the learner an opportunity to use the practice exam in two different ways.
  - The learner may have the opportunity to answer questions and receive feedback. The computer displays the right answer and rationale.
  - The learner may take the test and then use the results to compare your performance to likely CEN performance.
- You can access the practice exam multiple times and use either strategy on any item. Once you are signed up for the practice exam, you have access for a minimum of 90 days. The cost is \$30.

Log on to [www.ena.org](http://www.ena.org) to learn more about taking the

CEN and to try the practice exam.



A man goes to the doctor and says to the doctor: "It hurts when I press here" (pressing his side) "And when I press here" (pressing the other side) "And here" (his leg) "And here, here and here" (his other leg, and both arms) So the doctor examined him all over and finally discovered what was wrong.. "You've got a broken finger!"