

# *GI Certification*

*Do YOU have the heart,  
the brains and the courage?*



*Don't feel crushed by the thought of taking  
the certification exam!*

*Kelly Osborne, CGRN, BSN*

# *Taking the First Step*

- ❑ Log On to ABCGN - America Board of Certification for Gastroenterology Nurses
- ❑ Choose either Certification or Recertification
- ❑ Requirements for taking the CGRN Certification Exam
  - ✓ Employed in clinical, supervisory, administrative, education or research capacities for a minimum of two years full-time, or its part-time equivalent of 4000 hours, within the past five years in GI/endoscopy.
  - ✓ Current RN license
  - ✓ Provide the names and contact information of two responsible practitioners in the specialty who can verify your work experience and professional qualifications

## *What Is the Examination Like?*

- ❑ Consists of 175 multiple choice questions. The 150 multiple choice questions are scored and the 25 experimental questions which may be used for future exams are not scored.
- ❑ Each question has 4 choices with one correct answer.

# Testing Information

## **Exam Computer Based and Annual Paper Exam**

- ❑ **Computer Based Testing:** The computer-based test is offered twice annually, in the spring and fall. This convenient test option provides hundreds of locations for testers and a month-long window in which to take the exam.
- ❑ Spring Examination Window May 1 - May 31, 2012
- ❑ For a complete list of CBT testing centers visit [http://www.castleworldwide.com/tds\\_v5/services/ibt.html](http://www.castleworldwide.com/tds_v5/services/ibt.html)
- ❑ **Paper and Pencil: ABCGN offers the paper and pencil exam ONLY once during the year at the SGNA Annual Course in the Spring.**
- ❑ Annual Course - Phoenix, Arizona May 2012

# *ABCGN RN Test Blueprint*

- ❑ General Nursing Care 24.46%
- ❑ Gastroenterological Procedures 36.98%
- ❑ Patient Care Interventions 21.66%
- ❑ Professional Standards and Responsibilities 16.90%

# *Testing Fees and Info*

## **Paper and Pencil Exam (Spring only)**

✓ **SGNA Member - \$300.00**

✓ **Non-SGNA Member - \$385.00**

## **Computer-based Exam (Spring and Fall)**

✓ **SGNA Member - \$400**

✓ **Non-SGNA Member - \$485**

The deadline for receipt of completed online applications for certification by examination is **August 31st** for the fall exam cycle and **February 28th** for the spring testing cycle for 2011 -2012

# *WOW – I can't afford to take this Exam*

## ❑ Reimbursement

Employee reimbursement for exam  
Clinical Ladders Advancement

## ❑ Certification Bonus

One time employer bonus  
Annual employer bonus

## ❑ ENC CSGNA Scholarships

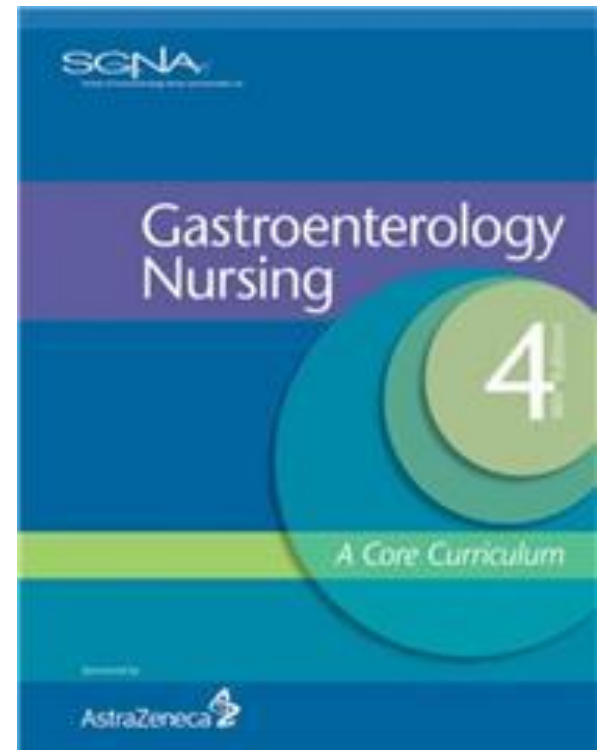
## *Preparing for the Examination*

- ❑ ABCGN neither sponsors nor endorses test preparation or review courses for the certification examinations.
- ❑ SGNA offers an Online Practice Exam, which can be purchased through their Marketplace at [www.sgna.org](http://www.sgna.org).
- ❑ Contact SGNA for information at 800-245-7462 or [SGNA@Smithbucklin.com](mailto:SGNA@Smithbucklin.com).

# *Study and Educational Resources*

## The BEST RESOURCE SGNA GI Nursing Core Curriculum

- Can be purchased through the SGNA Market Place
- Market Place has lots of reference guides
- Borrow it from the unit or a friend, peer, manager that has already taken the exam
- Split the cost of the text book and photocopy the chapters
- Ask your clinic/unit/office nurse manager to order one for a resource
- Other References are GI Nursing Journals, JACHO, and CDC Websites





- Certification Preparation Kit - \$300.00
  - ✓ GI Nursing: A Core Curriculum, 4th edition
  - ✓ SGNA Online Practice Exams
  - ✓ SGNA Practice Guidelines and Position Statements
  
- GI Nursing: A Core Curriculum, 4th edition  
\$160.00

# *Where do I Start*

Ask yourself these Questions

- Do I work and study best alone or in a group?
- Do I learn best by: writing it down, reading it, using flip charts, index cards, outlining the information, recording myself ?
- What is a realistic time frame to take the test? Set a time line and plot out a course for studying. Make it realistic with your current work, life and/or school schedule.

# *Staying on Course*

- ❑ Talk to your peers or managers who have taken the test and get their guidance
- ❑ Find a mentor – someone who is willing to quiz you, review facts or lead a small study group
- ❑ Outline the SGNA Nursing GI Core Curriculum by Chapters – assign one chapter per week to read and study the concepts
- ❑ Set a time frame – take at least three but no longer than six months to prepare no matter of your length of experience in the GI field
- ❑ Read concepts aloud twice and write it down once to increase learning of the concept.
- ❑ Discuss the concepts or new learned materials with your peers or physicians.

# *Get hands on experience*

- ❑ If you work in an office setting ask to observe procedures at an ASU/Hospital your providers performs their procedures
- ❑ If you work in General GI - ask to observe breath testing, ERCP, EUS, Manometry, Capsule Endo and Bravo placements
- ❑ If you work in an endoscopy setting – ask to observe at an office based environment

*Thank you to Duke GI of Raleigh and Duke  
Raleigh Hospital Endoscopy Department  
Staff for their help and support!!*



GOT QUESTIONS?

Please feel free to contact me

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LET'S PLAY

GI

JEOPARDY !!