Dear Nursing Colleagues:

Becoming a Certified Heart Failure Nurse (CHFN) has great benefits for both the registered nurse and APRN, as well as the organization where they are employed. You can use this brochure to show your leaders why it is important to support heart failure nurses to become certified. We recommend that you print the attached brochure and share it with your chief nursing officers, managers, and supervisors.

It is our hope that this brochure will give your leaders the information they need to not only support you in your efforts to become a CHFN, but also help to finance it. Many organizations offer reimbursement for the costs associated with becoming certified once you have passed the certification exam. Some facilities even offer a pay increase for certified nurses.

If you or your leaders have any questions, our CHFN website offers a wealth of information. In addition, you are always welcome to reach out to our office headquarters at 888-452-2436 and we will be happy to help you however we can.

Thank you for your interest in advocating for Certified Heart Failure Nurses. We know it makes a difference for our patients and families.

Sincerely,

Denise Buxbaum, RN, BSN, CHFN Chair
AAHFN – Certification Board
Certified Heart Failure Nurse Accreditation Is Your Pathway to Excellence!

Accreditation affirms your hospital commitment to:

- Providing evidence-based care for your heart failure patients
- Reducing your readmission rate, and improving your mortality rate for your heart failure patients
- Meeting quality and performance initiatives
- Creating a culture of commitment to advance nursing education and nurse retention
- Providing validation to patients, families and other healthcare professionals the nursing staff has specialty experience, knowledge and skills
- Becoming a magnet hospital

Research Shows:

- Certified Heart Failure Nurses (CHFNs) are more likely to have superior evidence-based decision-making skills
- CHFNs have an enhanced ability to function in complex patient care situations
- Specialty certified nurses have shown lower rates of falls, pressure ulcers, hospital acquired infection, failure to rescue and death

Everyone in the health care equation, from employers to patients and nurses, benefits from heart failure certification as a mark of commitment to excellence.

Then Why Support Certification?

Certified Heart Failure Nurses will improve your patient outcomes in this complex population. With the payment systems penalizing readmission and rewarding quality, providing certified nurses to care for this population only makes sense.

Celebrate Certified Nurses Day on March 19th

Certification Exam Dates can be located here: aahfn.org/BlankCustom.asp?page=certif

References

2 Ibid.