

**University of North Carolina Hospitals Receives Recognition with
ABNS Award for Nursing Certification Advocacy Honorable Mention**

AURORA, Ohio, (May 2, 2016) – The American Board of Nursing Specialties (ABNS) Awards and Recognition Committee announced during the organization’s March 3rd Spring Assembly Meeting in Las Vegas it has selected University of North Carolina Hospitals as the honorable mention recipient of the 2016 Award for Nursing Certification Advocacy.

“We are thrilled to honor the University of North Carolina Hospitals for their dedication to promoting specialty certification and recognizing the value it holds for their nurses and, of course, their patients and other members of the healthcare team,” Cyndee Hnatiuk, EdD, RN, CAE, FAAN, Chair of the ABNS Awards and Recognition Committee, said.

More than a third of the nurses at the University of North Carolina Hospitals have obtained specialty nursing certification, including 100 percent of their nursing managers. UNC Hospitals provide certificants with reimbursement for certification fees, paid time off for exam day, and update review tools, including a “Certification Library,” with more than 160 study resources covering 20 specialty certification exams. In the first two years of existence, UNC Hospitals invested more than \$8,000 in the library, supporting the certification efforts of nearly 200 people.

UNC Hospitals also offers a “new nurse orientation,” during which the Nursing Certification Committee discusses the value of certification, and how new employees can take advantage of the organization’s willingness to support their certification journey.

The ABNS Award for Nursing Certification Advocacy has been developed as a means to publicly recognize organizations that advocate for or promote specialty nursing certification. Organizations providing patient/client care that employ certified nurses are eligible to apply for this award. Organizations include but are not limited to hospitals, health systems, hospices, visiting nurses associations, ambulatory care clinics, occupational health and school settings, and free standing facilities. A unit or division of a larger organization is eligible to apply.

For more information on the requirements of the award, visit www.nursingcertification.org.

Editor’s Note:

The American Board of Nursing Specialties (ABNS) is a membership organization whose mission is to promote the value of specialty nursing certification to all stakeholders. Currently 32 ABNS Regular Member organizations represent nearly 750,000 specialty certified registered nurses. Its 14 Affiliate Members include providers of key certification-related testing products and services. One Public Member represents the consumer’s perspectives on issues about specialty nursing certification. For further information about ABNS, visit www.nursingcertification.org or email Bonnie Niebuhr, MS, RN, CAE, Chief Executive Officer, at abns@nursingcertification.org.