

**Massachusetts Association of Registered Nurses
Continuing Education Committee
Approver Unit
Policy Manual**

Beliefs and Philosophy of the CEC/AU

January 1, 2007

The Continuing Education Committee uses the *ANA Scope and Standards of Practice for Nursing Professional Development* (ANA, 2000) as the framework for its functions and believes that:

Education is a lifelong process; it is the responsibility of each individual Registered Nurse to insure that their educational needs are identified and met in order to maintain their professional competence as a nurse.

Continuing education in nursing is essential if we are to maintain and increase professional competence in nursing, foster the advancement of the discipline of nursing and meet the public's expectation of competent nursing care.

Participation in continuing nursing education activities positively influences the practice of nursing and thus promotes improvement in the delivery of healthcare.

Continuing education activities in nursing should reflect current practice and trends in healthcare and support the essence and nature of nursing by demonstrating a caring, competent approach to the provision of care. The *Code of Ethics for Nurses* (ANA) guides the professional and educational development of nurses.

Continuing education in nursing should be diverse to reflect the current environments that nurses practice in today and to meet the ever changing educational needs of nurses as they provide care in a myriad of settings, in an expanding number of roles and in a cost effective manner.

Continuing education must reflect current issues to insure that nurses are prepared to meet the challenges that face them as they function with rapidly changing technology in both practice and in how we communicate with patients and each other, e.g. the internet.

As an ANCC Accredited Approver of Continuing Nursing Education, following the American Nurses Credentialing Center's "*Manual for Accreditation as an Approver or a Provider of Continuing Nursing Education*" 2006, we can insure through the peer review process that these standards of the ANCC are implemented and monitored.