

Introduction:

The original concept for the ***Essential Psychiatric, Mental Health and Substance Use Competencies for the Generalist Nurse*** was conceived at the meeting of the Psychiatric Mental Health Expert Panel during the Academy of Nursing 33rd Annual Meeting and Conference, Integrating Physical and Mental Health Care, held in Miami, Florida, November 9-11, 2006. The Expert Panel identified the need for a document that centralized the recognized competencies and curricula associated with psychiatric mental health nursing practice. The Expert Panel also recognized the need for a document that identified psychiatric mental health competencies for generalist nursing practice. A Taskforce, chaired by Catherine Kane and Margaret Brackley was formed and charged with using “a model similar to the Hartford Foundation model for building capacity in geriatric nursing to develop PMH/Behavioral Health Competencies for non-PMH RNs and APRNs.” This draft was completed in March 2009. The draft was presented to the membership attending the 2009 ISPN Conference.

This draft will be posted on ISPN's and APNA's websites through August 2009.

The taskforce welcomes comments, suggestions, edits and revisions by email to

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PLEASE WRITE: “RN PMH Competencies” in the subject line of the email. We thank you in advance for any and all feedback!