

CNOR® Readiness Survey

CCI wants you to be prepared for success in seeking the professional credential for perioperative registered nurses (CNOR). The following self-assessment tool may be used to determine readiness for taking the exam, identify areas of strength and needed improvement, and aid in the development of a test preparation plan.

1. Have I met the criteria for eligibility to take the exam?

- Yes No
- Currently licensed as an RN in the country where currently practicing perioperative nursing
- Have a minimum of 2 years and 2400 hours of perioperative practice in an administrative, teaching, research or general staff capacity
- Currently work either part- or full-time in a perioperative role

2. Does my day-to-day practice involve of a variety of surgical procedures, specialties, and patient age groups, or is my role restricted to one or two specialties or age groups?

- Yes No

My current practice involves the following types of cases:	I will need additional exposure to the following types of cases:

3. Do I perform my own pre-operative assessment that includes reviewing documentation by admitting personnel and a patient interview?

- Yes No

4. Do I know the action, dose, side effects, and contraindications for the medications my patient is taking pre-procedure?

- Yes No

5. Do I know the action, dose, route, side effects, and contraindications for the medications that are administered during the intraoperative period?

- Yes No

6. Do I have access to Sterile Processing personnel and resources?

- Yes No

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7. Do I participate in hand-offs to the PACU nurse?

Yes

No

8. Is my facility current on Joint Commission, CMS, and other regulatory standards?

Yes

No

9. Are current Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) *Guidelines* cited in my facility's policies and procedures?

Yes

No

10. Do I incorporate the most current AORN guidelines into my practice?

Yes

No

11. Are my facility's policies and procedures reviewed annually and updated as needed to reflect current best practice?

Yes

No

12. Does my facility library/unit manager/educator have access to current reference and resource materials, e.g. AORN *Guidelines*, *Alexander's Care of the Patient in Surgery*, and/or *Berry and Kohn's Operating Room Technique*?

Yes

No

13. Have I provided myself with adequate time to study (typically 3 months) prior to taking the CNOR exam?

Yes

No

14. Have I reviewed CCI's Candidate Handbook to familiarize myself with the testing process?

Yes

No

15. Do I have a mentor or resource person who understands the certification process?

Yes

Contact info: _____

No

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16. I have identified and put a plan in place to address barriers to prepare for the exam:

- Cost of exam
- Cost of study materials
- Facility support
- Time
- Test distress

Now, step back and critically analyze the results of your self-assessment. Numerous “no” answers, limited exposure to all components of perioperative nursing (pre-, intra-, and postoperative), and/or specialization in specific types of patients or procedures does not mean you cannot be successful on the exam, but it does suggest participating in additional learning opportunities to address identified deficits.

Plan (including timeline and resources; feel free to add more lines as needed):

Resource Requirements	Timeline
1. Complete CNOR Readiness Survey	
2.	
3.	
4. Apply for the Exam	Four months prior
5. Schedule Location, Date and Time	In next three months
6. Take CNOR Exam	Testing Day

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The CNOR exam is based on the following domains, or major subject areas. For each subject area, score your current knowledge based on the following key.

Level of Competency Score:

1-Very Certain: I know this content area well and believe that my work experience has fully prepared me. I am comfortable with current practices and believe that I am up-to-date with new developments and advances.

2-Certain: I am reasonably comfortable with this content area and believe that my work experience has prepared me fairly well.

3-Undecided: I have some knowledge and some experience in this area, but there may be a few content areas where I am not as strong or for which my work experience has not fully prepared me.

4-Uncertain: I am aware that I have some knowledge deficits and/or a lack of work experience in this content area. I will need to gain more experience and/or spend additional time reading my reference books.

5-Very Uncertain: I am aware that I have many knowledge deficits and/or lack work experience in this content area. There are multiple areas of weakness which will require extensive reading and/or work experience before taking the examination.

Subject Area	Level of Competency	Percentage of Questions on the Exam
1. Preoperative Assessment and Diagnosis		12%
2. Develop an Individualized Plan of Care and Identify Expected Outcomes		10%
3. Intraoperative Activities		27%
4. Communication		10%
5. Transfer of Care		6%
6. Cleaning, Disinfecting, Packaging, Sterilization, Transporting and Storing Instrumentation and Supplies		9%
7. Emergency Situations		11%
8. Management of Personnel, Services and Materials		6%
9. Professional Accountability		9%