

SPECIALISM IN NURSING THROUGH THE EYES OF ACADEMIA

SUSAN GENNARO RN, PHD, FAAN (GENNARO@BC.EDU)

PROFESSOR BOSTON COLLEGE, CONNELL SCHOOL OF NURSING

EDITOR JOURNAL OF NURSING SCHOLARSHIP (JNS@STTI.ORG)

WHAT PROGRAMS DOES ACADEMIA NEED TO PROVIDE

- What do citizens need—(story of Perinatal Nurse Practitioners)
- What do regulations support
- What other support for programs
- How do we make programs sustainable

WHAT CITIZENS NEED

- No specialty to care for high-risk pregnant women
 - In US midwives scope is to care for low-risk women
 - Women's Health Nurse Practitioners also care low risk women (don't deliver babies)
- Gap in care and gap in skills
 - No nurse provider to care for high risk pregnant women
 - Ultrasound etc.

HOW ALLOWED TO PRACTICE

- In my state (Pennsylvania) state provided authority to practice
- In most states have to take a certification exam

RESOURCES TO SUPPORT PROGRAMS

- Federal funding to support creation of new programs (5 funded in different parts of country)
- Wrote and published articles on new role
- Lots of support from practice as fewer perinatologists
- Beginning to do research on role and outcomes

HOW ARE PROGRAMS SUSTAINABLE

- Continued applicants for program
- Understanding of health care professionals
- Continued need of citizenry (MOST IMPORTANT)
- Reimbursement in practice
- Mobility for practitioners

TO SUCCEED ALL PIECES MUST BE PRESENT

