ABCVN defines a GI Specific contact as providing a knowledge or skill that is essential to providing care to a patient with a gastrointestinal disease or problem. The information imparted should enable the Gastroenterology nurse to anticipate the care and interventions needed to treat the patient; provide the necessary care and interventions and supply follow-up care and teaching.

- GI specific courses identify the knowledge that the certified gastroenterology nurse is required to know to stay current in the field of gastroenterology.
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**WHAT IS CONSIDERED GI SPECIFIC?**

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**GI SPECIFIC CRITERIA IDENTIFIES:**

- Anatomy, physiology, pathophysiology of the GI tract.
- Diagnostic and therapeutic gastroenterology/hepatology procedures.
- Diagnostic tests which relate to gastroenterology/hepatology.
  - Example: pathology specimen collection specific to endoscopy procedures or to GI diagnosis.
- Surgical procedures related to gastroenterology.
  - Examples: Bariatric surgery, Gastric Bypass, add Colorectal surgery, Colostomy, Bowel resection, Esophageal.
- Post-operative complications of surgical procedures related to gastroenterology.
  - Examples: Ulcers, strictures, issues with absorption/malabsorption, changes in anatomy, resections, anastomosis.
- Disease processes that effect or are affected by the GI system.
- Pharmacology pertaining to digestive diseases.
- Sedation and monitoring, including capnography.
- Patient teaching related to gastroenterology/hepatology.
- Eating disorders and their effects.
- Nutritional and Enteral Therapy pertaining to digestive diseases.
  - Examples: Low residue, high fiber, gluten free diets.
- Holistic care related to the GI patient.
  - Examples include: Acupuncture, Massage Therapy.
- Electrosurgery usage and safety.
- Laser training and safety related to GI/Endoscopy.
- GI related radiological procedures.
  - Example: ERCP, TIPS.
- Radiology use and safety in the GI Lab.
- Infection prevention as it relates to gastroenterology/hepatology.
- Cleaning, Disinfection and Reprocessing of equipment and supplies.
- Environmental safety as it relates to gastroenterology/hepatology.
- Research and technology in gastroenterology/hepatology.
- Competencies as they relate to the GI Nurse/Staff.
- Quality/Performance Improvement / Benchmarking activities related to the GI Lab.
  - Examples: Scope culturing, scope reconciliation.
  - Examples: Quality indicators for GI procedures, Cecal intubation rates, Colonoscopy prep quality, Adenoma detection rate (ADR).
- Legal issues related to the GI setting.
- Universal Precautions.
  - Examples: PPE use during procedures and reprocessing, caring for patients with infectious disease, handling body fluids and tissue samples.
- Regulatory/Accreditation.
  - CMS, CDC, OSHA, Joint Commission, AAAHC.
  - Example: Reducing risks of infection associated with medical equipment in the GI setting (Devices and Supplies).
- Standards of Practice.
  - As they relate to gastroenterology/hepatology.

Content important to GI practice but applicable to many different nursing practices or business is not GI specific!

- IV Therapy.
- QI/QA unless directed specifically to GI.
  - Specific = ADR.
  - Non-specific = staff turnover time, on time starts.
- Bronchoscopy.
- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation.
- Basic or Advanced Cardiac Life Support.
- HR.
  - Examples: Dealing with difficult people, humor in the GI Lab.
- Obesity as a general topic.
- Trendy diets, i.e. Adkins or South Beach.
- Complications of obesity, i.e. diabetes, hypertension.
- Management.
- Patient and staff satisfaction, hiring and firing.