

TIPS TO HELP DETERMINE IF YOU SHOULD TAKE THE *PCCN* OR *CCRN* EXAM

<i>Criterion</i>	Progressive Care	Critical Care
<i>Patient Stability</i>	Patient is moderately stable with potential for becoming unstable	Patient is unstable
<i>Patient Complexity</i>	Patient problems and therapies are less complex	Patient problems and therapies are complex involving more than one system
<i>Resources Required</i>	Moderate resources needed for care, i.e., technical, fiscal, personal, psychological and social	Intense resources needed for care, including staffing, monitoring and supplies
<i>Interventions Required</i>	AACN Certification Corporation's national job analysis did not show hemodynamic monitoring and ventilator management as a frequently enough required skill to include on the PCCN certification exam	Hemodynamic monitoring and ventilator management are frequently required in critical care and are tested on the CCRN certification exam
<i>Likely Practice Areas</i>	Progressive Care Units Telemetry Units Stepdown Units Observation Units Transitional Care Units Cardiac Catheterization Labs PACUs Stress Testing Cardiac Rehabilitation Interventional Cardiology	ICUs CCUs Combined ICU/CCUs SICUs Cardiac Surgery EDs Trauma Units Transport Flight

Note: Final determination of eligibility is not based on unit location, but rather based on patient acuity, as patient placement varies by facility and bed availability, etc. The potential certificant must work with acutely and/or critically ill patients in the amount specified in the eligibility requirements found in the *Certification Exam Handbook*.