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**American Association of Critical-Care Nurses endorses
nurses' expanded role in use of IO access devices**

INS supports intraosseous access device insertion by registered nurses

ALISO VIEJO, Calif. — June 21, 2010 — The [American Association of Critical-Care Nurses](#) (AACN) recently endorsed [The Role of the Registered Nurse in the Insertion of Intraosseous \(IO\) Access Devices](#), an official position paper from the [Infusion Nurses Society](#), Norwood, Mass.

The paper states that qualified registered nurses (RNs), proficient in infusion therapy and appropriately trained, “may insert, maintain and remove IO access devices.” Advances in vascular access have increased RN scope of practice to include IO devices, expanded to non-emergent settings, it adds.

AACN Clinical Practice Manager Robi Hellman, RN, MSN, CNS, notes the benefit to patients of this expanded scope of practice. “Allowing RNs to perform IO cannulation significantly decreases the time critically ill patients need to achieve, access and receive medications,” she explains.

About the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses: Founded in 1969 and based in Aliso Viejo, Calif., the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN) is the largest specialty nursing organization

in the world. AACN joins together more than 500,000 acute and critical care nurses and claims more than 230 chapters worldwide. The organization's vision is to create a healthcare system driven by the needs of patients and their families in which acute and critical care nurses make their optimal contribution. To learn more about AACN, visit www.aacn.org.

About the Infusion Nurses Society: The Infusion Nurses Society (INS), Norwood, Mass., a national nonprofit organization founded in 1973, is open to all healthcare professionals from all practice settings involved or interested in infusion therapy. Dedicated to advancing delivery of quality therapy to patients, INS enhances this specialty through standards of practice, professional ethics, research and education.

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