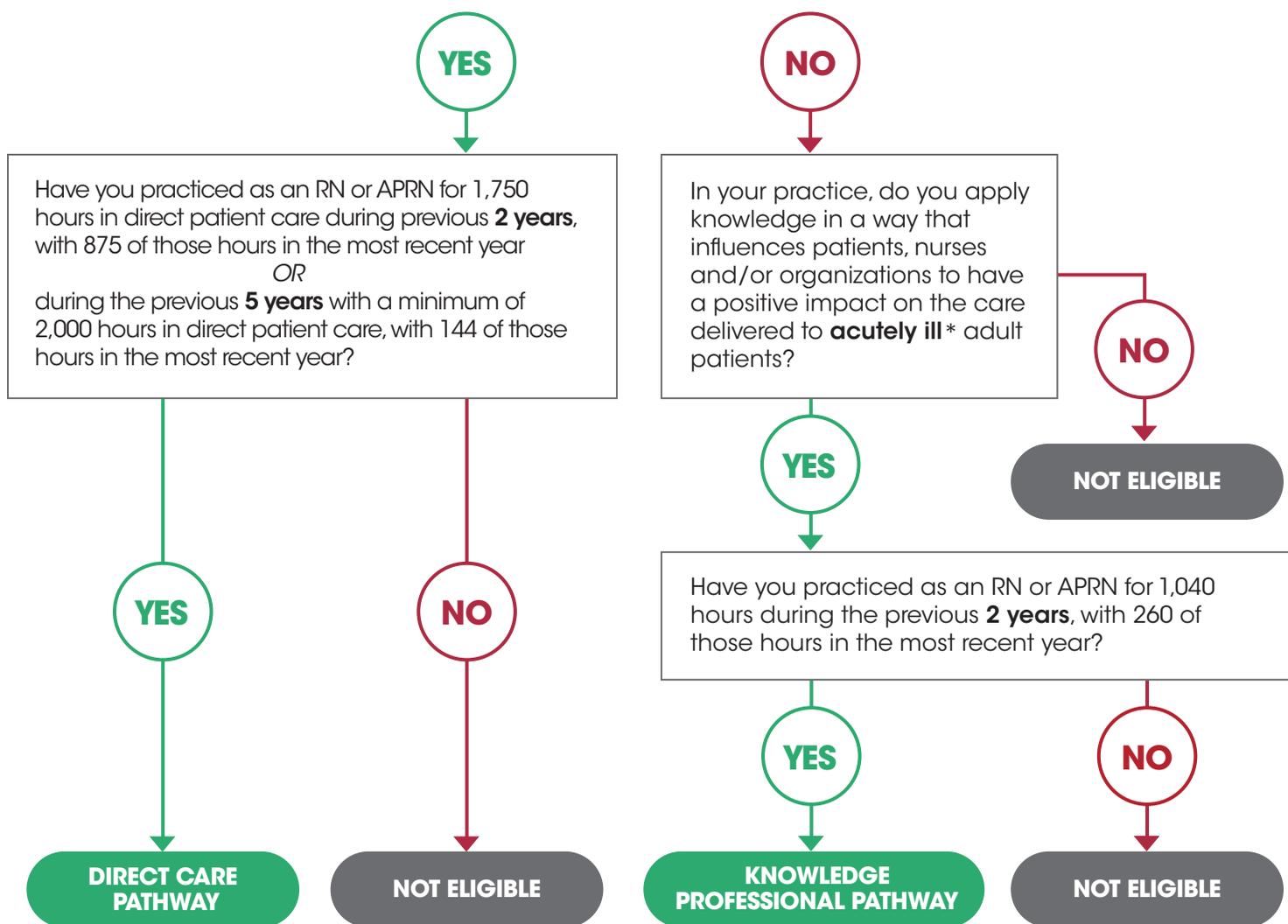


Practice Decision Tree — PCCN Exam Eligibility

Direct Care vs. Knowledge Professional Pathways

In your practice, do you *exclusively* or *primarily* provide direct care to acutely ill* adult patients?



- Nurses serving as a manager, educator, APRN or preceptor may apply hours spent supervising nursing students or nurses at the bedside toward the clinical hour requirement for the PCCN Exam - Direct Care Pathway. Nurses who **exclusively** or **primarily** provide direct care (e.g., staff/bedside nurses, ACNPs) would **not** be eligible for the PCCN Exam - Knowledge Professional Pathway.
- The PCCN Exam - Knowledge Professional Pathway is for nurses who in their practice influence patients, nurses and/or organizations to have a positive impact on the care delivered to acutely ill patients but do **not** primarily provide direct care.
- * **Acutely ill** (sometimes called "high acuity") patients are moderately stable with an elevated risk of instability, requiring a high intensity of care and vigilance.

For detailed eligibility requirements, refer to the PCCN exam handbook applicable to your eligibility pathway at www.aacn.org/certhandbooks