NCSBN Announces Next Generation NCLEX Project

NCSBN has revealed the nursing clinical judgment assessment model and determined that the “Next Generation NCLEX (NGN)” will include new item types to gauge candidates’ clinical judgement and decision-making aptitude in nursing situations. Elsevier is pleased to see the increased focus on evaluating student readiness for transition-to-practice. This move creates the opportunity for technology and simulations to play an increased role in nursing education. Elsevier’s HESI exams have always been, and will continue to be, aligned to the NCLEX blueprint. Additionally, HESI exams have always provided, and will continue to provide, the needed experience and exposure to content and item types in preparation for the NCLEX exam.

What does NCSBN say is included in the NGN?

- New item types are in development; some are now included in the research sections of the NCLEX.
- New item types measure key skills necessary to succeed in entry-level nursing.
- Item types currently included in the research section include extended multiple-response items, extended drag-and-drop items, CLOZE items (select the missing word), enhanced hot-spot items, dynamic exhibit items, and constructed response items.
- Not all item types being piloted will end up on the NCLEX.

When will changes (new item types) go into effect?

- The new item types are still in the research phase.
- Special research sections will be included on the NCLEX during the development of the NGN.

What should faculty do to prepare for the NGN?

- Continue to use tools like the HESI secure exams that clearly show strong validity and reliability, particularly in regard to the NCLEX.
- Incorporate solutions into your curriculum, such as the HESI preparation products and Elsevier’s Clinical Skills, that provide simulations and real-life scenarios.
- Use and leverage data and insights available from these tools and others to support and target gaps in student knowledge or skills.

Elsevier and HESI have been your trusted partners in NCLEX preparation, especially in times of change. This will continue for the next generation NCLEX. As NCSBN makes decisions about the future of the NCLEX exam, we will continue to work with you to prepare students for success.

For updates directly from NCSBN, sign up for publications such as Next Generation NCLEX News or In Focus. Additionally, Elsevier will continue to stay up-to-date with the latest developments and provide regular updates on our HESI In The News web page to keep you informed. Please contact us with any questions you might have.