



Advanced Stroke Coordinator Certification  
(ASC®)



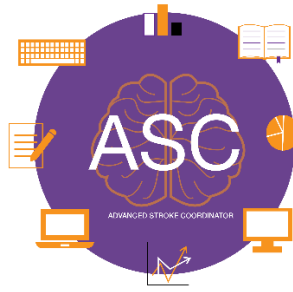
Recertification  
Handbook and Application

Recertification by Continuing Education

\*Applications must be received at the ANVC Office by 5:00 pm Central Time on day of deadline

\*Please email application form and all accompanying materials to Executive Director, Mike Mulally: [info@anvc.org](mailto:info@anvc.org)

**Application forms must be typed**



## Association of Neurovascular Clinicians Recertification Program

### Duration of Certification

- ASC® certification is recognized for a period of five (5) years. ASC® certification expires on August 31<sup>st</sup> of the 5<sup>th</sup> complete year of certification.
- To renew certification, the certificant may either apply to retake the certification exam or submit documentation of attainment of 100 hours of continuing education in stroke clinical practice.
- ANVC will notify candidates at least 4 months before the end of their certification period to provide time to organize recertification materials or study time to retake the examination.
- Ultimately, the responsibility to complete the recertification process is held solely by the certificant.

### Recertification: Eligibility and Options

- Currently holds ASC certification
- Current role as Stroke Coordinator or similar title or in a role associated with a Stroke Program in a hospital

#### OPTION 1: Recertification by Examination

- Minimum of 1,000 stroke related practice hours in the past 1 year **AND** successful completion of the ASC board certification examination; \* or,

#### OPTION 2: Recertification by Continuing Education

- Minimum of 1,000 stroke related practice hours in the past 5 years **AND** evidence of completion of a minimum of 100 hours of continuing education pertinent to stroke related clinical practice.

\*Note: Certificants that select Option 1 are to complete an application for ASC examination form ([www.anvc.org](http://www.anvc.org)) and submit it via the same methods used for first-time certificants; no other application forms are necessary. Please note that Option 1 certificants that fail the ASC exam are ineligible for recertification by continuing education (Option 2).

### **Stroke Related Practice Hours**

Stroke related practice hours may be earned through clinical practice, clinical consultation, the conduct of research, provision of administration/leadership within the clinical practice arena, and/or provision of clinical interdisciplinary education pertinent to the field of stroke healthcare.

### **Option 2: Recertification by Continuing Education Credit**

#### **Submission of 100 hours of Continuing Education (CE) Credit Hours**

- Certificants selecting Option 2 must submit their continuing education (CE) credit hours to ANVC using the forms included in this guidebook.
- Submission of actual CE certificates is not necessary UNLESS the certificant is randomly selected for audit.
  - Certificants selecting Option 2 will be notified of their selection for CE credit audit within 30 days of ANVC's receipt of the completed recertification application. If selected for audit, certificants will be required to submit evidence of their attainment of 100 CE hours by submitting course certificates and/or college transcripts showing earned credits in CE related to neurovascular clinical practice.
- Option 2 CE hours may be earned in any of the following categories; however, all applicants are required to obtain a minimum of 30 category 1 hours for recertification.

#### ***Continuing Education Equivalent Hours (CEE Hours)***

- Continuing Education Equivalent (CEE) Hours are activities related to stroke programs or care of the stroke patient. One CEE Hour is equal to one CE hour.

#### **Continuing Education Categories**

##### ***Category 1: Approved CE and Academic Course Hours***

- Minimum of 30 hours REQUIRED for Option 2
- Category 1 hours include approved CE offerings related to the delivery of advanced stroke care provided by an organization authorized to grant continuing education credits.
- Courses taken for college credit that support the delivery of advanced stroke clinical practice may also be included as evidence of continuing education with total hours

(total hours = number of credit hours X numbers of semester weeks) as listed in the course syllabus reported towards the required 100 hours.

***Categories 2-6: Other Acceptable Categories for CE Credit***

- Category 2-5 activities must clearly reflect application or dissemination of knowledge that supports excellence in stroke care. Items that are not clearly related to the care of a stroke patient or the business of a stroke program will not be accepted to support recertification. The categories are as follows:

**Category 2: Stroke Process Improvement.**

- Completion of a Program or Project that aimed to improve the quality of stroke practice
- Includes process improvement (PI) project implementation and participation within the umbrella of the stroke program
- Maximum of 20 hours granted; must include project description, methods, and outcomes, along with supervisor verification of project completion.

**Category 3: Professionalism.**

- Participation on the board or committee of a professional practice organization that focuses solely on stroke patients, such as the ANVC, the Australian Stroke Nursing Education Network (ASNEN), SmartStrokes, the UK Stroke Forum, the Stroke Society of Australasia, or the American Stroke Association; organizations with a broader interest in neurosciences are not allowable for this category of credit; verification of the applicants contribution by organizational leadership is required.
- Maximum of 10 hours granted

**Category 4: Stroke Research.**

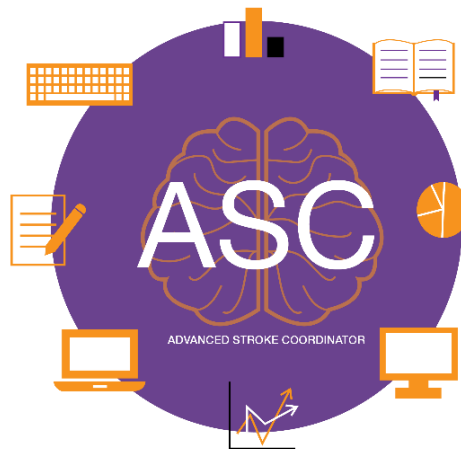
- Evidence of participation in Stroke Research
- Maximum of 20 hours granted; must include the IRB approval letter indicating your name as an affiliated researcher, along with a description of the study methods and findings

**Category 5: Stroke Education.**

- Provision of Formal Education on some aspect of interdisciplinary stroke care
- May include authoring of presentation or creation of staff and patient education materials without presenting
- Maximum 30 hours granted; must include course title(s) and date/time taught, with supervisor verification of work activities or a brochure, flyer or letter of acceptance/acknowledgement related to a conference offering

**Category 6: Published Literature**

- Evidence of Published Scientific Paper(s) related to stroke practice in a professional journal
- Maximum of 30 hours/publication; must include full journal citation. Can include professionally authored research articles, poster presentations with abstract, chapters in books, peer reviewed journal articles, and related professional publications.



## Summary of Recertification Expectations:

- Minimum of 1,000 stroke related practice hours in the past 5 years **AND** evidence of completion of a minimum of 100 hours of continuing education pertinent to stroke related clinical practice.

Stroke Related Practice Hours	1,000 hours over the past 5 years	
CE and CE Equivalent Hours	Overall required CE Hours and/or CEE Hours combined = 100 hours	
Category 1: CE and Academic Course Hours	CE Hours Required: <u>Minimum</u> of 30 CE Hours	CE Hours related to topics that support the delivery of stroke clinical practice
Category 2: Stroke Process Improvement	CEE Hours: Maximum of 20 hours	Includes PI project implementation and participation within the umbrella of the stroke program
Category 3: Professionalism	Maximum of 10 hours	Participation on the board or committee of a professional practice organization related to your role in a stroke program
Category 4: Stroke Research	Maximum of 20 hours	Participation in stroke research; may include work done on scientific presentations
Category 5: Stroke Education	Maximum of 30 hours	Include creation and/or presentation of education
Category 6: Published Literature	Maximum of 30 hours	Research articles, abstracts, poster presentations, book chapters, journal articles, and professional publications.

## Category 1: CE and Academic Course Hours

**Minimum of 30 hours required**

- Calculation of Academic course hours related to topics that support the delivery of stroke clinical practice:

total hours = number of credit hours X number of semester weeks

- One CME equals 1 CE hour

Category 1 hours include approved CE offerings related to the delivery of advanced stroke care provided by an organization authorized to grant continuing education credit such as, but not limited to:

- American Academy of Neurology (AAN)
- American Association of Critical-Care Nurses
- American Medical Association
- American Nurses Credentialing Center
- American Heart Association/  
American Stroke Association
- Association of Neurovascular Clinicians
- American Society of  
Neuroimaging
- Emergency Nurses Association
- National Association of  
Rehabilitation Providers and  
Agencies
- Society of Critical Care Medicine
- Society of Vascular and  
Interventional Neurology (SVIN)

\*Note: Attendance certificates for the ESOC, SmartStrokes, ASNEN, UKSF, or SSA are included

**Related topics include but are not limited to:**

- Anatomy/Physiology
- Assessment
- Catheterization Laboratory procedures and training
- Discharge planning
- Emergency Department protocols
- Emergency Medical Technician training or protocols
- Health promotion and disease prevention
- Hemodynamics
- Interventions
- Medical coding
- Mental health
- Neuro Critical Care
- Neurointerventions
- Neurosurgery
- Nutritional support
- Plan of care
- Policy and legislation
- Post-operative Recovery Room processes and protocols
- Research
- Secondary prevention
- Standards of practice
- Stroke rehabilitation
- Technology
- Imaging modalities and interpretation

## Category 2: Stroke Process Improvement (PI)

### Maximum of 20 hours

#### ***Continuing Education Equivalent Hours (CEE Hours)***

- Continuing Education Equivalent (CEE) Hours are activities related to stroke programs or care of the stroke patient. One CEE Hour is equal to one CE hour.

Category 2 hours include PI project implementation and participation within the umbrella of the stroke program:

- Completion of a *Program or Project* that aimed to improve the quality of stroke clinical practice
- Must include project description including methods and outcomes, along with supervisor verification of project completion

Development of a QI project including action items = 5 CEE Hours per project

Development and implementation of an audit tool = 5 CEE Hours

Data abstraction and reporting = 5 CEE Hours per project

Work group for QI project = 1 CEE per hour

## Category 3: Professionalism

### Maximum of 10 hours

#### *Continuing Education Equivalent Hours (CEE Hours)*

- Continuing Education Equivalent (CEE) Hours are activities related to stroke programs or care of the stroke patient. One CEE Hour is equal to one CE hour.

Category 3 hours include participation on the board or committee of a professional practice organization or committee related to stroke. Requires verification from the organizational lead.

- 1 year of service = 5 CEE Hours

Participation in professional practice organization focused solely on stroke; contribution to the organization must be significant such as service on an editorial board or as an article reviewer for a stroke journal, service on the Board of Directors or a Committee of the Board.

Organizations can include any of the following:

- Hospital or County Emergency Medical Services Stroke Committee
- American Heart Association/American Stroke Association
- Association of Neurovascular Clinicians (ANVC)
- American Society of Neuroimaging
- Australian Stroke Nursing Education Network (ASNEN)
- European Stroke Organisation
- MT 2020
- SmartStrokes Conference Organising Committee
- Society of Neurointerventional Surgery (SNIS)
- Society of Vascular and Interventional Neurology (SVIN)
- Stroke Society of Australasia
- UK Stroke Forum

\*Note: Other stroke-specific organizations will be considered based on their organizational mission.

## Category 4: Stroke Research

### Maximum of 20 hours

#### ***Continuing Education Equivalent Hours (CEE Hours)***

- Continuing Education Equivalent (CEE) Hours are activities related to stroke programs or care of the stroke patient. One CEE Hour is equal to one CE hour.

Category 4 hours participation in stroke research; may include work done on original scientific presentations

- Must include the IRB approval letter indicating your name as an affiliated researcher, along with a description of the study methods and findings
- Research design, implementation, data collection, data analyses per project = 5 CEE Hours per year

Research may include:

- Grant writing and submission
- Clinical research
- Research as part of an Academic Master's or Doctorate Program = 15 CEE Hours
- Other research as related to stroke or neurosciences

## Category 5: Stroke Education

### Maximum of 30 hours

#### *Continuing Education Equivalent Hours (CEE Hours)*

- Continuing Education Equivalent (CEE) Hours are activities related to stroke programs or care of the stroke patient. One CEE Hour is equal to one CE hour.

Category 5 hours include creation and presentation of education. May include both patient education and staff education.

- Preparation of and presentation of one-hour lecture = 5 CEE Hours
- Preparation and creation of patient education pamphlet or similar = 5 CEE Hours per project

Stroke education may include but is not limited to:

- Academic teaching (total hours = number of credit hours X numbers of semester weeks)
- Community stroke education presentations including support groups
- Creation of patient education material
- Poster presentations
- Precepting a new staff member on a stroke unit (2 CEE Hours per day)
- Presentations at conferences or symposiums
- Staff presentations including in-services

## Category 6: Published Literature

### Maximum of 30 hours

#### *Continuing Education Equivalent Hours (CEE Hours)*

- Continuing Education Equivalent (CEE) Hours are activities related to stroke programs or care of the stroke patient. One CEE Hour is equal to one CE hour.

Category 6 hours include published stroke or neuroscience related research articles, abstracts, poster presentations, book chapters, journal articles, and other professional publications. Must include full journal citation.

Original poster presentation with abstract, chapter of book, or similar = 5 CEE Hours per publication

Original research publication in peer reviewed scholarly journal = 15 CEE Hours

Publications may include but are not limited to:

- Publication in a scholarly journal including editorials
- Poster presentation or other abstract
- Peer reviewed research
- Book chapter
- Research article