



बिहार नर्स रजिस्ट्रेशन काउंसिल
Bihar Nurses
Registration Council



Transforming Nursing in Bihar

Competency-Based Nursing Assessment Handbook

For Nurses Appearing for the Assessment

Edition 1: June 12, 2025

ASSESSMENTS THAT EMPOWER
EVERYONE!



CANDIDATE HANDBOOK

Candidates must review all relevant guidelines before appearing for their certification assessment.

1. READING THE HANDBOOK

Pursuing a nursing certification is an important and rewarding step in advancing one's professional journey. This handbook is designed to guide all registered candidates through the process, providing information about the certification requirements, preparing for the examination, and completing all necessary steps.

This handbook also explains what to expect during the assessment, what actions are required from the candidate's side, and the timelines to be followed. The evaluation comprises a Computer-Based Test (CBT) to evaluate theoretical knowledge, followed by a Skill Assessment (OSCE) to assess clinical competencies in real-world scenarios.

The assessment will be conducted at Nalanda Medical College & Hospital (NMCH), Patna—an approved BNRC-certified centre for competency-based evaluation. The assessment centre is currently offering the General Midwifery Competency Package, covering essential domains such as infection prevention, antenatal care, intranatal care, postpartum care, and newborn care.

By proceeding with the certification process, each candidate agrees to comply with all the guidelines and responsibilities stated within.

2. ENSURING CANDIDATES' PRIVACY

The privacy of candidates is a priority, and all personal information is protected per applicable data protection laws.

As part of the Competency Certification Program, their information, including but not limited to contact details and competency scorecards, may be shared with recruiters officially registered with the program. This information sharing is done solely for recruitment and placement purposes and in adherence to relevant legal and ethical standards.

3. PREPARING FOR THE TEST

3.1. Overview of the Certification

Certification Assessment evaluates multiple competencies within the General Midwifery Competency Package. It consists of two components:

- **Computer-Based Test (CBT):** assesses theoretical knowledge and applied understanding
- **Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) or Skill Assessment:** evaluates hands-on clinical skills, professional behavior, and decision-making abilities.

Currently, only the Basic Competency Assessment for Midwifery Skills is being offered at NMCH, Patna. Candidates will be awarded a certification after successfully clearing both assessments..

3.2. Computer-Based Test (CBT)

The Computer-Based Test (CBT) is conducted in a secure & controlled environment. Comprising 78 multiple-choice questions, each section of the test contains 6 questions from one competency, each and its corresponding level. Each question carries 1 mark. No marks are awarded/ deducted for incorrect responses. The total score for the CBT is 78 marks. The duration of the test is 90 minutes, and the medium of the test is Hindi and English.

3.2.1. Qualifying Criteria for Skill Assessment

To advance to the Skill Assessment stage, the candidate must:

- Score at least 85% overall on the CBT, and
- Answer at least 5 out of 6 questions correctly in each competency level.

If a candidate is not able to meet these criteria, (s)he will not proceed to the Skill Assessment. The candidate will need to attempt a reassessment at a later date to requalify for certification.

3.3 Skill Assessment

The Skill Assessment is conducted through an **Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE)**, comprising multiple skill stations. Each station is designed to test candidates' clinical competencies, procedural skills, and professional behaviors.

The candidate will need to complete case scenarios at each station, which may involve **manikins, standardized patients, equipment handling, or clinical decision-making exercises.**

Allotted time for each skill station is 10 minutes. The total duration of the test is 2 hours. No emergency breaks will be allowed at the time of skill assessment, except one 10-minute break at the end of 4 skill stations.

3.2.1 Qualifying Criteria for Certification

To achieve the certification, the candidate must:

- Score more than 50% on each OSCE administered and;
- Have a combined score of at least 60% from all OSCEs administered

If a candidate is not able to meet these criteria, (s)he will not be awarded the certificate. The candidate will need to attempt a reassessment at a later date to requalify for certification.

4. COMPETENCY CHECKLIST

General Midwifery Competency Package

Computer Based Test

| # | Competency Descriptions | Level |
|----|---|-------|
| 1 | Assessment of Labor Progress: Vaginal Examination & Partograph Plotting | 1 |
| 2 | Conducting a Safe and Respectful Normal Vaginal Delivery | 1 |
| 3 | Conducting a Safe and Respectful Normal Vaginal Delivery | 2 |
| 4 | Prevention of Postpartum Hemorrhage through Active Management of Third Stage of Labor (AMTSL) | 1 |
| 5 | Prevention of Postpartum Hemorrhage through Active Management of Third Stage of Labor (AMTSL) | 2 |
| 6 | Immediate Postpartum Monitoring of Mother and Newborn (Stage 4 Care) | 1 |
| 7 | Recognition and Emergency Management of Postpartum Hemorrhage (PPH) | 1 |
| 8 | Infection Control Practices, Biomedical Waste Handling, and WASH in Clinical Settings | 1 |
| 9 | Infection Control Practices, Biomedical Waste Handling, and WASH in Clinical Settings | 2 |
| 10 | Providing Essential Care to Newborns: Thermal Protection, Feeding, and Early Assessment | 1 |
| 11 | Providing Essential Care to Newborns: Thermal Protection, Feeding, and Early Assessment | 2 |
| 12 | Safe Administration of Injectables, Intravenous Cannulation, and Fluid Therapy | 1 |
| 13 | Safe Administration of Injectables, Intravenous Cannulation, and Fluid Therapy | 2 |

Skill Assessment

The List of Competencies tested at each Skill Station is stated below.

| Skill Station | Competencies |
|----------------------------|---|
| Infection Prevention | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Handwashing Procedure (Medical) 2) Donning and Doffing of PPE. 3) Preparation of 0.5% Chlorine Solution & Processing of Instruments 4) Spill Management (Body fluid) 5) Segregation & disposal of biomedical waste as per BMW guidelines |
| Basic Skills | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Monitoring Temperature and Blood Pressure 2) Assessing Height and weight and calculating BMI 3) Clinical Breast Examination 4) Administration of Medication 5) IV cannulation. |
| Emergency Medical Services | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) – adult 2) Catheterization Female. |
| Antenatal Care | <p>Abdominal Assessment- Palpation, estimation of gestational week as per fundal height and assessing FHS</p> <p>Assessing the urine protein and sugar</p> |

| Skill Station | Competencies |
|------------------|--|
| Intra-Natal Care | 1) Plotting and interpreting the partograph |
| | 2) Assessing cervical dilation and station |
| | 3)Assisting/conducting normal vaginal delivery -Management of 2nd stage of labor |
| | 4) Active Management of the 3rd stage of labor, |
| | 5) Essential Newborn Care (ENBC) |
| | 6) Episiotomy Suturing and Care |
| Postpartum Care | 1) Management of (PPH) - bimanual compression |
| | 2) Kangaroo Care |
| Newborn Care | 3) Care of the Baby under the radiant warmer |
| | 4) Breastfeeding |
| | 5) Newborn Assessment - anthropometric measurements - length, weight, Head circumference and chest circumference |
| | 6) Newborn Resuscitation (NBR) |
| Family Planning | 1) Interval IUCD insertion & Removal |
| | 2) Awareness regarding modern Contraceptives |

5. CBT CHECK IN

The information below will help in a successful and worry-free testing experience. Candidates must ensure they report to the testing centre 45 minutes before the assessment time for a seamless check-in.

5.1 CBT Guidelines For Candidates

- Candidates must carry their original issued government ID uploaded during the time of application submission.
- ID must :
 - be current (not expired) be government-issued
 - be the originally issued ID uploaded during registration (no photocopies) exactly match the name, birth date, and country used when scheduling the CBT contain a recent, recognizable photo and signature
- Acceptable forms of ID:

Government-issued PAN Card or Aadhar Card Driving License or Passport

5.2 Guidelines During Testing

- Candidates may bring ONLY the following items into the test room:
 - Govt. ID
 - Key to the supplied locker
 - Prescription eyeglasses

4. Test centers will have small lockers where candidates can store their belongings. Whether that is the case or not, the test center is not responsible for lost, stolen, or misplaced personal items.
5. Candidates should notify the administrator immediately if they have a problem with the computer, software, or any other issue.
6. Testing will begin promptly once candidates are seated at the computer.
7. Candidates may leave the testing room or their seat only if they are escorted by a proctor. They must raise their hand for assistance or to leave their seat.
8. Candidates may not copy, record, photograph, or otherwise attempt to duplicate in any way any questions or answers that are on the assessment interface.
9. Candidates are not allowed to speak to anyone during the test.
10. Candidates are not permitted any breaks during CBT.

5.3 CBT Result and Progression

1. CBT results will be available to candidates immediately after test completion.
2. All qualifying candidates will be required to stay back to appear for the Skill Assessment.

6. SKILL ASSESSMENT CHECK IN

Before entering the Skill Lab, each candidate will receive a briefing sheet outlining the sequence of assigned skill stations and the specific case scenarios to be performed at each station.

6.1 Skill Assessment Guidelines For Candidates

1. Candidates may bring **ONLY** the following items into the Skill Lab:
 - Govt. ID
 - Key to the supplied locker
 - Prescription eyeglasses
2. Candidates are required to wear their uniform while appearing for the skill assessment.
3. Candidates should notify the administrator immediately if they have any issues.
4. Testing will begin promptly at the scheduled time.
5. Candidates must adhere to the time limit and mindfully rotate to the next station at the end of their 10 minutes. Extra time will not be allowed at any station.
6. Candidates are allowed one 10-minute break after completing 4 skill stations.
7. All candidates consent to being recorded for evaluation by appearing for the test.

6.2 Guidelines For The Duration of The Break

1. Candidates may ONLY have water during the break.
2. Candidates are only allowed to use the washroom facilities during the assessment. Loitering is not strictly prohibited during the assessment.
3. Candidates may not access any unauthorized items such as watches, study materials, or electronics such as cellphones.
4. Candidates are not allowed to speak to any other candidates during the assessment.

If candidates are found accessing prohibited items or speaking to any other candidate during the assessment, their assessment will be terminated, and their scores will include a violation code. Other actions may be taken as deemed fit by the concerned authorities.

8. CERTIFICATION

Result Declaration

- Skill Assessment results will be emailed to candidates 7 days after their assessment.
- Qualifying Candidates will receive a link to their Scorecard in the same email.

9. AFTER THE ASSESSMENT

Submitting a concern about the assessment experience

If a candidate experiences a disruption on test day that is believed to have adversely affected their performance, they can report the incident to the Centre Manager.

Grievance redressal is applicable in cases such as:

- Administrative or technical errors
- Disruptions at the test center, such as power outages or weather emergencies

Candidates will need to include details such as their Candidate ID, assessment date, time, center, nature of grievance, and supporting evidence(s), if any. They will receive an acknowledgment receipt of the grievance submission at the Assessment Centre itself.

The Technical Committee will review the submitted grievance within 5 working days, and a decision shall be communicated to the candidate via their registered email within 7 working days.

In cases where the grievance is found to be valid, the candidate will be allowed one free re-test. The candidate must appear for the assessment within 6 months of the date of their last exam.

9. CONSIDERING A RE-ATTEMPT

In some cases, candidates may feel that their performance did not reflect their true capabilities. A retake may be a valuable opportunity to improve outcomes and build confidence.

If eligible, candidates may register for a re-attempt of the assessment through the same registration link, following the same process as the initial registration.