

**Academy of Neonatal Nursing's  
Excellence in Neonatal Nursing Award  
Sample Nomination Letter**

To the Executive Committee of the Academy of Neonatal Nurses:

I would like to nominate XXX XXX for ANN's Excellence in Neonatal Nursing Practice Award. XXX is an extraordinary person and clinician. She is a highly skilled, extremely knowledgeable, compassionate team player who consistently displays and promotes the highest ethical standards. She effectively demonstrates the true meaning of patient/family partner and advocate. XXX is a positive role model and a collaborative interdisciplinary team player. She continually advances her own personal knowledge and exemplifies what it means to be a lifelong learner. In addition, she mentors and coaches others in achieving professional goals and development.

XXX has worked in the NICU for more than XX years. After XX years of being a bedside nurse, she went back to graduate school and completed the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner program. She is considered a clinical expert in many areas of neonatal nursing. All members of the health care team, especially families, staff nurses, nurse practitioners, physicians, therapists, pharmacists, and dieticians, view XXX as an interdisciplinary team player and content expert. XXX is devoted to the evidence-based practice process as she has championed the development, implementation and evaluation of many NICU interdisciplinary clinical evidence-based practice projects such as:

- A clinical pathway for the extremely low birth weight infant to guide the management of the most fragile NICU patients.
- An intravenous extravasation protocol to standardize care, promote healing, and minimize scarring when IV infiltrates occur.
- Neurodevelopmental Care Rounds to augment knowledge about the neurodevelopmental exam, improve neurodevelopmental support, and enhance neurodevelopmental outcomes in the NICU Infant.
- Clinical practice guidelines for the management of hyperglycemia designed to provide a standard practice for adequate dextrose administration in glucose intolerant infants.
- The XXX Program: A multi-sensory behavioral education program for parents of extreme preterm infants
- IVH prevention guideline based on current research and best practice recommendations

XXX gives of her time selflessly. Because of her clinical expertise and commitment to advancing nursing, she is often asked to participate in both nursing and interdisciplinary research and committees. She spends countless hours reviewing current literature to ensure that these clinical research and practice projects are based on the best available

evidence. Many of these projects would not succeed if it weren't for XXX's commitment, knowledge, persistence, and dedication.

XXX not only shares her knowledge and expertise at the local level but also at the national level. She has published on the topic of neonatal hyperglycemia and the use of insulin. As a XXX credentialed developmental care expert, XXX was invited to submit developmentally supportive positioning photos, which were published in XX. She has also served as a neonatal neurodevelopmental subject matter expert in the development of a 2<sup>nd</sup> generation of a neurodevelopmental positioning support aid.

XXX respects all nurses and values the discipline of nursing. To highlight the success of our NICU nurses, XXX developed a XXX. The XX were shared with the Magnet team who reviewed our hospital and granted top scores for re-designation of Magnet status.

Most importantly, XXX is a compassionate and passionate human being. She advocates for all families and positions herself as a leader in family-centered care. While in graduate school, XXX studied the concept of attachment and is often viewed by the health care team as a key person to assist staff in engaging families early in the care of their fragile newborn. She teaches staff the skill to safely and gracefully transfer extremely fragile babies to their parent's chest for skin-to-skin holding. Our palliative care director often consults XXX because of her knowledge in supporting parent-infant relationships and the poise she displays in talking to families.

It is an honor and privilege to work with such a wonderful person. Thank you for considering XXX as the deserving winner of the Academy's prestigious Excellence in Neonatal Nursing Practice Award.

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Advanced Practice Nurse  
\_\_\_\_\_ Hospital