



About International Association of Forensic Nurses

The International Association of Forensic Nurses is a professional organization of more than 6,000 nurses from 25 countries who provide specialized healthcare for patients impacted by violence and trauma. The Association establishes the standards of practice for forensic nursing; defines and advances the global research agenda to enhance forensic nursing's evidence-based response; develops, promotes, and disseminates information about forensic nursing science; and serves as a global network for forensic nurses to exchange ideas, serve as mentors, and enhance their practice.

The Journal of Forensic Nursing (JFN) is the official journal of IAFN. The journal features empirical studies, review and theoretical articles, methodological and concept papers, and case reports that address the provision of care to victims and perpetrators of violence, trauma, and abuse.

IAFN-Established Forensic Nursing Standards

- Forensic Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice
- Education Guidelines: Intimate Partner Violence Nurse Examiner, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner, Forensic Nurse Death Investigator
- Core Competencies for Advanced Practice Forensic Nursing
- Non-Fatal Strangulation Documentation Toolkit

In collaboration with US government agencies:

- National Sexual Assault Protocol: Adults/Adolescents
- National Sexual Assault Protocol: Pediatric
- National SAFE Training Standards
- Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Program Development and Operation Guide
- National Protocol for Intimate Partner Violence Medical Forensic Examinations

Education & Certification

- IAFN presents the annual International Conference on Forensic Nursing Science & Practice, as well as a virtual conference for forensic nurses and those interested in the specialty.
- IAFN is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), authorizing IAFN to approve nursing continuing education offered by outside groups for contact hours.
- IAFN offers two SANE certifications in collaboration with the ANCC, the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner-Adult/Adolescent (SANE-A®) and the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner-Pediatric/Adolescent (SANE-P®). Certification is open to nurses with active, unrestricted RN licensure, with a minimum of two year's work experience as an RN for adults and three years for



pediatrics. The SANE certification includes a didactic course, a nurse preceptorship and/or 300 clinical hours in forensic nursing, and an exam.

- Nurses also may earn continuing education credits from IAFN online courses, including an Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) certificate program, and other events held by IAFN chapters throughout the country.

Current Outreach Programs

- Sexual Assault Forensic Exam Technical Assistance Project (SAFETA) — With funding from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), IAFN manages formal and informal local, state, national, and global multidisciplinary efforts to coordinate the response of healthcare professionals, law enforcement officers, prosecutors, advocates, and other victim service providers who respond to sexual assault. The program website, safeta.org, offers individualized technical assistance on adult, adolescent, and pediatric sexual assault and related topics, specifically to the sexual assault responder.
- Indigenous Sexual Assault & Abuse Clearinghouse (ISAAC) — ISAAC provides training and technical assistance on issues relating to sexual assault of American Indian and Alaska Native people. It supports medical providers, victim advocates, community and criminal justice responders working with indigenous peoples within tribal communities or communities that serve tribal populations. ISAAC is a partnership among IAFN, the Alaska Native Women's Resource Center, and Alaska Network on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault. It is funded by OVW. Resources are available at isaaconline.org.
- TeleSAFE — With funding from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), the Association provides technical support, including education and training, to demonstration sites establishing and/or maintaining victim-centered, trauma-informed, and evidence-based telehealth sexual assault forensic examinations. Resources are available at forensicnurses.org/page/TeleSAFE/.
- Expanding Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Services to Victims of Sexual Assault — IAFN provides comprehensive education and technical assistance to 23 grantee sites to ensure they have the information, guidance and support they need to develop, expand and sustain their SANE programs. IAFN and its partners offer a full range of culturally-specific assistance, working closely with all grantees to ensure their programs develop, foster, and maintain patient-centered, trauma-informed, and evidence-based SANE programs. The program is funded by OVC.