

# **HAPPY MEDICAL-SURGICAL NURSE DAY (November 1)!**

## **ANCC Salutes Med-Surg Nurses!**

**“Celebrating Medical-Surgical Nurses Day” –  
A message from Mintie Indar-Maraj**



### **Chair, ANCC Content Expert Panel on Medical-Surgical Nursing**

November 1, 2006 is Medical Surgical Nurses Day, and on this day we wish to recognize the central role that medical surgical nurses play within the health care and nursing community. Not so long ago all nurses practiced the art and science of nursing on medical-surgical units and this was where all nursing began.

Medical-surgical nursing has evolved over the years from being a nurse's entry level to a specialty in its own right. Even though medical-surgical nursing is no longer considered as the “stepping stone” to all nursing practice, it still remains the foundation or backbone of every health care institution.

ANCC currently certifies over 20,000 Medical-Surgical Nurses. [Medical-Surgical Nursing Certification](#) is an important method for medical-surgical nurses to contribute and gain recognition for their key role in the continuum of health care and nursing. Beginning January 1, 2007 the ANCC Medical-Surgical Certification Exam will be offered as a computer-based exam, which means it is available year-round.

The medical-surgical nurse can care for patients from adolescence throughout the life span, even up to the end of life, in the hospital, home and community. The work is both challenging and rewarding. The medical-surgical nurse can manage patients with wide ranges of acuity, by juggling assignments, constantly re-prioritizing and still remain resilient to return the next day to start the same process all over again.

Medical-surgical nurses have worked diligently to be acknowledged and recognized for being on the front lines everyday and doing work that is as challenging and demanding as it is rewarding. Although technology has revolutionized healthcare, the nurses in medical-surgical specialty continue to use intuition and excellent judgment as well, to save the lives of many patients.

Please join me in celebrating this day and everyday in the life of America's Medical-Surgical Nurses.