

**Title:**

AACN Standards for Healthy Work Environments: After More Than a Decade, Where Are We Now?

**Keywords:**

barriers to nursing practice, healthy work environment and healthy work environment standards

**Summary:**

Research confirms the inextricable link between healthy work environments and optimal outcomes for patients, healthcare professionals and organizations. Key evidence contributing to the second edition of the AACN HWE standards and perspectives of nurses regarding the health of the work environment and barriers to optimal nursing practice will be discussed.

**Final Number:**

C 05

**Slot:**

C 05: Saturday, 18 March 2017: 8:00 AM-8:45 AM

**References:**

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### Learning Activity:

LEARNING OBJECTIVES	EXPANDED CONTENT OUTLINE
Describe the six essential standards and associated critical elements that are necessary for creating and sustaining healthy work environments.	An overview of the 2nd edition of AACN Standards for Establishing and Sustaining Healthy Work Environments: A Journey to Excellence will be provided.
Synthesize mounting evidence that substantiates the importance of healthy work environments and contributed to the release of the 2nd edition of AACN Standards for Establishing and Sustaining Healthy Work Environments: A Journey to Excellence.	Key research that contributed to the release of the second edition of the AACN standards and supports the link between the work environment and optimal patient outcomes will be reviewed.
Delineate nurse perceptions of the health of the work environment and current barriers in the work environment that inhibit optimal nursing practice	AACN quantitative and qualitative research conducted over the past decade surrounding acute and critical care nurses' perceptions of the health of the work environment and current barriers to optimal nursing practice will be discussed.