The mission of the Research Council is to use external expertise to inform ANCC’s Research Program and make recommendations for its strategic direction.

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A growing body of high-quality research that tests the links between credentialing and outcomes in health care
White Paper Goals

A National Agenda for Credentialing Research in Nursing (Lundmark et al., 2012)

- A definition of credentialing research
- A model for credentialing research
- Provide definitions to clarify terms
- Propose a conceptual model
- Identify gaps in the research
- Pose example research questions
- Describe research challenges
- Prioritize the agenda
- Invite critique and stimulate thought
- Begin a national dialogue to develop consensus
Proposed in the white paper:

Credentialing research in nursing is inquiry into the impact of credentialing and credentialing variables (standards and criteria) on healthcare performance and outcomes for nurses, patients, and organizations.

Credentialing research provides evidence for credentialing standards and generates knowledge about the impact on the public and the profession from credentialing. Ultimately, the goal of credentialing research is to inform policy at all levels and to improve health care.
### Features of the Definition

- Identifies standards and criteria as important independent variables.
- Specifies healthcare performance and impact on nurses, patients, and organizations as outcomes.
- Recognizes that credentialing standards evolve as empirical evidence develops.
- Points to the need to extend knowledge of the impact of credentialing to the public.
- Links the policy implications of credentialing research findings to the ultimate goal of improving health care.
The Model for Credentialing Research

Dotted lines indicate indirect relationships
Double arrowheads indicate non-recursive relationships