



For Immediate Release:

### **AAPACN Launches Therapy Certificate, Aims to Boost IDT Collaboration**

Denver, CO, July 31, 2020 – The American Association of Post-Acute Care Nursing (AAPACN) releases its first certificate program under the AAPACN brand today. *Collaboration in Skilled Nursing Facilities: A Certificate of Skills in Medicare, MDS, and PDPM for Therapy Professionals* is a comprehensive online certificate program developed for the entire SNF therapy team.

While AAPACN's subsidiary associations, the American Association of Nurse Assessment Coordination (AANAC) and the American Association of Directors of Nursing Services (AADNS), support specific nursing roles in the SNF setting, AAPACN endeavors to serve the entire interdisciplinary team (IDT). "We recognize the importance of therapists in the assessment process and in improved resident outcomes," explains AAPACN CEO and President, Tracey Moorhead. "We seek to support improved collaboration between therapy and nursing in completion of the MDS assessment tool."

Working with therapy experts from Aegis Therapies, AAPACN took a multi-disciplined approach to developing the program. "We walked through each section of the MDS," states Jessie McGill, RN, RAC-MT, AAPACN curriculum development specialist. "With our nurses working together with the Aegis's therapy experts, we were all able to better understand how therapy contributes to the RAI process, skilled Medicare services, and the PDPM and then create a program that in return fosters greater collaboration between nursing and therapy."

With the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, AAPACN believes this certificate program is a valuable educational resource needed now. Explains McGill, "While the NAC and nurses may need to focus on COVID, the therapy staff will understand what is needed and expected of them for the requirements of Medicare, skilled rehabilitation documentation, and MDS supporting documentation."

Learn more about this new program at [AAPACN.org/Therapy](http://AAPACN.org/Therapy).

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#### About AAPACN

The American Association of Post-Acute Nursing (AAPACN) represents more than 17,000 post-acute care nurses and professionals through its subsidiary associations, the American Association of Nurse Assessment Coordination ([AANAC](#)) and the American Association of Directors of Nursing Services ([AADNS](#)). Dedicated to supporting LTPAC nurses and healthcare professionals in providing quality care, AAPACN offers members best in-class education, certification, resources, and strong collaborative communities.

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