

## Nephrology Nursing Certification Examination (CNN)

### *Guide for the Interpretation of Performance Results*

The total score given in your report is a transformation of your raw score (the number of questions answered correctly) to a scaled score, referred to as a "standard score" in your report. Therefore, the total score given in your report is *neither* the actual number of questions answered correctly *nor* the percentage of questions answered correctly. Transforming scores is similar to converting weight from pound to kilogram scales. The points on the scales differ, although the weight is the same.

Scaling converts raw scores from different test forms to a uniform scale so that they can be directly compared. The scale used for the Nephrology Nursing Certification Exam has a mean (average) of 100 and standard deviation of 10. For this exam, reported scaled scores generally range from 70 to 130. A scaled score of 95 required to pass the exam. ***About 72% of the questions must be answered correctly to reach the passing scaled score of 95.***

Test forms are statistically equated to correct for differences in test difficulty. The purpose of equating is to help ensure that no candidate is unfairly penalized (or rewarded) for taking a harder (or easier) form of the test and that the passing standard (standard score of 95) represents the same level of performance no matter which form of the test is taken. For example, if one test form were more difficult than another test form, scores on that test would be adjusted upward to account for the difference. If a test form were easier than another test form, scores would be adjusted downward to account for this difference.

Candidates who do not pass the examination are also given a report of the percentage of items answered correctly in the sub-areas of the test. In reviewing these scores, candidates should keep in mind that the number of test questions in each area may vary greatly. For example, questions about concepts of kidney failure make up 35% of the test, while questions about transplant make up 10% of the test.