



Guidelines for WCET Recognised Education Programs (REPs)

In addition to the recognition of ETNEPs developed for people with stomas, wounds, fistulae, incontinence, draining and feeding tubes and associated skin problems, WCET recognizes education programs (REPs) addressing exclusively stoma care, stoma and wound care or stoma and continence care. Recognized programs accept registered nurses with post-graduate experience. Program graduates are prepared to care for people in both hospital and community settings.

In order to be recognised by the WCET, a REP should satisfy the following criteria:

1. The REP should have an ET nurse or a specialized nurse*, accordingly to the type of REP, as nursing director or consultant involved with developing or reviewing the program
2. The REP nursing director or consultant should be a graduate of a WCET recognized ETNEP or REP
3. The REP nursing director or consultant should be a current member of WCET
4. The REP should include:
 - ◆ Stoma care REP: 55 theoretical hours & 55 clinical hours (or its equivalent)
 - ◆ Stoma and Wound care REP: 110 theoretical hours & 110 clinical hours (or its equivalent)
 - ◆ Stoma and Continence Wound care REP: 110 theoretical hours & 110 clinical hours (or its equivalent)
5. The REP may be offered in a full, split, extended, or distance mode
6. The REP should include comprehensive, continuous assessments of theoretical knowledge & clinical skills
7. The REP curriculum should include ET nursing practice (ostomy/wound, fistula and tube care / continence), education, research, management and professional development
8. The REP student should be a registered nurse with a current licence to practise in the REP country





9. The REP should be recognized by the national nursing organization or the national ET nursing organization
10. The clinical ET nurses or specialized nurses* preceptors should have completed a WCET Recognized Education Program
11. The ratio of students to clinical preceptors should ideally be no greater than two (2) to one (1)
12. The nursing, medical and para-medical advisors/tutors should have expertise in administration, continence, counselling (grief, sexual and general), dermatology, gastroenterology, home care, long term care, nutrition, oncology, palliative care, paediatrics, pharmacology, surgery (colo-rectal, gynaecology, paediatric, plastic, urology, vascular), radiology, rehabilitation, wounds
13. The REP students should be exposed to all products available in the country
14. The REP students should be encouraged to join WCET as full members on enrolment into the program.
15. The REP should use a WCET on site tutor if the REP is the first program in the country
16. The ETNEP director should require an officially recognised language testing before accepting students who have other than the program language as their primary language
17. Text books and reference material should be current. References should come from national as well as international sources.

Those interested in developing a new REP or preparing an existing program for WCET recognition should contact the WCET Central Office for an application form. The WCET Education Committee reviews all REPs every 4 years to ensure WCET guidelines are met.

* Specialized nurse: a registered nurse having completed a WCET REP.

