Memorandum of Understanding
Between WCET® & Countries’ Specialised Associations
(WCET® & Exceptional Recognition of Specified Stoma, Wound and Continence Education Programs)
Developed 2014
Revised 2019
WCET® Education Committee

This document replaces the 2014 document titled “Memorandum of Understanding between WCET and Countries’ ET or WOC Associations Related to ETNEPs/REPs Recognition”

Rational for Review and Revision of ETNEP/REP MOU Document:

WCET® has noted that several potential applicants for an Enterostomal Therapy Nursing Education (ETNEP)/Recognised Nursing Education (REP) MOU with WCET®, have not met the 2014 MOU criteria, despite having well-established ETNEPs/REPs and Nursing Associations.

WCET® acknowledges that some countries, due to national laws, bylaws and policy, are unable to have a national ET/WOC specialised association.

WCET® acknowledges that some countries, despite having a well-established ETNEP/REP will not require more than one program due to population levels.

WCET® has also noted difficulties for MOU countries communicating their ongoing ETNEP/REP updates with WCET®.

The new criteria, laid out in this document, aims to strengthen the value of the MOU, both for the WCET® and the country applying for recognition of their educational programs.
Background:

In 2011 WCET® developed a process whereby suitable countries with specialised nursing associations and ETNEP/REP education programs were granted ongoing recognition of those programs by the WCET®. At that time criteria were established which the applying country, association and ETNEP/REP had to demonstrate. Through this MOU between WCET® and a country’s’ National Specialty Nursing ET/ WOC Association, WCET® automatically recognized all country ETNEPs/REPs previously recognized by the country’s’ National Stoma and or Wound and or Continence Nursing Association and the respective graduated nursing specialists.

In 2018 the WCET® Education Committee 2018-2020 was tasked with reviewing the process and criteria of this MOU. As a result, new criteria have been established and expanded to further strengthen the mutual benefits that a MOU brings to both the WCET® and the nominated country, association and ETNEP/REP.

The WCET® Mission is to lead the global advancement of specialized professional nursing care for people with ostomy, wound or continence needs. Part of this vision is to ensure specialized nursing care is available globally for all people with a need for ostomy, wound or continence care and to provide nurses worldwide with access to ostomy, wound and continence specialty education

Rational:

WCET® acknowledges that in each country nursing and enterostomal therapy (ET) nursing/ostomy, wound and continence nursing (OWC) or wound ostomy continence (WOC), evolve to meet the unique needs of that country. WCET® acknowledges that the education levels for nurses and ET/ OWC /WOC nurses vary across the world.

WCET® acknowledges that, although it is an international organization, all Enterostomal Therapy Nursing Education Programs (ETNEPs) and Recognized Education Programs (REPs) submitted for review need to be in English and that this is prohibitive to some ETNEPs and REPs applying for WCET® recognition.

WCET® acknowledges that the specialty is already well accepted around the world; many countries have Stoma and/ or Wound and/ or Continence Nursing Associations and many ETNEPs and REPs have achieved a very high level of recognition both within their country and regionally.
Criteria and Procedures

WCET® ETNEP/REP MOU Criteria:

1. The country requesting a MOU should have a well-established National Specialised Association that supports the nursing speciality. WCET® will however evaluate MOU applications on a case by case basis, from countries with well-established ETNEPs/REPs and well-established Nursing Associations, when national laws, bylaws or policy prevent specialised associations. (Note non-specialised nursing associations will be expected to meet the same MOU requirements as specialised associations).

2. Well Established National Specialised Associations will demonstrate commitment to professional development in their country by having local conferences, educational events, maintaining a website or professional journal.

3. The recognised National Association requesting the MOU should have an officially recognised and established internal process for recognising ETNEPs/REPs across the country. This process should be based primarily on the WCET® ETNEP/REP guidelines and WCET® Education Process while meeting national criteria.

4. The National Organisation should have at least one program that has been recognised by WCET® for at least eight years (Programs will have received maximum marks at review and received four years recognition on both occasions).

5. The country applying for the WCET® MOU needs to have a WCET® International Delegate and at least two additional full members.

6. All ETNEPS/REPs recognised under a MOU must have Directors and Primary ET Nurses as WCET® full members.

7. The representing country/organisation agrees to submit a report to the WCET® Education Committee Chair, at least every four (4) years, based on predetermined criteria.
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<th><strong>MOU partner obligations</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Provides WCET® Education Committee Chair with a link to Association webpage where information on all approved ETNEP/REPs can be found</td>
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<td>Provides an ETNEP/REP update report to WCET® Education Chair at least every four years</td>
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<td>Actively demonstrates commitment to WCET® (for example) by having representation at WCET® congress, submitting abstracts for congress or articles to The BullETin or to the WCET® journal</td>
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<td>Informs all students of recognised ETNEPS/REPS of WCET® membership benefits and actively encourages membership of the WCET®</td>
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<td>Informs all students of recognised ETNEP/REPS of Norma N Gill Foundation (NNGF®) scholarships in particular the NNGF® WCET® membership scholarships</td>
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<th><strong>WCET® obligations</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Makes MOU Associations ETNEP/REP webpage link available on WCET® Website under Education Committee/ETNEP/REP tab</td>
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<td>Provides WCET® ETNEP/REP certificates when graduates names are provided by ETNEP/REP Directors</td>
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<td>Makes new graduates aware of membership benefits when contact information is provided by MOU ETNEP/REP Director</td>
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<td>Reviews applications for use of WCET® logo to support local events</td>
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**Procedures:**

To request the MOU, the responsible National Organisation, must send a letter requesting WCET® recognition and all documents demonstrating how the criteria are met, to the WCET® Education Committee Chairperson and cc the WCET® Central Office.