

Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner Care

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August 2001

How to Obtain Complete Prescriptive Authority (RxA) for ARNPs who have Limited Prescriptive Authority for Legend Drugs and Schedule V

by Ann Darlington, CNM, ARNP

1. Overview

- There are 3 basic components to obtaining complete prescriptive authority ("RxA"): 1) DEA Number. 2) Application for ARNP and Prescriptive Authority, and 3) Joint Practice Agreement(s).
- The key players in processing your RxA are the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), whose local office is here in Seattle (main contact is Edie Chelius; she and her staff are available by calling 206-553-5443 or 1-888-219-1418), and the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) staff (Terry West at Terry.West@DOH.WA.GOV and Valerie Zandell at Valerie.Zandell@DOH.WA.GOV; phone # is 360-236-4708 and fax is 360-236-4738). *These folks have worked incredibly hard to organize this process, have yet far more work to do for us, and deserve our gratitude.*
- The process: if you do not already have a DEA #, you apply for one; if you already have a DEA # for Schedule V, you write DEA and ask them to add Schedules II-IV. You apply to DOH for RxA, Schedules II-IV; part of the DOH application is the submission of Joint Practice Agreement(s) (JPA). The DOH approves you and the physician(s) you have named on your JPA(s). DOH faxes their approval to DEA, and DEA sends you your II-V registration certificate. Ta-Da!

2. Getting and upgrading your DEA Number

- 1st time applications are always sent to DEA's national headquarters, at this address: DEA, Central Station, PO Box 28083, Washington, DC, 20038-8083.
- Local DEA will be the agency to do the final processing for all NPs who have a DEA #; but they are still awaiting the final go-ahead from national, which is expected in October, 2001.
- If you already have a DEA # for Schedule V, write to local DEA (Drug Enforcement Administration, 400 2nd Avenue West, Seattle, WA, 98119, attention: registration). In your letter, give them your ARNP license number, your DEA number (it will not change), ask them to add schedules II-IV, and sign the letter. As soon as your DOH applications are approved and sent to local DEA, and after national DEA gives local DEA the go-ahead, your letter will

be processed by local DEA, who sends you your new DEA registration certificate. There is no charge for the any DEA certificate upgrade.

- If you do not have a DEA #, get one by calling DEA's local number at 206-553-5443 or 1-888-219-1418, tell them (likely by voice mail) that you are an ARNP seeking complete prescriptive authority, and ask them to send you an application for a DEA number. *Or*, go to the recently revised DEA website (www.dea diversion.usdoj.gov) where you can process your application (as a "midlevel practitioner;" go to "drug registration" > "registration applications"> "interactive version," etc.), then print it, sign it, and snail mail it to the national DEA address (above, and on the application form).
- It will cost you \$210 and will be good for 3 years.
- You have 2 choices if this is your 1st-ever DEA application. You can:
 - request Schedule V only and it will come to you in a few weeks; thereafter, you write the letter requesting II-IV. *Or*
 - request Schedules II-V, and your DEA application will be held at DEA in Seattle until they receive your approved forms from DOH, and DEA headquarters gives them the go-ahead, at which time they can finalize the approval locally.
 - Processing Schedule V only takes about 3 weeks. DEA in DC will not give local DEA the go-ahead to finalize any II-IV applications sooner than October, 2001, perhaps later.
 - Why do V only now? To get V ASAP, to facilitate processing of any Rx's you write between now and whenever DEA in DC gives local DEA the go-ahead for our upgrades...
 - Why do II-V now? You don't care about getting V asap, and Edie at local DEA promises to protectively hold onto your application until she hears from DOH and DEA national...

3. The Washington Department of Health has a very good website section set up to help you. (By mid-August, Terry West plans to add another page to the website for "ARNP Issues" where all the RxA info will be re-organized, including a Q&A page.) For now, to

get instructions and to download necessary application forms, go to: www.doh.wa.gov/nursing/rules.htm. Scroll down to "Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners: Prescriptive authority." There you will find links to a copy of our RxA bill, the rules for RxA, a timeline chart, a form letter from the DOH to physicians, as well as links to a sample joint practice agreement (JPA) and the ARNP application form. The last two you can copy and use in your RxA application to the DOH.

- I found all of these links useful in making an info pack to show to physicians who might be willing to sign a joint practice agreement with me, and to administrators interested in our RxA changes.

4. Fill out the "Application for ARNP and Prescriptive Authority"

- Be sure to check the box on the top line of the application "Request for Schedules II-IV."
- Since you already have limited prescriptive authority for legend drugs, you do not need to submit evidence of 30 hours of pharmacotherapeutics, nor proof of 7 hours of AIDS education, nor any transcripts.
- Under licensure (section 2) I listed my DEA # for Schedule V along with RN and ARNP license info (might help, can't hurt).
- You do not need your signature on your application notarized (earlier rules stated that you did need this; West assured me that this is no longer true).

5. Fill out the Joint Practice Agreement form(s)

- The JPA on the DOH website is merely a sample, developed by DOH. You have the right to design your own as best fits your situation, but I would advise that you keep it simple. EG, you only need to have "standing orders" or to obtain a verbal order if you or your physician insist on them to enable the JPA. And you have the right to consult with *any* doc at any time that you desire; your medication consults do not have to be with your JPA doc only. The JPA is a formality incorporated into the RxA law and rules; it was the compromise with WSMA that allowed us to achieve this level of RxA. As always, consult if and when needed for safety; otherwise, use your independent judgement, and recognize its inherent responsibility and liability. Note that the DOH's sample JPA "does not serve as a substitute for the clinical judgement of the ARNP" and "does not place increased liability on the MD/DO for those decisions made by the ARNP."
- No one has yet had a JPA accepted, but simple is often less binding. I used the DOH sample

JPA, and wrote in (part 4) "as needed for consultation regarding prescription of Schedule II-IV medication;" in (5) "in person, by phone, by e-mail, fax, or other medium;" and in (6) "as appropriate in patient's chart." I also wrote in my DEA # just in case that speeds things up. And remember to remove "Sample" from the title if you simply copy their JPA for your own use.

- Obtain the necessary physician info and signature (that was easy).
- You may submit as many JPAs as fits your needs.

6. Send your completed application and JPA form(s) with a check for \$65 (payable to the Department of Health) to: Washington Nursing Commission, P.O. Box 1099, Olympia, WA 98507-1099 (attention ARNP desk).

7. For questions, call 360-236-4708 or email Terry West or Valerie Zandell at the above email addresses or by clicking on the "Contact Staff" button on their website.

8. Enjoy your complete RxA.

- With RxA, you have greater independence and stronger legal standing for prescribing II-IV medications. As mama must have said, greater authority means a higher level of responsibility, and in our business, that also means liability.
- Though it goes without saying, please be careful, please be safe. Our clients deserve no less; and,
- ARNPs will be watched very carefully as we begin utilizing full prescriptive authority. Many of us have as an ultimate goal the future elimination of the need for JPAs. A spotless record will get us there sooner.

Wanted
1200 NPs to Support
 the
National NP Marketing Campaign!
Donate \$100 Today
 Send Your Donation To:
 PO Box 1375
 Water Mill, NY 11976.
 Get more information at www.nurse.net/mc

Join the National Nurse Practitioner Directory

Nurse practitioners are the best-kept secret in health care. We want to help you change this. As you know it's hard to find a nurse practitioner. We're not always in the phone book; insurances and hospitals don't always list us in directories for consumers. But, consumers are smart, more and more are using the Internet to find health care information. That's where the National Nurse Practitioner Directory comes in...

It's easy for consumers; they go to www.npclinics.com and search for a nurse practitioner. They can look by zip code, state, speciality, practitioner name or practice name. They are shown a list of nurse practitioners that meet their selection criteria. It's a free search and it's easy.

It's easy for nurse practitioners; go to www.npclinics.com and add your directory listing. It costs \$2 per month, (\$25 billed yearly) and consumers can find you and your practice. If something changes, it's easy (and free) to change your information on-line. As an added incentive, you will get free access to the NP Only section on NP Central while you are listed in the directory.

Join the National NP Directory today at www.npclinics.com. You can also fill out the directory application attached and mail or fax it to our office. It couldn't be easier! For additional information call us at 800.467.7701 or email us at npss@nurse.net.

Bob Smithing

**Send the completed directory form to:
Nurse Practitioner Support Services, 10024 SE 240th St, #102, Kent, WA 98031
or fax it to: 253.852.7725 or complete the survey on the web at: www.npclinics.com**

PROFESSIONAL AND PRACTICE INFORMATION

Please enter information about your practice exactly as you would like it to appear in the directory. For all sections **Bold** items are required. Non-bold items are requested. This information will be available to consumers.

Name: _____
First, middle and last names.

Credentials: _____
These display after your name. Suggested format is highest degree, licensure, and then other. (MSN NP FAAN). 15 characters are allowed.

Nickname: _____
If you like to use a nickname you can include it here. It will display after your formal name. For example: Robert T. Smithing, MSN NP "Bob"

Type of NP program: _____ **Year Graduated:** _____ **Degree Granted:** _____
Adult, Family, Pediatric, etc From NP Program By NP Program

Highest earned degree: _____ **Gender:** Female Male

Certified Specialty: _____ **Certifying Body:** _____

Practice Name: _____

Physical Address: _____
This is the address you give to your clients when they want to come and see you.

Postal Address: _____
Use this only if your mailing address is different from the above address. E.g., P.O. Box 123.

City / State / Zip: _____

County / Country: _____

Phone: _____ **Fax:** _____
Please use the format 999.999.9999 X-9999 Please use the format 999.999.9999 X-9999

Continued on reverse side

Specialty: _____ Primary Care Specialty Care
Enter the predominant focus of your clinical practice.

Email: _____
Required so directory administrator can reach you. Will not be released to consumers unless so requested.

Practice web address: _____

Picture URL: _____
If you have a web address for a picture of you put it here. This should be a link directly to the picture itself.

PROFESSIONAL STATUS INFORMATION

The information below will not be released to consumers. It will be used to help identify and correct duplicate entries, to resolve other administrative issues, and selectively for research.

Practice Status: Active Student Not Practicing as NP Looking for NP Position

Prior Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Can you prescribe medications: Yes Yes, using formulary No

Mail Preferences: (Select as many choices as you desire. Occasionally we're asked to provide a mailing list for groups wishing to mail information to NPs. We don't want to send anything you don't want to get.)

No restrictions at this time

Do **not** send CE information

Do **not** send Product information

Do **not** send Employment information

Do **not** send Legislative information

Do **not** send NP organization information

Do **not** send any information

HOME INFORMATION

The information below will **not** be released to consumers. It will be used to help identify and correct duplicate entries, to resolve other administrative issues, and selectively for research and networking with other NPs.

Home Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Country: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

USER NAME AND PASSWORD

Pick a User Name and Password so that you can come back and update your information at anytime. You can log-in at www.npclinics.com. If you forget your password it can be emailed email address you listed.

User Name: _____ **Password:** _____

6-15 characters in length, case counts.

PAYMENT AND CREDIT CARD INFORMATION

I've enclosed a check for \$25.00 payable to NPSS (Nurse Practitioner Support Services)

Please charge \$25.00 to MasterCard VISA American Express

Your credit card statement will list NPSS Internet Wizards as the vendor

Cardholder Name: _____

Card Number: _____ **Expiration Date:** _____

Cardholder Signature: _____

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Classified Ads

ARNP Lecturer Needed at UW

The University of Washington Department of Biobehavioral Nursing and Health Systems seeks a 40-60% Lecturer (11-month position) for Adult Nurse Practitioner Master of Nursing Programs (Adult Acute Care, Infectious Disease, Rural-Adult). Responsibilities include classroom and clinical skills teaching, clinical supervision and related academic roles.

Minimum Qualifications: Master's Degree from an accredited nurse practitioner program, licensure as an ARNP with prescriptive authority in Washington State. Current practice as a nurse practitioner in clinical setting. Interest in teaching. Preferred: practice experience with rural and medically underserved populations.

Rank and salary commensurate with qualifications. Send CV to Leanne Zobrist, University of Washington School of Nursing, Box 357266, Seattle, Washington, 98195-7266 or email "kevar@u.washington.edu."

The University of Washington is building a culturally diverse faculty and strongly encourages applications from female and minority candidates. The University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer.

ARNP Needed

ARNP for half-time position to work with internal medicine physician group. Clinic practice as well as nursing home patient management. Previous geriatric and nursing home experience preferred. Submit cover letter and resume to: Assistant Administrator, Skagit Valley Medical Center, 1400 E. Kincaid, Mount Vernon, WA 98274.

ARNP Opportunity

Wanted: Independent, capable, self starting professional ARNP to provide clinical services for inpatient care at well established, highly regarded care center. Call Joani at 425-823-3116 extension 239. Competitive salary and excellent benefits.

Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner

Stafford Creek Corrections Center at Aberdeen, WA (near Olympia, WA), seeks a Correctional Health Care Specialist - Mental Health with prescriptive authority. (Recruitment #: SCCC-4-2001-OC-LL). The position requires a valid Washington State license to practice as a Registered Nurse AND current certification from an approved national certification program verifying completion of an advanced formal education program in mental health, and possession of a current designation as an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner with prescriptive authority in the State of Washington. Stafford Creek Corrections Center's Mental Health Unit provides a full spectrum of psychological services to 1,900-2,000 adult (18-90+ years old) male inmates and offers the opportunity to learn neuropsychological evaluating as well as the latest risk assessment techniques.

The salary range (62) is \$3,968-\$5,078 per month plus a generous benefits package (paid vacation, medical and dental insurance, sick leave, etc.). The Washington State Department of Corrections is an EOE. Interested persons should go to the website www.wa.gov/doc to download the job application. Please send completed Washington State application to: Stafford Creek Corrections Center, Attn: Human Resource Office, 191 Constantine Way, Aberdeen, WA 98520. For additional information and job announcement you may call Angela at (360) 537-2202.

CE Announcements

November 16, Optimizing Clinical Benefits with Hepatitis C Therapy, Seattle, Washington

Announcing a FREE Continuing Education Series for Registered Nurses, Nurse Practitioners, and Physician Assistants in Seattle, Washington on July 27, July 28, and November 16. Program Focus: Optimizing Clinical Benefits with Hepatitis C Therapy. For a complete listing of program locations, dates, and online registration

information, please contact us at: www.AdvancMed.org or contact us at 1-800-396-9577. Nursing Participants will receive 4.0 CE contact hours. Physician Assistant Participants will receive 3.5 CME contact hours.

Bellevue Community College Continuing Education Classes Fall Quarter 2001

Basic English for Health Providers

September 29, October 6, October 13, and October 20; 10 am-1 pm
12 contact hours \$125

X-rays of the Extremities

October 2 & 9; 5:30 pm-8:00 pm
5.2 contact hours \$79

EKG Rhythm Interpretation: Application of ACLS Algorithms

Thursdays, October 4 through November 8; 6 pm-8:50 pm
18 contact hours \$250

IV Skills for Nurses

October 13; 8:30 am-4:00 pm
7.6 contact hours \$160

Ventilator Management Update

October 17; 5:30 pm-7:30 pm
2.0 contact hours \$35

Lab Values in Urgent Care

October 23; 5:30 pm-8:00 pm
2.6 contact hours \$40

Rash Bash with a Dermatology Millionaire

November 6 & 13; 5:30 pm-8:00 pm
5.2 contact hours \$79

Behavioral Health Matters!

November 8; 8:00 am-4:00 pm
7.6 contact hours \$99

Assessment of the Older Adult

November 3
7.3 contact hours \$99

Suturing and Laceration Management Workshop

November 30; 5:00 pm-9:00 pm & Dec. 1; 8:30 am-4:45 pm
11.5 contact hours \$200

Call 425.564.2012 to enroll or for further information.

Good Grief Rituals® Workshop

September 7, 2001. Learn tools for dealing with your own and your clients loss, change, and bereavement issues. September 7, 2001. \$25 deposit: Fee: \$45-85.00 (sliding scale). Location: 4702 Aurora Ave. N. Seattle, WA. 98103. 3.6 Nursing CEU. Elaine Childs Gowell ARNP PhD. 206.781.0839.

Are You Ready for Schedule II-IVs?

Privileges, Pitfalls, and Responsibilities
Course Fee: \$130.

Contact Hours: 8 pharmacology hours at the advanced practice level
This conference was held in June and addressed issues for nurse practitioners related to prescribing controlled substances. Topics include the history and current status of legislation in Oregon and Washington, the joint practice requirement in Washington and how it will be implemented, DEA responsibilities and recommendations for practitioners, practical approaches to prescribing opioids and analgesics, clinical advances in pain management, compliance with patient-centered chronic pain management guidelines, managing potentially addicting medications with patients with chronic pain, prescribing stimulants and other psychoactive drugs, and legal and ethical issues in prescribing controlled substances.

For a brochure or more information:

Sheila Keener, CNE, T303 Health Science Building
206.543.1047, Fax 206.543.6953, email: cne@u.washington.edu
www.son.washington.edu/cne/uwcne.org

Ad Information

Copy deadline is the second Tuesday of the month prior to publication. Ads may be accepted later than this on a space-available basis. Position Available Ads & Continuing Education Announcements of less than 66 words are \$45, of 66 to 130 words are \$75, and greater than 130 words are \$105. Position Available Ads are priced per insertion. Continuing Education Announcements are per offering for up to three (3) consecutive insertions. New Product Announcements per product for one insertion of 130 words or less are \$75. Ad Inserts are \$540 for one issue. All ads are subject to space limitations and editing. Call for detailed rate information. Mail copy to *ARNP Care*, 10024 SE 240th St., #102, Kent, WA 98031. Phone 253.852.9042. Fax 253.480.0002. Email care@nurse.net

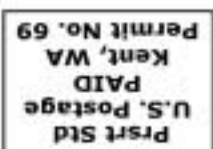
Healthy Humor

A guy calls the hospital. He says, "You gotta send help! My wife's going into labor!" The nurse says, "Calm down. Is this her first child?" He says, "No! This is her husband!"

ARNPs United of WA State
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253.480.1035 Fax: 253.852.7725
Email: au@nurse.net
Web site: <http://www.nurse.org/wa/au/>

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