

# Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner Care

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## Nurse Practitioners: Transforming Healthcare in America by Elisa Juarez & Marilyn Brown

As the need for nurse practitioners becomes more and more evident, so does the value of their approach to healthcare. Not only are they filling gaps in patient care, they are transforming the practice of medicine in ways that will benefit patients and communities for years to come.

Over time, the roles of nurses have expanded, and the number of nurses pursuing advanced degrees has tripled. Nurse practitioners can be found in hospital settings such as obstetrics, neo-natal ICU, and other critical care units. They also practice in out-patient settings as varied as pediatrics, mental health, women's health, geriatrics, college campuses, and family practice.

Managed care, high physician malpractice rates, and increasing patient populations have put a large burden on physicians, making it almost impossible to meet the needs of their patients. In addition, many people have decreased access to healthcare because they are underinsured or have no health insurance at all. NPs are filling the void in the healthcare system. They provide most of the same primary care services that physicians do, including basic health screenings, routine physicals, immunizations, and health education. They also diagnose and treat illness, order and interpret lab tests and x-rays, and arrange consultations with specialists when indicated.

So why choose a nurse practitioner as your primary care provider? NPs are known for spending time with their patients, and for using a holistic approach. They are also strong advocates of patient education and soliciting input from their patients when designing each individual's plan of care. Patients who actively partner with their PCP have been shown to be more compliant with their plan of care. Research has also shown that patients who use an NP as their PCP have fewer emergency room visits, shorter hospital stays, and often lower medication costs.

In this age of rising healthcare costs, NPs are making a difference in keeping those costs down. They serve in rural areas and county clinics, bringing top-notch care to undeserved populations. The above facts make it abundantly clear that nurse practitioners are meeting many needs and providing an invaluable service.

### New Bill to Improve Access to APNs Introduced

On Thursday, May 26, 2005, Congressman John Olver (D-MA) introduced a new bill in the US House of Repre-

sentatives that would amend Title XIX of the Social Security Act to improve access to APNs and PAs under the Medicare Program. H.R. 2716, known as the Medicaid Advanced Practice Nurses and Physician Assistants Access Act, would fix the current rules that state Medicaid plans have the option to recognize APNs and PAs as primary case managers, thus denying Medicaid patients in underserved areas of important primary health care providers. HR 2716 was introduced with eleven co-sponsors, providing bipartisan support. Read the text of the bill online here

HR2716 has been referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. ACNP has joined many other national nursing and health care organizations in support of this bill, including the American Nurses Association, NAPNAP, AWHONN, American Academy of Physician Assistants, American Association of Nurse Anesthetists, National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists, and the American College of Nurse-Midwives. If your member of Congress is not listed as a co-sponsor below, please contact their office to urge support of HR2716 by visiting [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov) or calling the Capitol Switchboard at 202.224.3121.

Cosponsors of HR 2716 (as of May 31, 2005): Rep. Sherwood Boehlert (R-NY-24); Rep. Lois Capps (D-CA-23); Rep. Phil English (R-PA-3); Rep. Stephanie Herseth (D-SD); Rep. Nancy Johnson (R-CT-5); Rep. Sue Kelly (R-NY-19); Rep. Steve LaTourette (R-OH-14); Rep. Edward Markey (D-MA-7); Rep. Todd Russell Platts (R-PA-19); Rep. Edolphus Towns (D-NY-10); Rep. Henry Waxman (D-CA-30)

### World Update from NPWH

In May, 16 new laws concerning sexual and reproductive health were enacted in nine states. Under these measures:

- < health plans in West Virginia will be required to cover contraceptives;
- < two women in Georgia and Oklahoma will have to receive counseling and then wait 24 hours before obtaining an abortion;
- < abortion counseling materials in Georgia will include information on fetal pain;
- < the parents of minors seeking an abortion in Florida and Oklahoma will be notified (In addition, a provision of Georgia's existing law that could have been used to permit an adult other than a parent to be notified prior to a minor obtaining an abortion was repealed.);

- < physicians in Florida and Georgia will be required to file reports when they perform an abortion on a minor;
- < a fetus can be considered a victim of assault in Oklahoma;
- < Maine will toughen the penalties for the murder of a pregnant woman;
- < a positive drug test on a newborn will be considered evidence of child neglect in Colorado;
- < stem cell research will be supported in Massachusetts;
- < human cloning will be banned in Indiana and Massachusetts; and
- < abortion alternatives will receive state funding in Minnesota.

### Tips for Job Seekers

When considering a job opportunity or offer, look at the CLAMS!

- C: Challenge of the position
- L: Location
- A: Advancement
- M: Money
- S: Stability

These are all important factors in making a career decision, and you will need to determine how they rank for you, and what each opportunity has to offer in all 5 of these. In order for you to have long-term satisfaction, the opportunity needs to be a fit for you. Careful consideration of the CLAMS will facilitate your career decision!

### Product Announcement

The convenience you want. The accuracy you demand.

"Paper" prescriptions are becoming obsolete! New technologies are rendering the old-fashioned prescription pad – and the opportunities for errors, fraud, and counterfeiting they bring with them – a thing of the past.

**Provider** – Using Assured Script Technologies software, the participating provider can electronically transmit patient and prescription information directly to the closest Assured Pharmacy. Software encryption ensures complete privacy as well as total accuracy in all transmissions.

**Patient** – Patients may pick up their prescriptions in person, have them shipped via UPS or enjoy free same-day courier delivery within 15 miles. Again, complete privacy is assured!

**Pharmacy** – Upon input of the prescription, the Assured Script Technologies software "red flags" any possible drug-to-drug, drug-to-food and drug-to-allergy interactions. The pharmacist then fills the prescription per your specific instructions and in compliance with all local, state, and federal regulations. [www.assuredscript.com](http://www.assuredscript.com), Assured Pharmacy, Totem Lake, 12701 124th Ave NE, Kirkland, WA 98034,

## Continuing Education

### Complimentary Continuing Education

FnP Associates is pleased to announce complimentary continuing education programs for NPs available on the web. The programs are:  
**Pain: Current Assessment, Management, and Treatment** – This program is approved for 6.0 contact hours in pharmacology, [www.npcentral.net/ce/pain](http://www.npcentral.net/ce/pain)

**Treating the Common Cold: An Expert Panel Consensus Recommendation for Primary Care Clinicians** – It is approved for 1.8 contact hours in pharmacology. This is an evidence – based set of recommendations for managing cold symptoms. [www.npcentral.net/ce/cold](http://www.npcentral.net/ce/cold)

**Frequent Heartburn: An Evidence-Based Approach to Cost-Effective Management** – Developed in collaboration with the American Academy of Physician Assistants, this program is accredited for 1.0 contact hours. <http://www.npcentral.net/ce/heartburn>

Register, read the article, take the post-test, fill out the evaluation, and print out your CE certificate! Do these at your own pace. It's easy!

### Pacific Northwest 28th Annual National Conference: Advanced Practice in Primary and Acute Care

October 26-29, 2005 — Seattle, WA: This conference offers practitioners an opportunity to validate and enhance clinical competencies, acquire new assessment and management skills, examine critical issues in health care at the state and national level, foster a strong coalition of providers in advanced practice, and learn about new products, services, and pharmacotherapeutic agents.

For further information: Sheila Keener, BSN, RN University of Washington CNE Campus address: Box 358738, Seattle, WA 98195-8738  
 Street address: 155 NE 100th, Suite 306, Seattle, WA 98125 VM: 206.221.2405; Fax 206.543.6953 CNE Main Number: 206.543.1047  
 Web: [uwcne.org](http://uwcne.org)

### Psychiatry and Addiction Medicine: Emerging Developments and Treatment Issues

September 16, 2005 — Seattle, WA: On the Swedish Medical Center/Providence Campus. This conference will highlight new research and treatment issues for physicians and health-care professionals caring for patients with psychiatric disorders and addiction issues. Speakers will address a variety of issues, including treatment-resistant depression, panic and anxiety disorders, schizophrenia and methamphetamine abuse. The course will address current research as well as clinical applications.

ARNP Fee: \$50 (\$60 after Sept. 12th)

This Faculty Directed Activity is pending by the Washington State Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission of Accreditation for 7.9 contact hours. Visit [www.swedish.org/cme](http://www.swedish.org/cme) or call 206-386-2755 for a brochure.

## Classified Ads

### Pacific Northwest – Settle Area – ARNP

Excellent opportunity for a Nurse Practitioner with pediatric clinical experience to join well established, successful practice of three Pediatric Neurologists with 35+ consolidated years of experience. The practice is located on the Mary Bridge Children's Hospital campus in Tacoma, 30 miles south of Seattle on the shores of Puget Sound. A multi-million dollar physical plant expansion program at Mary Bridge will include a 60,000 square-foot ambulatory health care facility opening early 2005, combining modern technologies and family-centered care. Competitive salary/benefit package. Email CV to [providerservices@multicare.org](mailto:providerservices@multicare.org), or fax it to 866.264.2818, or contact Lori King at 800.621.0301. MultiCare Health System is a drug-free work place.

### Family Practice in Chehalis

Family Practice in Chehalis, WA is seeking an ARNP. We are a growing Family Practice in one of Washington's best areas. Potential partnership after two years. Close to many recreational activities. Please call Dr. David Wooten at 360.748.9700 for more information.

### ARNP

We want to let you know about a unique opportunity for Family Nurse Practitioners that is coming to the greater Seattle area this fall.

Who are we?

MinuteClinic is a new healthcare company, staffed by Certified Family Nurse Practitioners that provides consumers with high-quality, quick and affordable healthcare services in convenient retail locations. We originated in the Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN area and have seen over 220,000 patients. We have an astounding 99% ongoing customer satisfaction rate. Our patients are primarily families and singles who live near our suburban sites.

Where are we?

MinuteClinic currently has clinics in Cub Food stores, Target stores and various corporate locations in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area and the greater Baltimore area. Due to our continuing success, we are undertaking an aggressive expansion and are opening clinics in the greater Seattle area in the fall of 2005 with new partners such as CVS pharmacies.

What can we do for you?

As a Certified Family Nurse Practitioner, we know you are looking for a satisfying career that pays well and leaves you time for your own personal life. For full-time and part-time practitioners we offer a unique and flexible work schedule and a competitive starting salary. For full-time practitioners we also offer full benefits, and 40 hours/\$1500 of CME per year along with three weeks of paid time off.

We use proprietary software that is based on the most current medical guidelines, eliminates guesswork, keeps your day paperless and allows you to concentrate on your patient.

How do you become part of our team?

If interested, please send us a cover letter and resume by email, jobs@minuteclinic.com, Fax: 612.659.7101

We look forward to hearing from you.

Richland, WA – Emergency Medicine Nurse Practitioner Northwest Emergency Physicians, a Team Health affiliate, seeks a Nurse Practitioner for a full time staff opportunity to work in the Fast Track and Emergency Department at Kadlec Medical Center. Provider must have emergency medicine and/or Urgent Care experience or new graduate with previous RN, ER training. ACLS is required. The hospital is a 153-bed facility that includes a State of the Art High Tech Emergency department. The Emergency Department has an annual patient volume of 36,000. Explore the beauty of sunny Southern Washington throughout the year and enjoy plenty of outdoor activities. The area produces first class wineries and plenty of shopping. For more information, about compensation and benefits, please call Emily Simpson at 800.336.8614 x-2115 or email: emily\_simpson@teamhealth.com.

### Serve the Under Served

Use your education and experience in reproductive health care to serve our clients. This position is located in Kennewick, WA. We are looking for clinicians who want to make an impact on their community and who want to further our mission.

Living in Central Washington, you will enjoy a wide variety of outdoor activities and some of the nation's finest wines. You will enjoy spectacular scenery, four seasons, and the sweet smell of cherry blossoms in the spring. Central Washington is very diverse part of the state. From Pow Wow's to Cinco de Mayo parades to Farmer's Markets, you'll get a chance to experience it all. We offer a competitive salary

and a comprehensive benefit package including medical, dental, disability, vision, 401k, paid holiday and sick days, and a generous vacation package. We offer relocation assistance. Email resumes to: Planned Parenthood of Central Washington @ humanresources@ppcentwa.org, fax to: 509.576.685, or mail to 1117 Tieton Drive, Yakima, WA 98902. Learn more about us at www.ppcentwa.org Please call Dr. David Wooten at 360.748.9700 for more information.

### Pacific Northwest – Seattle area – ARNP

Internal Medicine practice in Kitsap County, WA has an immediate opening for a full-time ARNP with at least two years of experience providing care to adults and the elderly. This position will include the clinical office setting as well as care to individuals in skilled nursing facilities, adult family homes and assisted care facilities. Current WA state and DEA licensure is required

### ARNP/CNM's & RN!

You may be eligible for a sign-on bonus!!

This is your opportunity to be rewarded for your hard work, and to make a difference in the lives of the underserved in our community!

Leave the mundane! Start in a unique women's health practice, which provides support for the work you do! Planned Parenthood – the largest & most progressive provider of reproductive healthcare in the State – is hiring!

\*Several ARNP optys - PT/Marysville, FT/Tac-UPlace, FT/Kent, FT/Olympia & several Float optys to join our reproductive h/c teams in providing high quality direct patient-care. Candidates must have valid WA State ARNP/FNP/WHNP/CNM licensure w/ presc authority, current certification & CPR card. Prior women's h/c or family planning exp a plus.

\*Our Olympia clinic has a new opty for a Clinic RN to provide direct patient care. Must have valid WA State RN license & CPR card. Prior family planning exp a +.

To apply, submit your cover ltr/resume to jobs@ppww.org; Fax 206.328.6818; or Mail to PPWW/HR, 2001 E. Madison, Seattle, WA 98122. PPWW offers a solid benefit pkg. Learn more about us, www.plannedparenthood.org. EOE.

### ARNP

Immediate need for ARNP for part time work monitoring vitals, venipuncture, administering EKG's, reviewing patient reports/progress, performing history and physicals for medical weight management program. New grads welcome. \$40.00 per hour. Convenient Seattle location. Contact Carol Henderson at 206-284-1518.

### Part-Time Family Nurse Practitioner

GREAT OPPORTUNITY for a Board Certified/Eligible Part-Time Family Nurse Practitioner to join female Family Medicine MD in private practice. Seeking an ARNP to help deliver high quality state of the art personal care. We are a well established, thriving practice with great patients. Salary and hours negotiable. Excellent benefits. Choice location near University Village. Fax resume to 206-526-0221 or Email:pmski@u.washington.edu

### ARNP

Opening for an ARNP. Busy female MD in family practice in Bellevue seeks experienced part-time ARNP. Day and benefits negotiable. Great patients! Choice location near Overlake Hospital. Fax resume to 425-454-3037 or email medicalartsp@msn.com, contact Barbara Kregel at 425-454-8191.

**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 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 of less than 65 words are \$70, of 66 to 130 words are \$105, or 131 words or greater are \$130. 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 \$550 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 253.852.7725. Email care@nurse.net.

**Healthy Humor**

**Child Birth or Punishment**

Due to a power outage at the time, only one paramedic responded to the call.

The house was very, very dark, so the paramedic asked Katelyn, a 3-year old girl, to hold a flashlight high over her mommy so he could see while he helped deliver the baby. Very diligently, Katelyn did as she was asked.

Heidi pushed and pushed, and after a little while Connor was born.

The paramedic lifted him by his little feet and spanked him on his bottom. Connor began to cry.

The paramedic then thanked Katelyn for her help and asked the wide-eyed 3-year old what she thought about what she had just witnessed. Katelyn quickly responded, "He shouldn't have crawled in there in the first place. Smack him again."

**ARNPs United of WA State**

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