Family Nurse Practitioner

Nurse Practitioners, also referred to as *Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs)*, coordinate patient care and may provide primary and specialty healthcare. The scope of practice varies from state to state.

Nurse Practitioners typically do the following:

Take and record patients' medical histories and symptoms
Perform physical exams and observe patients
Create patient care plans or contribute to existing plans
Perform and order diagnostic tests
Operate and monitor medical equipment
Diagnose various health problems
Analyze test results or changes in a patient's condition and alter treatment plans, as needed
Give patients medicines and treatments
Evaluate a patient's response to medicines and treatments
Consult with doctors and other healthcare professionals, as needed
Counsel and teach patients and their families how to stay healthy or manage their illnesses or injuries
Conduct research

APRNs work independently or in collaboration with Physicians. In most states, they can prescribe medications, order medical tests, and diagnose health problems. APRNs may provide primary and preventive care and may specialize in care for certain groups of people, such as children, pregnant women, or patients with mental health disorders.

APRNs have some of the same duties as Registered Nurses, including gathering information about a patient's condition and taking action to treat or manage the patient's health. However, APRNs are trained to do other tasks, including ordering and evaluating test results, referring patients to specialists, and diagnosing and treating ailments. APRNs focus on patient-centered care, which means understanding a patient's concerns and lifestyle before choosing a course of action.
Some APRNs also conduct research or teach staff about new policies or procedures. Others may provide consultation services based on a specific field of knowledge, such as oncology, which is the study of cancer.

Nurse Practitioners serve as primary and specialty care providers, delivering advanced nursing services to patients and their families. They assess patients, determine how to improve or manage a patient's health, and discuss ways to integrate health promotion strategies into a patient's life. Nurse

practitioners typically care for a certain population of people. For instance, NPs may work in adult and geriatric health, pediatric health, or psychiatric and mental health.

Work Environment
Nurse Practitioners work in a variety of healthcare settings, including hospitals, physicians' offices, and clinics. Most work full time.

Top Local Employers: Stanford Health Care, Clinical Management Consultants, Barton & Associates, The Judge Group, ENP Network

Median Pay
$130,651

Job Growth (2020-2025)
34%

Education and Training
Nurse Practitioners must earn at least a master's degree and they must also be licensed in their state and pass a national certification exam.

Local Education:

Samuel Merritt University

San Francisco State University

San Jose State University

University of San Francisco

For More Information:

Bureau of Labor Statistics

American Association for Nurse Practitioners