

Nurse Practitioners (NP) are advanced practice registered nurses who have completed education and training, and achieved licensure and credentialing beyond their role as a registered nurse. They manage patient health needs across the continuum of primary, specialty and acute care, performing a range of health care services, including, but not limited to, diagnosing, ordering, conducting, supervising and interpreting diagnostic and laboratory tests, and prescribing pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic therapies. Nurse practitioners are educated and certified in one of six population foci: Adult-Gerontology, Family, Neonatal, Pediatric, Psychiatric-Mental Health, and Women's Health. Women's Health Nurse Practitioners (WHNPs) specifically are educated and certified to provide care for conditions unique to women from menarche through the remainder of their lives, and must demonstrate core competencies in providing obstetrical care, throughout the perinatal continuum, including high risk prenatal, antepartum and postpartum care. [Scope of Practice for Nurse Practitioners](#)