



## What is the role of a Nurse Practitioner

A Nurse Practitioner (NP) is an advanced practice nurse that is licensed in the classification of Nurse Practitioner by the regulatory college. Nurse Practitioners provide comprehensive clinical care including diagnosing disease and illness, prescribing medications, ordering and interpreting laboratory tests, and making referrals to other health care specialists when needed. NP practice does not require physician supervision.

### Treatment & Care

NPs work in a variety of health care settings such as primary, hospital, ambulatory, specialized and residential care. NPs work autonomously and do not require physician supervision. NPs provide full service medical care to patients and clients by incorporating a nursing lens into clinical care.

### Health Promotion & Education

NPs are educated in a nursing model with medical sciences integrated as an adjunct. Core to their activities is a holistic focus that encompasses both health and illness, emphasizes prevention, wellness, patient education, and stresses the importance of the individual as the primary leader in their own care.

### Collaboration

NPs practice and promote a team-based approach to care. NPs develop strong working relationships with various other health care providers, communicate regularly with patients and clients, and ensure that supports are in place to ensure timely and safe care.

### Leadership

NPs possess competencies in change management, system transformation and health care leadership. They are essential leaders within the current health care system and can effectively contribute to health care reform and policy development. NPs hold a variety of clinical, professional practice and leadership roles in health care, education, management and administration.

### Quality Assurance

More than four decades of evaluation and research have consistently demonstrated that NP care is high quality and cost-effective. NPs complete continuing competence programs as mandated by the regulator to ensure excellence in care.

### Assessment

NPs provide comprehensive assessment of patients and clients, including diagnosing and treating conditions across the lifespan and conduct advanced assessments such as cognitive assessments and more.

### Research

NPs lead, participate in, or undertake research and quality improvement projects to benefit patient care and contribute to health literature.



### Advocacy

NPs advocate for team-based, patient-centred care. NPs support partnerships across all levels of health care, participate in research projects, committee and panel work and more.