

Advanced Nurse Practitioner Protocol Practice Agreement

The following is an excerpt from the Board of Nurse Examiners Rules for the Advanced Nurse Practitioner so that the ANP and Primary Supervising Physician will have the understanding of duties and responsibilities as set forth in this Practice Agreement. Whereas, the ANP may be supervised by more than one physician, the Primary Physician shall so be designated as required by _____.

§221.12. Scope of Practice

The advanced practice nurse provides a broad range of health services, the scope of which shall be based upon educational preparation, continued advanced practice experience and the accepted scope of professional practice of the particular specialty area. Advanced practice nurses practice in a variety of settings and, according to their practice specialty and role; they provide a broad range of health care services to a variety of patient populations.

- (1) The scope of practice of particular specialty areas shall be defined by national professional specialty organizations or advanced practice nursing organizations recognized by the Board. The advanced practice nurse may perform only those functions which are within the scope of practice and which are consistent with the Nursing Practice Act, board rules, and other laws and regulations of the State of Texas.
- (2) The advanced practice nurse's scope of practice shall be in addition to the scope of practice permitted a registered nurse and does not prohibit the advanced practice nurse from practicing in those areas deemed to be within the scope of practice of a registered nurse.

§221.13. Core Standards for Advanced Practice

- (a) The advanced practice nurse shall know and conform to the Texas Nursing Practice Act, current board rules, regulations, and standards of professional nursing; and all federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations affecting the advanced role and specialty area. When collaborating with other health care providers, the advanced practice nurse shall be accountable for knowledge of the statutes and rules relating to advanced practice nursing and function within the boundaries of the appropriate advanced practice category.
- (b) The advanced practice nurse shall practice within the advanced specialty and role appropriate to his/her advance educational preparation.
- (c) The advanced practice nurse acts independently and/or in collaboration with the health team in the observation, assessment, diagnosis, intervention, evaluation, rehabilitation, care and counsel, and health teachings of persons who are ill, injured or infirmed or experiencing changes in normal health processes; and in the promotion and maintenance of health or prevention of illness.
- (d) When providing medical aspects of care, advanced practice nurses shall utilize mechanisms, which provide authority for that care. These mechanisms may include, but are not limited to, Protocols or other written authorization. This shall not be construed as requiring authority for nursing aspects of care.
 - (1) Protocols or other written authorizations shall promote the exercise of professional judgment by the advanced practice nurse commensurate with this/her education and experience. The degree of detail within protocols/policies/practice guidelines/clinical practice privileges may vary in relation to the complexity of the situations covered by such Protocols, the advanced specialty area of practice, the advanced educational preparation of the individual, and the experience level of the individual advanced practice nurse.
 - (2) Protocols or other written authorization:
 - (A) should be jointly developed by the advanced practice nurse and the appropriate physician(s),
 - (B) shall be signed by both the advanced practice nurse and the physician(s),
 - (C) shall be reviewed and re-signed at least annually,
 - (D) shall be maintained in the practice setting of the advanced practice nurse, and
 - (E) shall be made available as necessary to verify authority to provide medical aspects of care.
- (e) The advanced practice nurse shall retain profession accountability for advance practice nursing care.

The following signature denotes each individual health care professional understands of the above Protocol and practice agreement. In each instance this document is augmented, all parties must re-acknowledge by signature their concurrence and understanding of the change.

This document is to be reviewed/signed annually or whenever the Primary Supervising Physician changes, or more often if need be. This document will be maintained in the Credentialing file of the Advanced Practice Nurse.

Primary Supervising Physician

Date

Advanced Practice Nurse

Date