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Primary Care of Women: What is the Scope of Practice in Family Planning Clinics?





Issue for Discussion

Scope of Practice of Women's Health
Nurse Practitioners and Certified Nurse
Midwives in a changing health care
environment within Family Planning Clinics
in Colorado

Overview



- Who defines scope of practice for APNs?
 - National organizations
 - Education –
 - NONPF - National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty
 - Delineates what the curriculum must contain
 - AACN – American Academy of College of Nursing
 - Defines competencies needed by population focus – only WH
 - Specialty organizations
 - NPWH – Women’s Health
 - ACNM – American College of Nurse Midwives
 - Delineates basic requirements for each APN

Overview



- State of Colorado
 - Nurse Practice Act – Title 12 Article 38
 - Advanced Practice Section 111.5
 - (6) An advanced practice nurse shall practice in accordance with the standards of the appropriate national professional nursing organization and have a safe mechanism for consultation or collaboration with a physician or, when appropriate, referral to a physician. Advanced practice nursing also includes, when appropriate, referral to other health care providers.
 - (c) (I) Prescriptive authority by an advanced practice nurse shall be limited to those patients appropriate to such nurse's scope of practice.



Definitions of Terms

- Population focus
 - A broad area of study encompassing the common problems of a specific group of patients and the likely co-morbidities, interventions and responses to those problems including but not limited to, the following areas of practice: family/individual across the life span; adult-gerontology; neonatal; pediatrics; women's health/gender related; psych-mental health. A population focus is not defined as a specific disease, health problem or intervention.



Definition of Terms

- **Role/Specialty**

- The advanced practice area or position for which the Applicant has been prepared including nurse practitioner (NP), certified nurse midwife (CNM), etc.

Specialty Organizations - ACNM

- American College of Nurse Midwives
 - Based on the *Core Competencies for Basic Midwifery Practice*
 - Assume responsibility and accountability for their practice as primary health care providers for women and newborns (first 28 days)
 - The scope of midwifery practice may be expanded beyond the core competencies to incorporate additional skills and procedures that improve care for women and their families
 - Treat male partners for sexually transmitted infections



Components of Midwifery Care of Women (ACNM Core Competencies December 2012)

- Applies knowledge, skills, and abilities in primary care that include but are not limited to the following:
 5. Identification of normal and deviations from normal in the following areas: (all body systems)
 6. Management strategies and therapeutics for the treatment of common health problems and deviations from normal of *women*, including infections, self-limited conditions, and mild and/or stable presentations of chronic conditions, utilizing consultation, collaboration, and/or referral to appropriate health care services as indicated.

Women's Health

NPWH

- In 2002 AWHONN and NPWH jointly published guidelines for the WHNP
 - Expanded role to include wellness promotion and primary health care
- “WHNPs are often the sole primary care providers for women from menarche through senescence. They collaborate with the healthcare team to coordinate and provide care for women with complicated health issues. WHNPs have the expertise to provide comprehensive primary health care to women and reproductive health care to men.” 7th edition Guidelines for Practice and Education



Role Definition of WHNP

- The WHNP is an APRN prepared through academic and clinical study for practice as a primary care nurse practitioner that includes a focus on providing care for conditions unique to women from menarche through the remainder of their lives, and reproductive health care for men.
- As a licensed healthcare provider, the WHNP is subject to the scope of practice rules and regulations established by and pursuant to the nurse practice act in the state in which she/he works.



Non-gynecological Primary Care

- Diagnose common nongynecologic primary health conditions
- Develop a plan of care based on assessment findings and diagnoses
- Prescribe pharmacologic therapies and initiate nonpharmacologic therapies for common, uncomplicated nongynecologic primary health conditions
- Collaborate with healthcare team in management of reproductive and sexual healthcare needs for individuals with complex nongynecologic primary health conditions.
- Refer for further diagnostic workup and ongoing management for nongynecologic primary care conditions as needed



**WHERE DO WE GO FROM
HERE?**