

Nurse Practitioner Core Competencies Content

Competency Area	NP Core Competencies
Scientific Foundation	1. Critically analyzes data and evidence for improving advanced nursing practice.
	2. Integrates knowledge from the humanities and sciences within the context of nursing science.
	3. Translates research and other forms of knowledge to improve practice processes and outcomes.
	Develops new practice approaches based on the integration of research, theory, and practice knowledge.
Leadership	1. Assumes complex and advanced leadership roles to initiate and guide change.
	2. Provides leadership to foster collaboration with multiple stakeholders (e.g. patients, community, integrated health care teams, and policy makers) to improve health care.
	3. Demonstrates leadership that uses critical and reflective thinking.
	4. Advocates for improved access, quality and cost effective health care.
	5. Advances practice through the development and implementation of innovations incorporating principles of change.
	6. Communicates practice knowledge effectively, both orally and in writing.
	7. Participates in professional organizations and activities that influence advanced practice nursing and/or health outcomes of a population focus.
Quality	1. Uses best available evidence to continuously improve quality of clinical practice.
	2. Evaluates the relationships among access, cost, quality, and safety and their influence on health care.
	3. Evaluates how organizational structure, care processes, financing, marketing, and policy decisions impact the quality of health care.
	4. Applies skills in peer review to promote a culture of excellence.
	5. Anticipates variations in practice and is proactive in implementing interventions to ensure quality.
Practice Inquiry	1. Provides leadership in the translation of new knowledge into practice.
	2. Generates knowledge from clinical practice to improve practice and patient outcomes.
	3. Applies clinical investigative skills to improve health outcomes.
	4. Leads practice inquiry, individually or in partnership with others.
	5. Disseminates evidence from inquiry to diverse audiences using multiple modalities.
	6. Analyzes clinical guidelines for individualized application into practice.
Technology and Information Literacy	1. Integrates appropriate technologies for knowledge management to improve health care.
	2. Translates technical and scientific health information appropriate for various users' needs.
	2a. Assesses the patient's and caregiver's educational needs to provide effective, personalized health care.

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	2.b Coaches the patient and caregiver for positive behavioral change.
	3. Demonstrates information literacy skills in complex decision making.
	4. Contributes to the design of clinical information systems that promote safe, quality and cost effective care.
	5. Uses technology systems that capture data on variables for the evaluation of nursing care.
Policy	1. Demonstrates an understanding of the interdependence of policy and practice.
	2. Advocates for ethical policies that promote access, equity, quality, and cost.
	3. Analyzes ethical, legal, and social factors influencing policy development.
	4. Contributes in the development of health policy.
	5. Analyzes the implications of health policy across disciplines.
	6. Evaluates the impact of globalization on health care policy development.
Health Delivery System	1. Applies knowledge of organizational practices and complex systems to improve health care delivery.
	2. Effects health care change using broad based skills including negotiating, consensus-building, and partnering.
	3. Minimizes risk to patients and providers at the individual and systems level.
	4. Facilitates the development of health care systems that address the needs of culturally diverse populations, providers, and other stakeholders.
	5. Evaluates the impact of health care delivery on patients, providers, other stakeholders, and the environment.
	6. Analyzes organizational structure, functions and resources to improve the delivery of care.
	7. Collaborates in planning for transitions across the continuum of care.
Ethics	1. Integrates ethical principles in decision making.
	2. Evaluates the ethical consequences of decisions.
	3. Applies ethically sound solutions to complex issues related to individuals, populations and systems of care.
Independent Practice	1. Functions as a licensed independent practitioner.
	2. Demonstrates the highest level of accountability for professional practice.
	3. Practices independently managing previously diagnosed and undiagnosed patients.
	3.a Provides the full spectrum of health care services to include health promotion, disease prevention, health protection, anticipatory guidance, counseling, disease management, palliative, and end-of-life care.
	3.b Uses advanced health assessment skills to differentiate between normal, variations of normal and abnormal findings.
	3.c Employs screening and diagnostic strategies in the development of diagnoses.
	3.d Prescribes medications within scope of practice.

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	3.e Manages the health/illness status of patients and families over time.
	4. Provides patient-centered care recognizing cultural diversity and the patient or designee as a full partner in decision-making.
	4.a Works to establish a relationship with the patient characterized by mutual respect, empathy, and collaboration.
	4.b Creates a climate of patient- centered care to include confidentiality, privacy, comfort, emotional support, mutual trust, and respect.
	4.c Incorporates the patient’s cultural and spiritual preferences, values, and beliefs into health care.
	4.d Preserves the patient’s control over decision making by negotiating a mutually acceptable plan of care.

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