



Women's Health

PROFESSIONAL GRADUATE
NURSING PROGRAM

PRECEPTOR ORIENTATION HANDBOOK

Academic Year 2024-2025

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The Role of the Preceptor

The College of Nursing Graduate Faculty would like to thank you for taking time to be a preceptor for one of our students. The role of the preceptor is important in shaping the development of a nurse practitioner. We recognize that it takes time to supervise a student, and we appreciate the additional time you give to each student. As the semester advances, the student will become more accomplished and require less supervision on your part and should begin to facilitate your client caseload.

Expectations of All Preceptors

- Review semester objectives and goals to facilitate clinical learning
- Review daily objectives to be discussed at the beginning of each clinical day
- Create a learning environment for the student and facilitate the critical thinking skills required of a student
- Complete the Preceptor Credentials electronic form on our website at: <https://app1.unmc.edu/nursing/preceptor/>, which will allow you to fill out the form online
- At the end of the semester, complete the Clinical Preceptor Assessment of Student Performance form and return to designated clinical faculty member

Expectations of Preceptors for APRN Students

- Listen to the student's case presentation on each patient
- Provide feedback about assessments, differential diagnosis, problem lists and proposed plans of care
- See patients with the student
- Supervise the student on all new procedures
- Recheck all abnormal examination findings identified by the student and evaluate the student's management plans for these problems
- Always be present in the clinical area during the student's experience, and name a qualified substitute if you must leave the clinic
- Review all student entries in the patient's health/medical records

Expectations of Preceptors for Lead/Nursing Executive Students

- Facilitate student's skill in completing an organizational assessment
- Facilitate student's development, implementation and evaluation of a clinical project.
- Engage student in organizational meetings and follow up to share decision-making related to specific agenda items
- Dialogue on-going conversations with student related to organizational activities including operations and strategic initiatives

Depending on the level of the student (beginning, middle, or advanced), the student will participate alone or with assistance for performance of the history and physical examinations, ordering necessary lab data, analyzing assessments, proposing appropriate diagnostic and/or therapeutic plans, and documenting encounters. The student should show progress in skill and clinical judgment as he/she proceeds through each course and semester.

The preceptor has a right to ask that the student be placed in another learning environment if problems arise that cannot be resolved.

Student Responsibilities

- Prepare for each clinical experience by
 - Sharing daily objectives with the preceptor at the beginning of the day
 - Studying presentations and diagnoses seen the previous week to build on knowledge and skills, and
 - Bringing materials learned in the classroom for application in the clinical setting
- Demonstrate active learning strategies by
 - Appropriate use of printed and electronic clinical resources (brought by student)
 - Asking questions
 - Identifying strengths and weaknesses, and
 - Being proactive in seeking learning opportunities
- Seek confirmation with the preceptor of any findings of which you may be unsure
- Ask for assistance with new procedures or learning opportunities
- Demonstrate evidence of using the clinical experience for advanced learning
- Dress in appropriate attire

Clinical Faculty Member Responsibilities

- Make arrangements with the student and preceptor to visit the clinical site (if feasible) to evaluate the student's performance at various times throughout the semester
- Evaluate the student's performance at mid-term and at the end of the semester (The preceptor will provide input into the evaluation process by completing the Clinical Preceptor Assessment of Student Performance form)

Please contact the student's clinical faculty instructor with questions, concerns or comments.

Didactic Courses:

NRSG 676 ADVANCED PRACTICE WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE I 2 Credit Hours

The purpose of this course is to increase knowledge and skill in the diagnostic reasoning process for assessing, promoting and maintaining the health of women and the management of common health problems. This course will focus on wellness, primary care, reproductive dynamics, normal gynecological issues and low-risk obstetrics.

Outcomes/objectives:

1. Obtain a general health history, perform a general screening physical examination, obtain and/or interpret appropriate diagnostic procedures and laboratory tests.
2. Provide physical assessment, management and education for women in need of reproductive health care.
3. Manage pharmacologic therapy based on evidence or best practice in primary care, gynecologic and obstetric health needs of women throughout their life cycle. Understand the broad categories of drugs (types of drugs) based on their action.
4. Provide general health supervision, health maintenance, education and counseling to women during the life cycle, including pregnancy.
5. Obtain an obstetric history, perform a prenatal examination, and obtain and/or interpret appropriate diagnostic procedures and laboratory tests relevant to obstetrics.
6. Provide comprehensive prenatal and postpartum management and education for women with low risk pregnancies
7. Obtain a gynecologic history; perform a gynecologic examination and obtain and/or interpret diagnostics studies and laboratory tests relevant to gynecology.
8. Apply ethical, legal and professional issues inherent in providing care as a Women's Health Care Nurse Practitioner.

NRSG 677 ADVANCED PRACTICE WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE II 3 Credit Hours

The focus of this course is on the role of the advanced practice nurse in acute health issues in women and the management of deviations from normal gynecology and low-risk obstetrics. This course will emphasize comprehensive assessment and management of disease processes and treatment of deviations from normal in both acute and community-based settings.

Outcomes/Objectives

1. Demonstrate critical thinking and diagnostic reasoning skills in clinical decision-making related to women's health care problems and needs.
2. Utilize advanced assessment, diagnostic, intervention and evaluation skills in the management of selected problems in women's health care.
3. Collaborate with and refer to multi disciplinary health care team in management of selected problems in women's health care.
4. Analyze clinical outcomes of nursing care in order to provide cost-effective and accessible services to meet women's health care needs.
5. Provide health education and counseling with emphasis on physical and psychosocial dimensions for women across the age span.
6. Promote and restore wellness for current and emerging women's health care needs.
7. Participate in, evaluate and utilize research in the delivery of women's health care.
8. Formulate an awareness of emerging epidemiological, environmental, social and cultural issues as these influence women's health status.
9. Develop an understanding of uniqueness and diversity of individuals as these influence women's health care.

NRS 678 ADVANCED PRACTICE WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE III 2 Credit Hours

The focus of this course is on the role of the advanced practice nurse in the management of complex women's health conditions including high risk obstetric and gynecologic issues, and chronic health problems. Content will emphasize assessment, diagnosis, prescribed therapies and management of women's health status over time with an emphasis on collaboration with and referral to healthcare team members.

Outcomes/Objectives:

1. Demonstrate critical thinking and diagnostic reasoning skills with clinical decision-making in the identification, evaluation, and management of women's stable, chronic health care problems.
2. Utilize advanced assessment, diagnostic, prescribed therapies, and intervention strategies in the management of selected chronic problems in women's health care.
3. Collaborate with and refer to multidisciplinary health care team in management of selected chronic problems in women's health care.
4. Design clinical outcomes of nursing care in order to provide cost-effective and accessible services to meet women's health care needs.
5. Create a supportive, confidential, and caring environment where women are offered appropriate choices in health care delivery.
6. Implement anticipatory guidance through health education and counseling with emphasis on physical and psychosocial dimensions for women across the age span.
7. Promote and restore wellness for current and emerging women's health care needs.
8. Participate in, evaluate and utilize research in the delivery of women's health care.
9. Formulate an awareness of emerging epidemiological, environmental, social and cultural issues as these influence women's health status.
10. Evaluate the impact of ethical and legal issues in the management of women's health care.
11. Value the uniqueness and diversity of individuals as these affect women's health care outcomes.

Clinical course:**NRS 679 ADVANCED PRACTICE WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE CLINICAL**

Course Description: Synthesis and application of advanced theoretical knowledge, with development of assessment, diagnostic, clinical reasoning and management of women's acute and chronic health care. Focus includes women with Gynecology, Obstetrics, Primary Care and Pharmacology as per NCC standards and guidelines. Clinical hours can include clinical preceptorships, Objective Simulated Clinical Evaluations, supplemental clinical hours with specialty services. 1-5 credits.

Course Outcomes /Objectives: Upon completion of fulfilling 14 credits (630 clock hours) of clinical hours the student will be able to:

1. Clinical practice focuses on an in-depth approach of assessment, diagnosis and evaluation of physical, psychosocial, cultural and spiritual needs of women.
2. Utilize advanced assessment, diagnostic, prescribed therapies, and intervention strategies in the management of selected acute and chronic problems in women's gynecological and obstetrical health care.
3. Provide primary health care to women across the age span, with focus on reproductive and gynecologic health issues.
4. Implement evidenced-based standards of practice and research in the delivery of women's health care services.
5. Become adept with the diagnostic reasoning process for assessing, promoting, and maintaining the health of women.
6. Implement developmentally appropriate interventions for women that include health promotion, risk reduction and disease prevention.
7. Provide clinical management of women with low risk pregnancies, deviations from normal pregnancy and chronic illness affecting pregnancy.
8. Collaborate with and refer to multidisciplinary health care team in management of selected chronic problems in women's health care.
9. Create a supportive, confidential, and caring environment where women are offered appropriate choices in health care delivery.
10. Analyze clinical outcomes to provide cost-effective and accessible services to meet women's health care needs.
11. Provide health education and counseling with emphasis on physical and psychosocial dimensions for women across the age span.

Recommended Skills and Procedures

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annual physical assessments• Well woman care• Family planning• Diaphragm fitting• Placement and removal of implant• Natural Family planning• Antepartal and postpartal care• Managing Sexually Transmitted Diseases• Health Promotion Teaching (all aspects)• STD cultures• Pap smears• Wet mounts and gram stains• Placement and Removal of Implant• Mental health management• Quick lab tests• Manage gynecological problems• Insertion and fitting pessaries• Utilize advanced diagnostic assessment skills• Diabetic teaching and nutrition• Utilize advanced diagnostic assessment skills | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manage/collaborate high risk pregnancy• Perimenopausal and menopausal care• Presurgical physicals• Preconceptual counseling• Breast biopsy and aspiration• Health risk appraisals• Colposcopy concepts• Inpatient evaluations and management• Insemination• Endometrial, cervical, vaginal and labial biopsies• Postcoital Test & Semen Analysis• Suturing of minor wounds• Ultrasounds• Quick Strep tests• Pregnancy tests• Counseling and Teaching
(All aspects of OB/G YN teaching)• Nursing procedures• Lactation Consultation• Managing stable chronic health care problems• Managing pregnancies with stable chronic health care problems |
|---|--|

Scope of Practice for Nurse Practitioners

Professional Role

Nurse practitioners (NPs) are licensed, independent practitioners who practice in ambulatory, acute and long-term care as primary and/or specialty care providers. Nurse practitioners assess, diagnose, treat, and manage acute episodic and chronic illnesses. NPs are experts in health promotion and disease prevention. They order, conduct, supervise, and interpret diagnostic and laboratory tests, prescribe pharmacological agents and non-pharmacologic therapies, as well as teach and counsel patients, among other services.

As licensed, independent clinicians, NPs practice autonomously and in coordination with health care professionals and other individuals. They may serve as health care researchers, interdisciplinary consultants, and patient advocates. NPs provide a wide-range of health care services to individuals, families, groups, and communities.

Education

NPs are advanced practice registered nurses who obtain graduate education, post-master's certificates, and doctoral degrees. Educational preparation provides NPs with specialized knowledge and clinical competency which enable them to practice in various health care settings, make differential diagnoses, manage and initiate treatment plans and prescribe medications and treatment. National NP education program accreditation requirements and competency-based standards ensure that NPs are equipped to provide safe, high-quality patient care from the point of graduation. Clinical competency and professional development are hallmarks of NP education.

Accountability

The autonomous nature of NP practice requires accountability to the public for delivery of high-quality health care. NP accountability is consistent with an ethical code of conduct, national certification, periodic peer review, clinical outcome evaluation, and evidence of continued professional development.

Responsibility

The patient-centered nature of the NP role requires a career-long commitment to meet the evolving needs of society and advances in health care science. NPs are responsible to the public and adaptable to changes in health care. As leaders in health care, NPs combine the roles of provider, mentor, educator, researcher, and administrator. NPs take responsibility for continued professional development, involvement in professional organizations, and participation in health policy activities at the local, state, national and international levels. Five decades of research affirms that NPs provide safe, high-quality care.

Standards of Practice for Nurse Practitioners

I. Qualifications

Nurse practitioners are licensed, independent practitioners who provide primary and/or specialty nursing and medical care in ambulatory, acute and long-term care settings. They are registered nurses with specialized, advanced education and clinical competency to provide health and medical care for diverse populations in a variety of primary care, acute and long-term care settings. Master's, post-master's or doctoral preparation is required for entry-level practice (AANP 2006).

II. Process of Care

The nurse practitioner utilizes the scientific process and national standards of care as a framework for managing patient care. This process includes the following components.

A. Assessment of health status

The nurse practitioner assesses health status by:

- Obtaining a relevant health and medical history
- Performing a physical examination based on age and history
- Performing or ordering preventative and diagnostic procedures based on the patient's age and history
- Identifying health and medical risk factors

B. Diagnosis

The nurse practitioner makes a diagnosis by:

- Utilizing critical thinking in the diagnostic process
- Synthesizing and analyzing the collected data
- Formulating a differential diagnosis based on the history, physical examination and diagnostic test results
- Establishing priorities to meet the health and medical needs of the individual, family, or community

C. Development of a treatment plan

The nurse practitioner, together with the patient and family, establishes an evidence-based, mutually acceptable, cost-awareness plan of care that maximizes health potential. Formulation of the treatment plan includes:

- Ordering and interpreting additional diagnostic tests
- Prescribing or ordering appropriate pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic interventions
- Developing a patient education plan
- Recommending consultations or referrals as appropriate

D. Implementation of the plan

Interventions are based upon established priorities. Actions by the nurse practitioners are:

- Individualized
- Consistent with the appropriate plan for care
- Based on scientific principles, theoretical knowledge and clinical expertise
- Consistent with teaching and learning opportunities

E. Follow-up and evaluation of the patient status

The nurse practitioner maintains a process for systematic follow-up by:

- Determining the effectiveness of the treatment plan with documentation of patient care outcomes
- Reassessing and modifying the plan with the patient and family as necessary to achieve health and medical goals

III. Care Priorities

The nurse practitioner's practice model emphasizes:

- A. Patient and family education
The nurse practitioner provides health education and utilizes community resource opportunities for the individual and/or family
- B. Facilitation of patient participation in self care.
The nurse practitioner facilitates patient participation in health and medical care by providing information needed to make decisions and choices about:
 - Promotion, maintenance and restoration of health
 - Consultation with other appropriate health care personnel
 - Appropriate utilization of health care resources
- C. Promotion of optimal health
- D. Provision of continually competent care
- E. Facilitation of entry into the health care system
- F. The promotion of a safe environment

IV. Interdisciplinary and Collaborative Responsibilities

As a licensed, independent practitioner, the nurse practitioner participates as a team leader and member in the provision of health and medical care, interacting with professional colleagues to provide comprehensive care.

V. Accurate Documentation of Patient Status and Care

The nurse practitioner maintains accurate, legible and confidential records.

VI. Responsibility as Patient Advocate

Ethical and legal standards provide the basis of patient advocacy. As an advocate, the nurse practitioner participates in health policy activities at the local, state, national and international levels.

VII. Quality Assurance and Continued Competence

Nurse practitioners recognize the importance of continued learning through:

- A. Participation in quality assurance review, including the systematic, periodic review of records and treatment plans
- B. Maintenance of current knowledge by attending continuing education programs
- C. Maintenance of certification in compliance with current state law
- D. Application of standardized care guidelines in clinical practice

VIII. Adjunct Roles of Nurse Practitioners

Nurse practitioners combine the roles of provider, mentor, educator, researcher, manager and consultant. The nurse practitioner interprets the role of the nurse practitioner to individuals, families and other professionals.

IX. Research as Basis for Practice

Nurse practitioners support research by developing clinical research questions, conducting or participating in studies, and disseminating and incorporating findings into practice.

The University Of Nebraska Medical Center College Of Nursing is required by our accrediting agencies and the State Board of Nursing to document the credentials and professional experience of persons who serve as clinical preceptors with our students. Preceptors must have an advanced practice degree (APRN, MD, DO, PA) and at least one year experience at the advanced practice level. The Preceptor Credentials form is available to complete electronically. The link to register and login to access and complete the form electronically is listed below. This form will be updated annually.

<https://app1.unmc.edu/nursing/preceptor/>



Preceptor Credentials Form

WELCOME

Welcome to the UNMC College of Nursing electronic preceptor credentials form. (If you have not registered yet, please select the **Register Here** button to register your email address and password).

Sign In

Register Here

UNMC | College of Nursing
 Clinical Preceptor Assessment of Student Performance

Student _____

Preceptor _____

Specialty Area _____

Preceptor Email _____

Clinical Instructor _____

Course Number _____ Campus _____

Clinical Start Date _____

Clinical End Date _____

At the end of the semester, please provide an assessment of the student using the rating scale below. Select the rating that best describes the level of expectation achieved by the student this semester. **Students will not receive a grade for their clinical experiences if this 2 page assessment form is not completed and returned to faculty.**

	Far Exceeded	Met	Did Not Meet	Clinical Expectation Not Observed	Not Applicable to this Clinical Setting
1. Comes to the setting with learning objectives and discusses them with me.					
2. Performs a systematic history and physical exam, focused exam, differential diagnoses, and conclusive diagnoses to my satisfaction.					
3. Discusses with me common laboratory and diagnostic tests and rationale for use.					
4. Discusses pharmacological and non-pharmacological treatments to my satisfaction.					
5. Discusses a clinical treatment (management plan) to my satisfaction.					
6. Formulates a Preventative Health/Health Promotion Plan to my satisfaction.					
7. Discusses the pathophysiology of common diseases.					
8. Uses research and evidence based practice standards of care in discussions with me.					
9. Discusses the need for referrals and follow-up appointments to my satisfaction.					
10. Completes concise written and verbal reports to my satisfaction.					
11. Is professional, on time, courteous, appropriately dressed, and has needed resources.					
12. Attends to quality care, safety issues, and cultural diversity factors.					

Preceptor Comments:

Preceptor Signature _____ Date _____

Please return completed assessment to the clinical instructor at end of semester.