

Protocol for Advanced Practice Registered Nurse

Practice with a Collaborative Physician

The Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) shall practice according to the following standards and guidelines and in a collaborative/consultative relationship with a physician who has an unrestricted license in Mississippi.

- I. Management of Patient Health/Illness Status
 - a. Obtains an appropriate comprehensive or problem-focused health history from the patient.
 - b. Performs an appropriate comprehensive or problem-focused physical examination. Differentiates between normal, variations of normal and abnormal findings.
 - c. Provides health promotion, disease prevention services, anticipatory guidance and counseling to promote health.
 - d. Orders, analyzes and interprets data, including history, presenting symptoms, physical findings, and diagnostic information to develop appropriate differential diagnoses.
 - e. Diagnoses and manages acute and chronic conditions while attending to the patient's response to the illness experience.
 - f. Prioritizes health problems and intervenes appropriately including initiation of effective emergency care.
 - g. Employs appropriate diagnostic and therapeutic interventions and regimens including but not limited to pharmacological, behavioral and other non-pharmacological treatment modalities with attention to safety, cost, invasiveness, simplicity, acceptability, adherence, and efficacy.
 - h. Formulates an action plan based on scientific rationale, evidence-based standards of care and practice guidelines.
 - i. Integrates knowledge of pharmacokinetic processes and factors that alter pharmacokinetics in pharmacologic management decisions.
 - j. Provides guidance and counseling regarding management of the health/illness condition.
 - k. Communicates the patient's health status using appropriate terminology, format and technology.
 - l. Initiates appropriate and timely consultation and/or referral when the problem exceeds the APRN's scope of practice and/or expertise.
 - m. Collaboratively assesses, plans, implements, and evaluates care with other health care professionals using approaches that recognize each one's expertise to meet the comprehensive needs of patient.
 - n. Considers the patient's needs when termination of the APRN's service and provides a safe transition to another care provider.

II. Monitoring Quality of Health Care Practice

- a. Develops and implements a quality assurance/quality improvement plan as evidenced by
 - i. Review by collaborative physician of a sample of charts that represent 10% or 20 charts, whichever is less, of patients seen by the APRN every month. Charts should represent the variety of patient types seen by the APRN. Patients that the APRN and collaborating physician have consulted on during the month will count as one chart review.
 - ii. The APRN shall maintain a log of charts reviewed which includes the identifier for the patients' charts, reviewers' names, and dates of review.
 - iii. Each APRN shall meet face to face with collaborating physician once per quarter for the purpose of quality assurance.
- b. Acts ethically to meet the needs of patients.
- c. Uses an evidence-based approach to patient management that critically evaluates and applies research findings pertinent to patient care management and outcomes.
- d. Evaluates the patient's response to the health care provided and the effectiveness of the care.
- e. Uses the outcomes of care to revise care delivery strategies and improve the quality of care.

Controlled Substances

- a. Follows standards of care related to ordering controlled substances for patients.
- b. Patients receiving controlled substances for chronic use will have a signed "Controlled Substance" Contract.
- c. The APRN will follow the *Practitioner's Manual: An Informational Outline of the Controlled Substances Act* published by United States Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and Office of Diversion Control when prescribing controlled substances.

Emergency Plan

- a. In the event of a patient emergency that requires a higher level of care than can be provided in the specific clinic setting, the APRN will;
 - i. Assist with stabilization of the patient's condition.
 - ii. Request assistance thru 911.
 - iii. Transport patient by ambulance to nearest emergency facility.
 - iv. Notify collaborating physician as to the event.

I agree to adhere to the protocol for Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) based on the standards and guidelines outlined in this document. I also agree that this document will be subject to agreement by the collaborative/consultative physician(s) and a copy of this document will be placed at the clinical site for review by the Mississippi Board of Nursing and Mississippi Medical Licensure Board. The agreement with the collaborative/consultative physician (s) will be indicated by the completion and signing of the form, verification of protocol/practice review. I understand that I (NP) will practice within the scope of my education and follow the practice directions of my collaborative/consultative physician(s).

Signature of APRN

Date Signed

Signature of Collaborative Physician

Date Signed