

Nurse Practitioner Core Competencies**THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF NURSE PRACTITIONER FACULTIES' (NONPF) 2011 Nurse Practitioner Core Competencies****1. Scientific Foundation Competencies**

- Critically analyzes data and evidence for improving advanced nursing practice.
- *Integrates knowledge from the humanities and sciences within the context of nursing science.*
- *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.*

2. Leadership Competencies

- Assumes complex and advanced leadership roles to initiate and guide change.
- *Provides leadership to foster collaboration with multiple stakeholders to improve health care.*
- *Demonstrates leadership that uses critical and reflective thinking.*
- *Advocates for improved access, quality and cost effective healthcare.*
- *Advances practice through the development and implementation of innovations incorporating principles of change.*
- *Communicates practice knowledge effectively both orally and in writing.*

3. Quality Competencies

- Uses best available evidence to continuously improve quality of clinical practice.
- *Evaluates the relationships among access, cost, quality, and safety and their influence on healthcare.*
- *Evaluates how organizational structure, care processes, financing, marketing and policy decisions impact the quality of care.*
- *Applies skills in peer review to promote a culture of excellence.*
- *Anticipates variations in practice and is proactive in implementing interventions to ensure quality.*

4. Practice Inquiry Competencies

- Provides leadership in the translation of new knowledge into practice.
- *Generates knowledge from clinical practice to improve practice and patient outcomes.*
- *Applies clinical investigative skills to improve health outcomes.*
- *Leads practice inquiry, individually or in partnership with others.*
- *Disseminates evidence from inquiry to diverse audiences using multiple modalities.*

5. Technology and Information Literacy Competencies

- Integrates appropriate technologies for knowledge management to improve health care.
- *Translates technical and scientific health information appropriate for various users' needs.*
 - *Assesses the patient's and caregiver's educational needs to provide effective, personalized health care.*
 - *Coaches the patient and caregiver for positive behavioral change.*
- *Demonstrates information literacy skills in complex decision making.*
- *Contributes to the design of clinical information systems that promote safe, quality and cost effective care.*
- *Uses technology systems that capture data on variables for the evaluation of nursing care.*

6. Policy Competencies

- Demonstrates an understanding of the interdependence of policy and practice.
- *Advocates for ethical policies that promote access, equity, quality and cost.*
- *Analyzes ethical, legal and social factors influencing policy development.*
- *Contributes in the development of health policy.*
- *Analyzes the implications of health policy across disciplines.*
- *Evaluates the impact of globalization on health care policy development.*

7. Health Delivery Systems Competencies

- Applies knowledge of organizational practices and complex systems to improve health care delivery.
- *Effects health care change using broad based skills including negotiating, consensus-building and partnering.*
- *Minimizes risk to patients and providers at the individual and systems level.*
- *Facilitates the development of health care systems that address the needs of culturally diverse populations, providers and other stakeholders.*
- *Evaluates the impact of health care delivery on patients, providers, other stakeholders and the environment.*
- *Analyzes organizational structure, functions and resources to improve the delivery of care.*

8. Ethics Competencies

- Integrates ethical principles in decision making.
- *Evaluates the ethical consequences of decisions.*
- *Applies ethically sound solutions to complex issues related to individuals, populations and systems of care.*

9. Independent Practice Competencies

- Functions as a licensed independent practitioner.
- *Demonstrates the highest level of accountability for professional practice.*
- *Practices independently managing previously diagnosed and undiagnosed patients.*
 - *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.*
 - *Uses advanced health assessment skills to differentiate between normal, variations of normal and abnormal findings.*
 - *Employs screening and diagnostic strategies in the development of diagnoses.*
 - *Prescribes medications within the scope of practice.*
 - *Manages the health/illness status of patients and families over time.*
- *Provides patient-centered care recognizing cultural diversity and the patient or designee as a full partner in decision-making.*
- *Works to establish a relationship with the patient characterized by mutual respect, empathy and collaboration.*
- *Creates a climate of patient-centered care to include confidentiality, privacy, comfort, emotional support, mutual trust and respect.*
- *Incorporates the patient's cultural and spiritual preferences, values and beliefs into health care.*
- *Preserves the patient's control over decision making by negotiating a mutually acceptable plan of care.*