

## NURSE PRACTITIONER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

This form is to inform you that APNS employs Nurse Practitioners in addition to medical and osteopathic doctors.

A **nurse practitioner (NP)** is an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) who has completed advanced coursework and clinical education beyond that required of a registered nurse. According to the International Council of Nurse, a nurse practitioner, or advanced practice registered nurse, is “a registered nurse who has acquired the knowledge base, decision-making skills, and clinical competencies for expanded practice beyond that of the RN, the characteristics of which would be determined by the context in which he or she is credentialed to practice.

Physicians and NPs are very similar in that they both diagnose, treat, and prescribe in the management of both acute and chronic diseases. They both order and interpret labs, diagnostic tests, and prescribe medications. Studies have found that NPs do more than 90% of what physicians do. Studies have also found NP care to be at least equivalent and, in some cases, superior to physician care. Statistics show most patients prefer to be treated by nurse practitioners over physicians. Both professions practice the healing arts, but do so from different perspectives.

Physicians and NPs have numerous knowledge overlaps and are often complementary, but each has a core expertise that is distinct and unique. NPs make ideal primary care providers because of their holistic and wellness oriented philosophy that emphasizes health education, risk identification, risk reduction, and preventative care through early detection and lifestyle changes.

As of 2026, there are 38 states where Nurse Practitioners are either independent or have a patch toward autonomous practice after a period of experience, allowing nurse practitioners to practice independently without the oversight or collaboration of a physician. For more information, please visit <https://www.aanp.org>.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read the foregoing informed consent and fully understand that nurse practitioners are not medical or osteopathic physicians but are board certified medical providers.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Updated June 2026*