APRNs & Full Practice Authority

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Maximizing Value: Optimizing Contributions of all Team Members
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Overview

Nursing Handbook

• VHA’s proposed nursing handbook is consistent with the 2010 IOM landmark report, “The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health”

  ▫ Nurses should practice to the full extent of their education and training.
  ▫ Nurses should be full partners, with physicians and other health professionals, in redesigning health care in the United States.
The proposed change is being driven by the efficacious use of resources and to decrease variability in care provided by APRNs throughout the VA system. This proposed change will:

- increase access to care
- ensure continuity of the highest quality of care for Veterans

As an integrated Federal health care system, the proposed policy parallels current policies in the Department of the Defense and Indian Health Service.

A significant number of states have already approved full practice authority for NPs and CRNAs, with many VA Medical Centers successfully utilizing APRNs to the full extent of their education and training.
VHA Embraces APRN Regulatory Model
2014 Nurse Practitioner State Practice Environment

Sources:
State Nurse State Practice Acts and Administration Rules, 2012
© American Association of Nurse Practitioners, 2013
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• This policy is still being reviewed and vetted for input from internal VA program offices and from external stakeholders, prior to any regulatory action and approval.

• External stakeholder meetings have included several professional physician and nursing organizations.

• Additional meetings with internal and external stakeholders continue to be scheduled.