ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE

DEFINITION

Provides advanced professional nursing care which includes the delivery of primary health care, diagnosis and treatment of common medical conditions, minor surgery and invasive procedures, health education and counseling; and performs other related work as required.

EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

Graduation from an accredited college or university with an associate of arts or bachelor's degree in nursing and sufficient advanced, specialized nursing training to qualify for State of Nevada certification as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse.

LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE

A current license to practice as a Registered Nurse in the State of Nevada is required at the time of appointment.

Certified or eligible for certification as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse with Nevada State Board of Nursing within three months of date of appointment.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

This is an advanced skill level, specialized professional nursing classification. It is distinguished from other professional nursing classifications by requiring special certification.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED

Serves as lead worker over other staff.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES (The following is used as a partial description and is not restrictive as to duties required.)

Develop comprehensive and interval health histories.

Perform physical examinations, which include pelvic examinations.

Conduct examinations and assessments of nutrition.

Perform examination and standardized tests to assess children’s neuro-development status.

Initiate appropriate diagnostic and screening tests.

Obtain samples for lab tests, including HIV, Papanicolou smears, cervical abnormalities, and sexually transmitted diseases.

Perform limited in-house waived and moderate complexity laboratory testing including pregnancy, urinalysis dipstick, Rapid HIV and Wet Mount testing.
Formulate an assessment of findings and develop care plans.

Identify health risks and instruct individuals and families regarding skills necessary to achieve health goals.

Diagnose and initiate treatments per protocol.

Prescribe treatment regimes per protocol, which requires authorization per NRS to prescribe dangerous drugs and devices.

Perform minor surgery and invasive procedures including IUD insertion/removal and birth control implant insertion/removal.

Maintain documentation of physical/developmental assessments, diagnosis, patient education and treatment recommendations.

Counsel and educate clients regarding family planning, abnormal pap smears, HIV, STD’s, health problems and maintenance.

Refer clients to community resources as appropriate.

Plan, develop and provide public health services through teaching, consultation and counseling.

Perform quality assurance and proficiency testing on laboratory testing equipment and supplies such as Hemoglobinometer, urinalysis dipstick and pregnancy testing. Maintain documentation and initiate appropriate follow-up with abnormal results; alert supervisory staff when standard corrective actions do not resolve problems; complete appropriate paper work regarding situation.

Review program specific medical records to evaluate Advanced Practice Registered Nurse clinical care, protocols and peer review forms.

Provide written recommendations for change in standards of practice, or need for corrective action, based on audit findings.

Orient and assist Public Health Nursing staff to clinical areas.

Educate Community Health Aides.

Act as preceptor for nursing students, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse students, medical students and/or residents.

Maintain liaison with other professionals and agencies providing child/family services.

Collaborate with supervising physician on a regular basis to review documentation, update protocols, case conference regarding specific clients as required by the Nevada State Board of Nursing.

Update knowledge by attending continuing education courses and reading professional journals.

**JOB RELATED AND ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS**

**Full Performance** *(These may be acquired on the job and are needed to perform the work assigned.)*

**Knowledge of:**
Department/division policies and procedures.

Nursing/health practices and techniques.
Medical equipment and supplies used in area of assignment.

Infection control procedures.

Local community services and agencies that provide a variety of public assistance programs.

Management information systems and Electronic Health Records.

Social and health agencies and functions of other community professionals as related to public health care.

**Ability to:**
Provide work direction and training for other professional nursing staff and paraprofessional staff.

Work independently in evaluating medical findings and making suitable recommendations.

Coordinate assigned activities with community organizations and other government agencies.

**Entry Level** *(Applicants will be screened for possession of these through written, oral, performance, or other evaluation methods.)*

**Knowledge of:**
Environmental, sociological and psychological problems encountered in care of patients, and in carrying out public health nursing programs.

Principles and practices of health care programs.

Current literature and trends in public health nursing.

Routine diagnostic and treatment techniques used in practicing primary care medicine.

**Ability to:**
Conduct physical examinations.

Observe and record symptoms and behaviors.

Identify normal variations and refer abnormalities for further examination by a physician.

Diagnose medical problems and perform therapeutic procedures to solve the problems.

Collect and prepare laboratory specimens.

Collect and run limited laboratory testing.

Collect, organize, record and communicate data relevant to primary health assessments, including detailed family and medical histories, physical examinations and selected laboratory findings.

Evaluate medical findings and make suitable recommendations.

Perform and interpret special screening tests and laboratory findings.

Counsel patients and assist individuals or families with satisfactory solutions to health problems.

Communicate orally in a clear, concise manner, tailoring the message to the intended audience.

Communicate clearly and concisely in writing, tailoring the message to the intended audience.
Maintain cooperative working relationships with co-workers, supervisors, and the general public.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**
*Essential duties require the following physical skills and work environment.*

Ability to sit for extended periods. Ability to frequently stand and walk. Ability to lift and move objects weighing up to 35 lbs. Ability to use various equipment such as a computer and laboratory/health related equipment. Ability to work under conditions involving exposure to high public contact situations. Work is performed in a standard or mobile office, clinic, and home environment.

*This class specification is used for classification, recruitment and examination purposes. It is not to be considered a substitute for work performance standards.*