

# Development of an Emergency Nurse Practitioner Curriculum

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## Purpose

- To develop an Emergency Nurse Practitioner (ENP) curriculum for family nurse practitioners across multiple academic points of entry including: MS-DNP, and post master's certificate in order to sit for the ENP certification exam.
- To provide FNP's the formal training necessary to practice in the emergency department (ED), urgent care centers, and/or to augment their skills in primary care office practices.

## Background

- In 2012, USA ED visits equaled 42 visits per 100 persons.
- An increase in 2014: total ED visits were 141.1 million, numbering 45.1 visits per 100 persons (NHAMCS, 2014).
- There are only approximately 39,000 board certified emergency medicine physicians in the USA (JMED, 2016).
- There are not enough emergency medicine physicians to care for the growing USA population.
- The American Association of Nurse Practitioners Certification Board (AANPCB) is currently the only organization granting certification in emergency practice for nurse practitioners.
- As of March 7, 2018, there were only 233 AANPCB board certified ENP's in the USA (AANPCB, 2018).
- There are only 10 formal ENP training programs in the USA accredited by the American Academy of Emergency Nurse Practitioners (AAENP).

## Results

- Four intensive graduate didactic core course syllabi spanning the complete scope of practice for ENP's, including major medical, surgical, psychiatric urgent and emergent conditions across the lifespan, as determined by AAENP and AANPCB.
- Included in the core courses is a procedures course which includes 30 hours of simulated emergency procedures.
- Clinical experiences will take place primarily in hospital emergency departments and will encompass emergency care, urgent care, obstetrics, neonatology, pediatrics, adult/gerontology, trauma, resuscitation, substance abuse, and psychiatry with opportunities for flight and ambulance clinical experiences.
- A curriculum proposal based on the guidelines published by Keating & DeBoor (2018) including the following components:
  - needs assessment
  - financial implications
  - curriculum plan
  - implementation plan
  - evaluations strategies

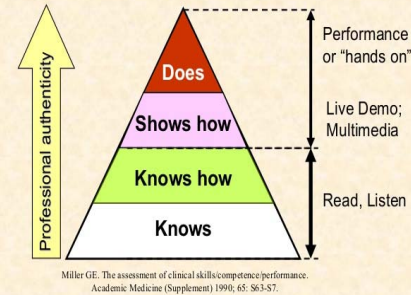


Santiam Hospital Emergency Care. Retrieved from <http://santiamhospital.org/see-emergency.php>.

## Settings

- This curriculum will be presented to the University of South Florida College of Nursing Dean and Faculty for consideration of inclusion of this program into the College's academic offerings.
- If accepted, this program's administrator/director will attempt to obtain accreditation by AAENP and the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Practice Transition Accreditation Program (PTAP).

## Miller's model of competence



Miller GE. The assessment of clinical skills/competence/performance. Academic Medicine (Supplement) 1990; 65: S63-S7.

## Discussion

- Projected Outcomes Measures for Evaluation of Program Success Post-implementation:
- Short term: clinical acumen surveys before, during, and after program completion.
  - Intermediate term: data on first-attempt board exam pass rates and securing employment in emergency/urgent care.
  - Long term: retention of clinical site instructors and sustained employment in emergency/urgent care.
  - With the increase in population, the need for emergency care in the USA will only increase with time.
  - The relatively sparse number of currently board certified ENP's coupled with limited American ENP academic program offerings heralds the dire need for another ENP program with the capacity to accommodate working FNP's.

## Implications for Practice

- A preliminary survey of local NP's practicing in the ED regarding their perceived educational needs with regards to clinical management and procedures in emergency care has not yet been conducted.
- These data would be helpful in determining local need, interest and utility for this ENP program.
- A survey could be conducted, and the collection and dissemination of such above-mentioned data would be suitable for a future separate DNP project.

## Methods

- Examination of AAENP and AANPCB guidelines.
- Development of a post-master's certificate ENP curriculum based on the AAENP and AANPCB guidelines.
- Development of a curriculum proposal for the University of South Florida College of Nursing based on guidelines from Keating & DeBoor (2018).



Urgent Care or Emergency Room: How to Decide Where to Take Your Sick Child. Retrieved from: <https://blog.cincinnatichildrens.org/hospital-operations/urgent-care-or-the-emergency-room/>

## Curriculum

Course	Credits	Clinical Hours	Simulation Lab Hours
<b>Semester 1</b>			
Emergency NP Role Development	3		
Emergency Skills & Procedures	2		30
<b>Semester 2</b>			
Emergency Nurse Practitioner I	8	240	10
<b>Semester 3</b>			
Emergency Nurse Practitioner II	8	240	10

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Emergency Nurse Practitioner

Nguyen, Thi (2018). ENP- Emergency Nurse Practitioner. Retrieved from: <https://appalaco.com/app/enp-ec-emergency-nurse-practitioner/1186232944>

