



**American Academy of Nurse Practitioners
American College of Nurse Practitioners
Association of Faculties of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties**

Nurse Practitioners: Medical Home/Coordinated Primary Care Providers

The Issue

Proposals for initiating a payment system for medical home/coordinated primary care services are currently being considered in legislative offices and the health care community. In order to facilitate access and the provision of quality, cost effective primary care, it is important that the proposals include all members of the primary care community and not be limited to medical doctors and doctors of osteopathy. The Institute of Medicine (IOM) has defined primary care as “the provision of integrated, accessible health care services by clinicians who are accountable for addressing a large majority of personal health care needs, developing a sustained partnership with patients and practicing in the context of family and community.” One such provider is the nurse practitioner.

Nurse practitioners provide high quality primary care that meets the NCQA standards for the medical home; i.e, personal providers, care that is coordinated by that provider that is whole person oriented, coordinated and integrated, of high quality and safe, and will enhance access.

Needed

To include nurse practitioners in legislation authorizing demonstration programs, reimbursement authorization and incentives for participation in medical homes or coordinated primary care practices.

Recommendation

That all legislation, regulation, and demonstration models:

- utilize the IOM definition of primary care in proposed legislation and regulation,
- be designed to allow all licensed primary care providers to serve in this role,
- give special attention to safety net providers who provide care for patients who would not otherwise have access to care,
- should include nurse practitioners in the design and development of such programs.

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