Nurse Practitioners are knowledgeable, professional, and accessible.

- Adrienne, Pickering

Nurse Practitioners are a valuable support to families and the health care system, facilitating quick, accessible and flexible services in a warm, caring manner. I cannot say enough about how helpful they are to me and my family.

- Pam & Margaret, Whitby

Nurse practitioner care is the best care I have received in 22 years.

- Murray, Penetanguishene

For more information contact:

**Nurse Practitioners’ Association of Ontario**

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Our profession is helping to transform health care through safe, effective and collaborative care.
What is a Nurse Practitioner?

A Nurse Practitioner (NP) is a nurse with advanced university education who works both independently and in collaboration with other health professionals to provide you with quality health care services. NPs take care of the physical, emotional, mental and social aspects of their clients’ health needs.

What does an NP do?

NPs help keep their clients, client’s family and community well. NPs provide care to individuals of all ages and focus on preventing disease.

As a member of your health care team, NPs can:

- Diagnose illness and injuries
- Perform physical check-ups
- Order and interpret diagnostic tests
- Provide counselling and education
- Provide treatment
- Order procedures
- Refer clients to other health care professionals and specialists
- Prescribe medication
- Manage chronic diseases such as diabetes, COPD and asthma
- Treat, transfer and discharge both in-patients and community outpatients from hospital.
- Cast fractures and reduce dislocations
- Order blood products and oxygen

What are the benefits of NPs?

Nurse practitioners bring value to Canadians and their health care system. Studies about the benefits of nurse practitioners and about patients’ experiences tell us that nurse practitioners:

- Involve patients in decisions related to their care
- Improve access to primary health care
- Reduce pressures on the health care system
- Are valued and trusted by patients
- Provide high-quality management of chronic illness (e.g., diabetes, high blood pressure)

Where do NPs work?

NPs work in rural and urban areas including:

- Community Health Centres
- Family Health Teams
- Home health care agencies
- Hospitals including emergency departments
- Long-term care facilities
- Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinics
- Nursing stations
- Rehabilitation facilities
- Schools and workplaces

Nurse Practitioner Specialties

The specialties in Ontario are:
1. NP- Adult
2. NP- Pediatric
3. NP- Primary Health Care
4. NP- Anaesthesia

What is the role of NPs?

NP-Adult and Pediatric

Adult and Pediatric NPs work with clients and families in hospitals and outpatient clinics. NPs may specialize in areas such as dialysis, orthopedics, neonatal intensive care, critical care or oncology.

NPs explain health conditions and expected benefits of any treatments, and provide guidance to help clients maintain health and prevent complications.

NP-Primary Health Care

A visit to an NP in primary care can include assessment and treatment for an acute illness, a routine prenatal check up, a well baby exam, the monitoring and treatment of chronic illnesses, as well as prevention of illness through health screening, and promotion of wellness through education and linking with community resources.

NP-Anaesthesia

These NPs conduct pre-admission assessments, provide anaesthesia services, and monitor clients during operations. They also manage a client’s pain after a procedure or operation.

Ontario has more than 2,000 nurse practitioners who work in a diverse range of community and hospital settings across the province.