

NURSE PRACTITIONER IN DERMATOLOGY

A nurse practitioner in dermatology is a clinician who offers holistic, high-quality care for their patients. They have advanced clinical training beyond their initial professional registered nurse preparation with a master's or doctoral degree and advanced education and training in the specialty. Many nurse practitioners also achieve dermatology nurse practitioner certification demonstrating a higher degree of professional competence. Nurse practitioners are highly-trained dedicated professionals who are trusted by both patients and other healthcare providers.

Expertise in dermatology is accomplished through specialty training or completion of a post-graduate internship program. In addition, the dermatology nurse practitioner participates in independent continuing education activities such as those offered by professional organizations such as Dermatology Nurses' Association (DNA).

Increasing health care needs are driving the growth of the profession. Nurse practitioners in dermatology provide high-quality comprehensive care for diverse patient populations, increase patient access to healthcare services and decrease wait times to care.

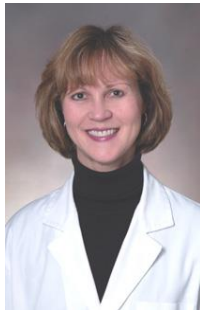
Nurse practitioners in dermatology emphasize the patient-centered holistic approach to dermatology through expert care, comprehensive examination, clear communication and continuity of care.

Responsibilities

- Performs comprehensive examinations of the skin, hair, nails, and mucosa
- Orders and interprets diagnostic tests
- Prescribes medications
- Performs surgical procedures including biopsies and excisions
- Diagnoses and treats dermatologic conditions
- Provides counseling and education
- Works with other health care professionals to provide comprehensive care

Other responsibilities may include:

- Phototherapy treatment
- Cosmetic procedures
- Laser procedures
- Telemedicine
- Policy development
- Dermatologic Research



*Role: Nurse practitioners in dermatology diagnose and treat a broad array of dermatologic conditions**

**Scope of practice, regulations and prescriptive privileges vary by state*



Nurse Practitioners in Dermatology work in a variety of settings including:

Group and private practices

Hospitals

HMOs

Academic centers

Community clinics

University health settings

Veterans hospitals and clinics

Nurse-managed clinics