

Nurse practitioner

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Nurse Practitioner A Nurse Practitioner is a registered nurse (RN) who has advanced education and clinical training in a health care specialty area. Nurse Practitioners work with people of all ages and their families, providing information people need to make informed decisions about their health care and lifestyle choices based on high quality care, cost effective care, and patient satisfaction. Nurse Practitioners work very close with physicians (doctors). They advocate health promotion and disease prevention. And from patients point of view, NP's are pretty much doctors but sometimes even better. In order to become a NP, you must have a bachelor's degree in nursing, be certified as an RN, complete an accredited master's degree program, pass a state exam, and be licensed by the Boards of Nursing and Medicine. The complete process can take 6-8 years depending on the individual. A nurse practitioner can specialize in many areas like family practice, oncology, mental health, or they may specialize in the care of specific groups like women, infants, children, or the elderly. But most choose a master's degree in primary health care and geriatrics. Nurse Practitioners work in a variety of settings located in rural and urban communities. They work in private practices, health clinics, HMOs, hospitals, public health departments, emergency rooms, nursing homes, free standing health clinics, women health clinics, school-based health clinics, rural health clinics and employee-health departments. Nurse Practitioners have many duties. They must be able to work independently, teach others, physically assist patients, take responsibility for the lives of others, and under nursing skills and beyond. Some of their work includes obtaining health histories, doing physical exams, collaborating with physicians and other health professionals

as needed, ordering and interpreting diagnostic/laboratory studies, counseling, and giving advice on how to prevent diseases. Their daily functions include diagnosing, treating, and prescribing related to their specialty. A typical Nurse Practitioner working in the United States can earn between \$71, 070 and \$83, 803. The median base salary is \$77, 537. An NP's salary depends on their education and experience, as well as their specialty. This career is interesting to me because I'm thinking about becoming a nurse practitioner down the line. Becoming a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), is my stepping stone for becoming an RN (Registered Nurse), and becoming an RN could be my stepping stone for becoming a Nurse Practitioner. NP's make good money and it's all for a good cause. I can get an advanced degree and work for an insurance or pharmaceutical company, work in management or research. The good thing about nursing period is that you have many options available to you, so you don't have to specialty in just one field. Nursing is also one of the most versatile careers around. Nurses are committed, talented, and caring, and I think I fit all of the' above. You can get steady, reliable work almost anywhere, doing almost anything you want. I enjoy working with people and I'm interested in medicine so I feel as thou I would make a great Nurse Practitioner.