



## Ensuring a Safe Emergency Care Workforce: AAENP Response

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The American Academy of Emergency Nurse Practitioners (AAENP) recognizes the recent work of physician-led organizations (ABEM, ACEP, ACOEP, AOBEM, CORD, EMRA, and SAEM) to perform a data driven assessment of the current and future EM workforce (<https://www.acep.org/life-as-a-physician/workforce/>). We support efforts to identify solutions ensuring the consistent availability and delivery of patient-centered, cost-effective and safe emergency care.

Recently proposed recommendations by physician colleagues which seek to control and oversee nurse practitioner education and regulation are presumptive, short-sighted, and may ultimately constitute restraint of trade. **As the organization representing nurse practitioners in emergency care, AAENP has for years been implementing what physicians are now suggesting as best practice.** AAENP has clearly demonstrated our commitment to standardizing our own practice to ensure safe delivery of emergency care within an interprofessional team. We have established the scientific foundation for education, certification, and regulation of nurse practitioners in emergency care with creation of:

- Scope and Standards of Practice
- Nationally accredited emergency nurse practitioner (ENP) specialty certification exam
- Competencies for the Emergency Nurse Practitioner
- ENP Academic and Fellowship Program Educational Standards
- ENP Academic and Fellowship Program Evaluation Standards and validation processes

**AAENP agrees with standardized training and encourages the widespread adoption of ENP certification for all nurse practitioners in emergency care settings.** We stand firm in our mission to promote high quality, evidence-based practice for nurse practitioners providing emergency care for patients of all ages and acuties in collaboration with an interdisciplinary team. **AAENP proposes expanded collaboration across all disciplines to build upon the current foundation to create innovative models which provide safe, quality care while reinforcing the value of nurse practitioners in emergency care settings.**

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For more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview with AAENP President Andrea Smith-Brooks, please email Jennifer Wilbeck, Executive Director at [EXdir@aaenp-natl.org](mailto:EXdir@aaenp-natl.org)