

Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Job Description

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Elicits, records, and interprets complete patient health history, including past medical, obstetrical, family, and psychosocial information
- Plans and documents a course of management derived from performing a comprehensive physical assessment of the newborn/infant, as well as applying interpretations from laboratory, radiographic and clinical data
- Discusses the treatment plan with Neonatology Faculty, Fellows, and Consultants
- Performs complex diagnostic and therapeutic procedures on infants
- Records and dictates interim, discharge, and transfer summaries
- Initiates emergency assessment and treatment
- Diagnoses medical and surgical problems of the newborn and prescribe treatment
- Records patient data and tentative conclusions from prescribed treatment for review by the attending physician
- Performs routine medical and surgical procedures, including admission examinations of the newborn
- Provides patient education and counseling to family and significant others regarding health care plans and procedures
- Follows written protocols in ordering medications, treatments, and tests
- Provides education to students, interns, residents, and staff in complex techniques and procedure which are unique to the newborn
- Promotes a customer friendly environment and provides superior service to patients, students, faculty, and employees
- Refers neonates where applicable and participates in neonatal transports from referral hospital by ground and/or air
- Utilizes her expertise outside the hospital system to serve as a resource center and provides community service.

Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Requirements – Skills, Knowledge, and Abilities

- Educational requirement: A minimum of Master's degree in Nursing from an accredited college or university with Neonatal Nurse Practitioner certification
- Certification: Neonatal nurse practitioners must possess a current American Heart Association Healthcare Provider BLS/BCLS certification and Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) certification, or Neonatal Resuscitation Provider (NRP) certification
- License: They must possess a current Registered Nursing license in the applicable state
- Experience: Pediatric or neonatal nursing experience and at least 2 years of experience in a level III NICU position. However, not all organizations require a level III NICU experience
- Knowledge: They must possess clinical knowledge and expertise in management of critically ill neonates including: resuscitation and stabilization, admission and triage
- They should possess proficient technical skills in intubation, umbilical line catheterization, chest tube placement. Should be able to developing individualized plan of care and knowledge of ongoing management of critical neonates including: management of resp/ventilator, fluids and electrolytes, infection, cardiovascular
- A comprehensive understanding of common neonatal disease processes, including identification and treatment, clinical procedural and physical examination is essential
- Sound judgment skills – The work of NNP consistently exercises a high degree of discretion and independent judgment in analyzing, interpreting, and making inferences from comprehensive physical assessment of the newborn/infant, as well as from laboratory, radiographic, and clinical reports
- Leadership skills: These are essential to the NNP for influencing the nursing staff and improving practice standards
- Coaching skills: This skill is important for teaching and counseling parents/caregivers as well as the nursing staff regarding health care plans and procedures, as well as techniques particular to new born

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- Collaborative skills: Neonatal nurse practitioner are a part of an interdisciplinary team, hence they require this skill to work collaboratively with other nurses and allied healthcare professionals in providing patient care to infants
- Computer skills: They require a strong knowledge of Microsoft Office applications and database management systems that will aid them on the job
- Communication skills: They require effective writing and oral communication skills to provide education and counseling to parents and care-givers
- Interpersonal skills: Neonatal nurse practitioners require this skill for establishing rapport and building relationship with mothers whose infants are in NICU, as well as other nursing staff.