

New Standard and Specialty Protocols Streamlining the Collaborative Practice Process

Attention CRNP and CNM's

On April 14, 2014, the Alabama Board of Nursing (ABN) will roll-out new changes to collaborative practice standard and specialty protocols, standard and specialty formularies, and add three new on-line applications (termination of a collaborative practice, add a new collaboration and modify an existing collaboration). The changes are outlined in detail below. The new on-line 'Modify An Existing Collaboration' will not have a fee associated with changes.

Please go to the ABN website today and review the information under the Advanced Practice tab so that you can become acclimated to the changes as soon as possible. You can also review and make corrections, if needed, to your email address under the 'Name and Address Change' section on the ABN Home page.

The Alabama Board of Nursing restructured the Standard Protocols and Specialty Protocols for Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners (CRNP) and Certified Nurse Midwives (CNM). Examples of Standard Protocol are available on the Alabama Board of Nursing (ABN) website (www.abn.alabama.gov) under the Advanced Practice tab.

In the past, many duties/skills were requested individually. The Board incorporated numerous additional functions into the Standard Protocols, building on 30 years of successful practice by CRNPs and CNMs and 17 years of collaborative practice decisions with the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners. Many of these tasks and procedures are now incorporated into the Standard Protocol for each specific national certification specialty of a CRNP and CNM.

New CRNP/CNM Approval Letter Changes

Please note that the approval letters will not contain listings of individual skills, practice sites, covering physicians, or formularies approved. This information is readily available and printable from the ABN website through the review of the CRNP/CNM Individual Profile located at https://abn.alabama.gov/abnonline/crnpcnmprofile_login.aspx. **(Login with your RN license number and last four digits of your social security number).**

RN Skills Incorporated (limited)

Many RN level functions do not require individual request and approval by the ABN. Please note that several RN skills are marked with an asterisk (*) on the Standard Protocols. Several of these RN level skills are included on each Standard Protocol because CRNP/CNMs have requested these skills/procedures in the past. The Board cannot list every skill or procedure that a RN may perform. However, the Standardized Procedures list may be useful as a reference for listed procedures within the approved skill level. This list is available on the Alabama Board of Nursing (ABN) website (www.abn.alabama.gov), under the 'Nursing Practice tab'. If a skill has been previously approved for an RN (through the standardized procedure process) then the CRNP/CNM may perform the task in compliance with the facility policy, required education, training

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and competency validation by the collaborative practice physician, if indicated. RN level skills will not be displayed on the individual's CRNP/CNM profile.

The Standard Protocol Changes

All CRNP/CNMs will practice under a Standard Protocol identified for the certification specialty (population focus). The specific protocols provide a list of skills and procedures approved for the CRNP and CNM to perform based on the person's national certification specialty. The certification specific Standard Protocols are available for review under the Advanced Practice tab on the ABN website.

The physician in consultation with the CRNP/CNM determines which skills/procedures from the identified standard protocol list are allowable for the collaborative practice. The physician may choose to allow a skill by confirming and providing the education, training and competency validation. It is not necessary to request the skill individually because it is on the approved standard protocol list. Examples of Standard Protocol agreements are available on the ABN website (www.abn.alabama.gov) under the Advanced Practice tab. The examples are an aid to assist in documentation of collaborative skill approval and can be used for the CRNP/CNM practice site records (the ABN does not require a copy).

At all times, the nurse must be able to demonstrate the education, training and competency validation for each skill listed and approved by the collaborative physician for their practice and have the documents on file at the practice site.

Online Individual Profile (certification and standard protocol) Examples:

The CRNP on-line profile below reveals the national certification specialty 'Neonatal NP', which qualifies the CRNP for practice under the Neonatal Standard Protocol. Note: Be sure that we have your primary source verification on file from your certifying agency.

CertifyOrg	Specialty	CertificatonNumber	License Type	StartDate	EndDate
NATIONAL CERTIFICATION CORPORATION FOR OB/GYN/NEONATAL NURSING SPECIALTIES	NEONATAL NP	RAN104343130	CRNP	03/19/2009	03/31/2015

The CRNP on-line profile below reveals the 'collaboration details' with approval for the 'Standard Protocol', based on the specialty certification above and the Specialty Protocol Neonatal.

Start Date	Regularity	PRN	Scheduled Hours	Protocol	Formulary	Drug selection	Status	Skills	Create Date	Modified Date
05/03/2001	Routinely	No	20/Weekly	Standard NP Protocol; Neonatal	Standard Formulary		Active			02/14/2014

ABN Website (Standard Protocols)

It is important to review the Standard Protocols available on the ABN website. The standard protocols provide a list of skills and procedures that the CRNP and CNM have approval to perform based on the persons national certification specialty.

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The new certification-specific standard protocols listed below are available on the ABN website (www.abn.alabama.gov) under the Advanced Practice tab.

- Acute Care CRNP
- Adult Care CRNP
- Adult/Family Psych and Mental Health CRNP
- Certified Nurse Midwife
- Family CRNP
- Gerontology CRNP
- Hospice and Palliative Care CRNP
- Neonatal CRNP
- Oncology CRNP
- Pediatric Acute Care CRNP
- Pediatric CRNP
- Women's Health CRNP

Specialty Protocols

The ABN updated the Specialty Protocols, which includes a set of procedures. The Critical Care Protocol now has two protocols: Mid-Level and Advanced Level. **Note: The deletion of the Women's Health Specialty Protocol, the skills were added to the Women's Health Standard Protocol.**

The Specialty Protocols listed below are available on the ABN website (www.abn.alabama.gov) under the Advanced Practice tab.

- Neonatal
- Critical Care Middle Level
- Critical Care Advanced Level
- Orthopaedic
- CNM Midwife Specialty

All CRNP/CNMs may request the addition of the Specialty Protocol appropriate for their national certification specialty or others if indicated for their practice. Approval confirmation can be viewed and printed from the individual CRNP/CNM's profile (collaboration detail line contains this information). The individual profile is located on the ABN website at https://abn.alabama.gov/abnonline/crnpcnmprofile_login.aspx.

The CRNP or CNM who has approval for a designated specialty protocol is not required to submit individual requests for each listed skill/procedure. However, the documentation requirements prior to performing a skill/procedure as specified in the protocol have not changed.

The CRNP/CNM and Physician should have the qualifications, skill level, and education that the procedure requires. In addition, the physician agrees the skill is **appropriate for the collaborative practice** location, where the procedure is expected to be performed.

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Online Individual Profile (Specialty protocol) Examples:

The CRNP on-line profile below reveals the 'collaboration detail line', which demonstrates the approval of the 'Standard Protocol' in conjunction with 'Neonatal Specialty protocol' plus 'Standard Formulary'.

Start Date	Regularity	PRN	Scheduled Hours	Protocol	Formulary	Drug selection	Status	Skills	Create Date	Modified Date
05/03/2001	Routinely	No	20/Weekly	Standard N/P Protocol; Neonatal	Standard Formulary		Active			02/14/2014

The next example of a CRNP profile below demonstrates the approval for the Standard Protocol, Standard Formulary and additional skill/procedure "Cryotherapy".

Start Date	Regularity	PRN	Scheduled Hours	Protocol	Formulary	Drug selection	Status	Skills	Create Date	Modified Date
07/17/2009	Routinely	No	40/Weekly	Standard N/P Protocol	Standard Formulary		Active	Cryotherapy Of Non-Pigmented Superficial Lesions		03/06/2014

Additional Skill Requests

Skills previously approved by ABME and ABN for each certification specialty are available for request on the Modify An Existing Collaboration Application. The application includes a drop down menu selection.

Approval for Specialty Protocols or individual skills will not follow the CRNP/CNM from a current collaboration to the next new collaboration. An 'Add a New Collaboration Application' will need to be completed and include the request for the and specialty protocol/skills.

New Additional Skill Requests

To request new skills not available on the menu selection and not previously approved by the ABME and ABN will require the completion of the "**New Skill/Procedure Required Template**". **The template is available on the ABN website under the Advanced Practice tab.** Complete the Modify An Existing Collaboration Application on-line and the document download will be linked. The template is also available under the Advance Practice tab.

Standard/Specialty Formulary Changes and Controlled Drug Certificate Protocol

The Board updated the Standard Formulary for CRNP and CNM. The new formularies are separated into two categories. The categories are the Standard Formulary and Specialty Formulary. The Controlled Drug Certificate Protocol refers the CRNP/CNM to the ABME website for processing.

The Standard Formulary consists of standard prescriptive authority for CRNP and CNM and does not include any controlled substances. The authorized categories of drugs should reflect the needs of the medical practice in which the CRNP/CNM is working and

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must adhere to the standard, recommended doses of legend drugs. The profile will indicate, “ Standard Formulary” if prescriptive authority is granted.

The Specialty Formulary consists of specific drug classifications related to certain disease management. Gold compounds and Heavy Metals have been removed as an option on the specialty formulary and are no longer allowed. The Joint Committee determined that intravenous iron would be allowed as a request for heavy metals.

Controlled Substances: The ABN does not regulate the Qualified Alabama Controlled Substance Certificate (QACSC). The information is available on the ABME website at <http://www.albme.org/qacscupdate.html>.

Online Individual Profile (Formulary view) Examples:

The CRNP on-line profile below reveals the ‘collaborating detail line’, which demonstrates the approval for the Standard Protocol, Specialty Protocol Critical Care Advanced and Mid-Level, the ‘Standard Formulary’ in conjunction with the Specialty Formulary drugs antineoplastic and intravenous iron.

Start Date	Regularity	PRN	Scheduled Hours	Protocol	Formulary	Drug selection	Status	Skills	Create Date	Modified Date
07/29/2013	Routinely	No	40/Weekly	Standard N P Protocol; Critical Care Advanced; Critical Care Mid Level	Specialty Drugs	Antineoplastic Agents Intravenous Iron	Active		07/29/2013	03/05/2014

ABN Website (Formularies)

It is important to review the Standard/Specialty Formularies and the Controlled Drug Certificate Protocols available on the ABN website (www.abn.alabama.gov). The formulary provides a list of standard drugs that the CRNP and CNM have approval to use based on the persons national certification specialty.

- The Standard Formulary
- The Specialty Formulary
- The Controlled Drug Certificate Protocol

The Individual on-line Profile

The CRNP or CNM individual profile is available for review and print under the Advanced Practice tab on the ABN’s website (www.abn.alabama.gov). Enter the license number and last four digits of the social security number to view the CRNP/CNM name, address, national specialty certificate, collaborative practice information, approved skills, protocols, and formularies. The profile link is available below:

https://abn.alabama.gov/abnonline/crnpcnmprofile_login.aspx

New On-Line Applications

The new applications listed below are available on-line under the Licensing tab and will be used to make all changes. Paper applications will no longer be accepted.

- Initial CRNP Application
- Initial CNM Application

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- Terminate a Collaboration Application
- Add A New Collaboration
- Modify An Existing Collaboration (No fee to make changes to an existing application)

If you have questions related to the new changes please call us at (334) 293-5200.