

Collaborative Practice Update October 2014

CRNP & CNM Specialty Protocol and Requests for Additional Skills

The on-line collaborative practice applications for CRNPs and CNMs include Specialty Protocol options as well as additional skills for various practice settings. There seems to be confusion relating to the documents required for approval of Specialty Protocols and additional skills. The following information should address any questions or concerns:

Specialty Protocols such as, the CNM Specialty Protocol, CRNP procedures for Orthopaedics, Neonatal, and two levels of Critical Care privileges (Middle and Advanced) are available for request. The Specialty Protocols include instructions for the application process and required documentation. The documentation requirement has not changed and all required documents must be submitted to both ABN and the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners (ABME). Please follow the steps below to expedite the approval process.

Step One: The physician and the CRNP submit a request for approval to **ABN and ABME first** to request approval prior to any training. The ABN form “New Skill Request Template” is available on the ABN website, www.abn.alabama.gov (under the Advanced Practice tab) to aid in completing all information necessary for a prompt decision. **Remember if you are requesting a new skill that has never been approved for your certification the New Skill Template is required.**

Step Two: While awaiting approval from ABN and ABME to proceed with training, the collaborating physician and CRNP **must submit an application to ABN to MODIFY and or ADD a New Collaborative Practice agreement with the addition of the Specialty Protocol and/or additional skill (this can be done the same day).** The protocol or skill will be listed as pending at this time on the CNM's or CRNP's on-line profile.

Note: Upon approval by ABN and ABME, the physician and CRNP/CNM may start supervised practice to validate the nurse's competence in performing the procedure. A form for Documentation of Supervised Practice is available on the Advanced Practice page of the ABN website under “Examples of Documentation.” Include the new procedure in the Quality Monitoring plan for the CRNP or CNM.

Step Three: The Protocol/Skill request is considered and reviewed for full approval by the ABN, ABME, and Joint Committee.

Additional Individual Skill/Procedure Request: The applicant's APN specialty certification determines other procedures that may be requested individually. The application displays only the procedures available for the applicant's documented specialty certification. Check the box next to the procedure to indicate your specific

request. The individual procedures are listed on each individual application. Requests for individual skills should follow the same procedure as above.

For example, Subdermal Contraceptive Implant (such as Nexplanon®), is not in the Family NP Standard Protocol. However, the FNP may apply for this privilege if the collaborating physician is qualified to perform Subdermal Contraceptive Implant and it is appropriate to the population served by the collaboration.

Reminder: the Standard Protocols for CNM and each NP specialty certification are posted on the AP page of the website. **All CNM and CRNPs practice under the Standard protocol for their specialty certification.**