

Scope of Practice Barriers

Student's Name:

Institutional Affiliation:

1. Remove scope-of-practice barriers. Do you support the recommendation? Explain why or why not. In your explanation, provide one reference that supports your answer.

Yes, I support the recommendation to remove the scope of practice barriers for Advanced practice nurses (APNs). The recommendation suggests giving nurses with advanced training autonomy in decision-making and freedom to practice independently to the full extent of their training, without physicians' supervision (Woo, Lee & San Tam, 2017). Allowing nurses full practice authority is a significant step in addressing the rapidly increasing healthcare workforce shortage in the US. The shortage is attributed to the high rate of healthcare workforce retirement, resignation, and fewer learners willing to join medical courses. Allowing nurses to practice autonomy will ensure more patients can access services previously offered by doctors and physicians only (Yang et al., 2020).

Allowing APNs full practice authority also has the potential to meet the growing demand for healthcare services, facilitated by the increased access to healthcare attributed to the affordable care act, the rapidly aging of baby boomers, the rising prevalence of chronic illnesses requiring long term care, and the increasing prevalence of diseases that previously affected adults among pediatric populations (Institute of medicine, 2010). Such diseases include obesity and cardiovascular diseases, and they have increased the need for healthcare services.

Meeting the increasing healthcare demand with supply will significantly reduce health disparity regarding access to healthcare and outcomes. This is primarily because increasing supply will greatly result in reduced cost of healthcare services, thus facilitating access to quality healthcare in vulnerable and underserved communities. Advanced practice nurses (APNs)

an advanced law firm doctor providing the same services, allowing nurses full practice authority will significantly lower the cost of providing healthcare (Yang et al., 2019).

Nurses, advanced practice nurses (APNs) are equipped with essential skills for direct care provision and interaction with the patients. Therefore, they can deliver services previously provided by doctors in a better manner, thus facilitating patient satisfaction and a better experience. Studies show that there is a variance in health status in the US states that have allowed nurses full practice authority and those that have been reluctant in adopting the practice. States that have removed practice restrictions for nurses overall better, timely access to quality care, reduced rates of mortality and preventable mortality, decreased ER visits, and better health care outcomes (Woo, Lee & Sun Tan, 2017). These factors indicate nurses are qualified to practice independently without compromising the safety and quality of care. They indicate APNs' full practice authority has potential benefits in quality of care, especially in the value-based healthcare model.

References

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