

**Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner
Urgent Care System Protocol
Collaborative Practice Agreement**

Practice Settings: Urgent Care Centers that elect to participate in the Limited Protocol for fast-track full approval by the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners and the Alabama Board of Nursing

Eligible Certifications: Adult Acute Care, Adult Care, Family Practice, Adult-Gerontology, Gerontology, Adult-Gerontology Acute Care, Adult-Gerontology Primary Care, Pediatric Acute Care, and Pediatric Primary Care.

Clinical model: Clinics or facilities providing urgent care, at one or more locations, for patients with conditions who may desire immediate treatment but do not necessarily require an emergency room visit; walk-in primary care, DOT physical exams, lab testing, sports physicals, and vaccines.

Core Duties and Scope of Practice Specific to this Limited Protocol:

Practice is congruent with Alabama Board of Nursing standards of practice and ABN approved Standard Protocol for certified registered nurse practitioner's (CRNP) national specialty certification. Other duties may include but are not limited to the following:

- A. Arrange inpatient admissions, transfers, and discharges in accordance with established guidelines/standards developed within the collaborative practice; record appropriate patient progress notes; compile detailed narrative and case summaries; complete forms pertinent to patients' medical records.
 - B. Perform complete, detailed, and accurate health histories, review patient records, develop comprehensive medical and nursing status reports, and order laboratory, radiological, and diagnostic studies appropriate for complaint, age, race, sex, and physical condition of the patient.
 - C. Perform comprehensive physical examinations and assessments.
 - D. Formulate medical and nursing diagnoses and institute therapy or referrals of patients to the appropriate health care facilities and/or agencies and other resources of the community or physician.
 - E. Plan and initiate a therapeutic regimen which includes ordering legend drugs, medical care and supportive services in accordance with established protocols and institutional policies.
 - F. Institute emergency measures and emergency treatment or appropriate stabilization measures in situations such as cardiac arrest, shock, hemorrhage, convulsions, poisoning, and allergic reactions. In emergencies, initiate ventilatory support and breathing, if indicated.
 - G. Interpret and analyze patient data and results of laboratory and diagnostic tests.
 - H. Provide instructions and guidance regarding health care and health care promotion to patients, family and significant others.
 - I. Prescribe legend drugs authorized by the Medical Director and included on the formulary approved by the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners (ABME) and the Alabama Board of Nursing (ABN) for CRNPs.
- Proposed: May 2024

Limitations: No prescribing of controlled substances or performance of skills incongruent with the CRNP's ABN standard protocol and approved by collaborating physician.

Requirements:

1. A full-time, dedicated Medical Director who shall serve as the collaborating physician for all purposes of this limited protocol and who primarily practices and resides in Alabama, who shall be available, either in person or by telephone, to all clinic locations during all times of operation.
2. The Medical Director serving as the collaborating physician agrees to assume responsibility for the practice of any CRNP(s) approved under the limited protocol.
3. A signed covering agreement for each covering physician who agrees to be available in the Medical Director's absence.
4. There shall be a minimum of one (1) physician party to this limited protocol [as the Medical Director or covering physician(s)] for every 360 FTE hours per week that a CRNP or Physician Assistant is providing services at a clinic location.
5. Standard protocol/collaborative practice agreement, and quality assurance plan, signed by the Medical Director, on file with the Board of Medical Examiners and the Board of Nursing. The Medical Director is responsible for ensuring that all quality assurance required by Alabama Administrative Code § 610-X-5-.05 is completed for each CRNP practicing pursuant to this limited protocol; however, quality assurance reviews may be conducted by either the Medical Director or any covering physician who is a party to this protocol/collaborative practice agreement.
6. Shared EMR system with the capability for the Medical Director and all covering physicians to access patient records remotely and at all times.
7. The CRNP must comply with the standardized, pre-determined emergency plan appended to this protocol.
8. The facility will have a Transfer and Triage policy signed by the medical director.
9. Upon a determination by the ABN staff that the CRNP and the collaborating physician have filed complete applications and signed the collaborative agreement included in the standard and limited protocol and remitted all required fees, the protocol/collaborative practice agreement shall be deemed to have received fast-track full approval.

TO BE COMPLETED BY CRNP/MD
THE FOLLOWING FIELDS ARE REQUIRED. INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL BE RETURNED.

Attestation: We hereby certify under penalty of law of the State of Alabama that the foregoing information in this protocol is correct to the best of our knowledge and belief. We understand that we are jointly and individually responsible for complying with the rules and regulations pertaining to CRNP and the collaborative practice of CRNP with physicians.

_____	_____	_____
Print Collaborating Physician Name	Original Signature of Collaborating Physician	Date
_____	_____	_____
Print Name of CRNP	Original Signature of CRNP	Date

Note: This protocol is to be on file with the ABN and ABME and a copy of this protocol should be on file at the practice site.