Streamlined Path to Adult and Gerontological Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Certification

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Background

In July 2008, the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Consensus Work Group completed the Consensus Model for APRN Regulation
- The unintended outcome of this work is that all nationally certified Advanced Nurse Practitioner's currently hold a certification that is no longer offered
- Most of the Nurse Practitioners were educated at the MS level

The ANCC is recommending all APRN's be educated at the doctoral level

Additional issue arising recently is with COVID. The current practicing advanced practice nurses are in areas of practice they are considering a change in specialty

Project Goals

Provide plan of study to obtain AGPCNP certification

- Without unnecessary duplication of course work
- Obtain doctoral degree and the ability to serve in a faculty role
- Supports online education where appropriate for working adults

Will increase faculty and APRN workforce

Development of Pathway

Provides plan of study to update certification to AGPCNP and earn a DNP without unnecessary duplication of course work

- Plans available for ANP, GNP, ACNP
- Can complete in as few as 48 credits
- Prior doctoral degree: Post Doctoral Plans available in 13-29 credits

Strategies to facilitate streamline path

- Structured plan of study to address gaps in academic requirements for ANP-prepared nurse practitioner to avoid

- Targeted clinical experiences to develop expertise in the management of older adults with multiply complex comorbidities

- Development of online modules to supplement geriatric content in AGPCNP course work

- Development of a targeted marketing strategy to meet and recruit potential applicants

- Develop innovative strategies for recruiting students

Example of Plan of Study

Fall Semester	10 credits	Credits	Clinical/Practicum Hours
NRSG 790	Methods for Research Evidence-based Practice	3	
NDNP 795	Biostatistics for Evidence-based Practice	3	
NRSG 785	Professional Writing	1	
NDNP 804	Theory for Evidence-based practice	3	
Spring Semester	6 credits		
NDNP 807	Info. Systems and Technology Improvement/Transformation Health Care	2	
NDNP 808	Info. Systems and Technology Improvement/Transformation Health Care - Practicum	1	45
NURS 834	Translating Evidence to Practice	3	
Summer Semester	5 credits		
NDNP 720	Geriatric Syndromes Assessment and Management*****	2	
NURS 810	Evidence-based Health Policy	3	
Fall Semester	5 credits		
	May need to complete course work in Assessment, Pharmacology, and Pathophysiology*		
NDNP 814	Practice Leadership Within Complex Adaptive Health Care Systems	3	
NDNP 817	Practice Leadership Within Complex Adaptive Health Care Systems Clinical Practicum	2	90
Spring Semester	8 credits		
NDNP 810	DNP Project Identification	1	
NDNP 834	Diagnosis and Management 3: Acute and Chronic Complex Conditions	4	
NDNP 835	Diagnosis and Management 3: Clinical Practicum/Seminar**	3	135
NDNP 999	Extra Clinical hours****	2	90
Summer Semester	5 credit		
NDNP 811	DNP Project Development	1	
NDNP 836	Diagnosis and Management 4: Integration of Multiple Health Problems and Complex Clinical Syndromes	2	
NDNP 837	Diagnosis and Management 4: Integration of Multiple Health Problems and Complex Clinical Syndromes: Clinical Practicum/Seminar**	2	90
Fall Semester	5 credits		
NDNP 812	DNP Project Implementation	1	45
NDNP 838	Diagnosis and Management 5: Professional Practice Immersion: Clinical Practicum/Seminar**	4	180
Spring Semester	4 credit		
NDNP 813	DNP Project Evaluation/Dissemination	1	45
	Elective or additional clinical hours as needed for certification***	3	
Total Credits / Clinical and Practicum Hours		48 (50)	630 (720)

Evaluation and Sustainability

- Expect to see and increase in applications to AGPCNP program with specific emphasis on MS prepared NPs seeking to update their certification
- As part of a school wide evaluation plan the project will be evaluated via:
  - ❖ Course Evaluations
  - ❖ Curriculum committee review
  - ❖ Student progress and graduation rates
- Successes and lessons learned will be presented at the National Faculty Conferences to allow other Universities to recreate this method of increasing doctoral prepared APRNs

- The increased number of students and its seamless integration with existing programs will proved the support to continue the project at the completion of the funding cycle

Conclusions

- This project is in its second year and has focused on strategies to facilitate this streamlined path.
- Facilitating a route for nurses to increase their knowledge and skills in the management of complex older adults while updating their APRN specialty areas will ensure that Maryland can meet the primary care and mental health needs of an aging population
- Beyond the development of a workforce prepared to address the needs of an aging population, this will increase the number of nurse practitioners prepared at the doctoral level.
- This increase in doctoral-prepared nurses, in addition to improving quality of care, will help address the nursing faculty shortage

References

Criteria for Evaluation of NP Programs - National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (NONPF). (n.d.). Retrieved January 22, 2017, from http://www.nonpf.org/?page=15

The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health : Health and Medicine Division. (n.d.). Retrieved January 22, 2017, from http://www.nationalacademies.org/hmd/Reports/2010/TheFuture-of-Nursing-Leading-Change-Advancing-Health.aspx

Rowe, J. W., Fulmer, T., & Fried, L. (2016). Preparing for Better Health and Health Care for an Aging Population. JAMA, 316(16), 1643–1644. https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.2016.12335

Notes

ADULT, GERO, AND ACUTE CARE NPS:

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Qualify for certification or change your area of specialty through a streamlined plan of study.