



spotlight on health care

Good Health Care Just Got Easier To Find

(NAPSA)—There is good news for health care consumers. The once-frustrating search to find a health care provider who spends time talking with as well as providing high-quality care for patients is just a click away on a computer.

NPFinder.com helps you locate a nurse practitioner (NP) in your area. This new resource guides consumers to NP practice sites in communities around the country. The Web site allows the search by city, state or zip code as well as specialty. NPFinder.com simplifies the search for this exceptional health care provider—even providing a map pinpointing the location of the practice site.

More and more people are choosing NPs as their primary, acute and/or specialty health care provider. Research conducted for more than 40 years has established that NPs provide high-quality, cost-effective and personalized health care. Patients with NPs as their health care provider have fewer instances of emergency room visits, shorter hospital stays and often have lower medication costs.

NPs are unique health care providers—focusing on the whole person when treating specific health problems and educating their patients on the effects those problems will have on them and their loved ones. Outcomes from studies of NP practice support that the quality of care is at least equivalent to—and sometimes better than—that of physician care. The high level of satisfaction and confidence that patients have is evidenced by the approximate



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600 million visits that are made to NPs each year.

What is an NP?

- NPs have graduate, advanced education (most have master's degrees and many have doctorates) and advanced clinical training beyond their initial registered nurse preparation.
- NPs order, perform and interpret diagnostic tests; diagnose and treat acute and chronic conditions; and prescribe medications and other treatment.
- NPs are truly partners in the health care of their patients. In addition to clinical services, they focus on health promotion, disease prevention and health education and counseling, guiding patients to make smarter health and lifestyle choices.

To find out for yourself how an NP can be Your Partner in Health, visit NPFinder.com or www.aanp.org.