

Nurse Practitioner FAQ's

What if as an NP employed in the emergency department I am asked to replace an RN colleague in the emergency department?

In this particular scenario there is a higher risk of role confusion for clients and colleagues alike. It may be tempting to respond to clients' need as an NP since this is what would normally be expected of you when working as an NP in the ER, but since you are working as an RN, your role has to stay within the limits of the RN's scope of practice. The employer, health care team and patients must clearly understand that you are not authorized to provide services such as diagnosing and prescribing when working as an RN even if it's in within the same work setting as where you normally practice as an NP.

NANB does not support concurrent or simultaneous practice where within the same position, shift, or clinical situation, an individual practices both as an NP and as an RN. This would contribute to role confusion and blurring of accountability.