



# ACNP

## AMERICAN COLLEGE OF NURSE PRACTITIONERS

July 31, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

The American College of Nurse Practitioners is pleased to express our support for the Coalition for Patient's Rights (CPR) and its goals. We are proud to have been one of the original organizational members, and to unite with so many other health care professions who support a patient's access to the provider of their own choosing.

Nurse practitioners (NPs) are registered professional nurses who are prepared, through advanced graduate education and clinical training, to provide a wide range of health care services, including the diagnosis and management of common, as well as complex acute, chronic and critical conditions in individuals of all ages. Since 1965, NPs have been providing high quality, accessible, cost-effective care to millions of Americans. While NPs are reimbursed by all types of health care payors, NPs are more likely than physicians to provide care for Medicare and Medicaid patients and are often the only provider in rural and underserved areas. NPs provide indispensable health care services.

The American College of Nurse Practitioners represents more than 40,000 of the 150,000 actively practicing NPs across the country. Our members include national and state nurse practitioner organizations as well as individual NP members. Our mission is to ensure a solid policy and regulatory foundation that enables nurse practitioners to continue providing accessible, high quality healthcare. Along with other health care professions, the ACNP opposes the self-serving and divisive efforts of the AMA and their Scope of Practice Partnership to impose unnecessary restrictions on the legally authorized practice of other health care professions. These AMA efforts create barriers to patient access to care at a time when so many Americans go without even the most basic of health care services. By protecting the scope of practice for all health care professionals, the CPR helps to ensure that patients can continue to choose an NP to meet their health care needs.

Sincerely,

Thad Wilson  
President

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