

# NURSING PATHWAY

## Nurse Practitioner

### What They Do

Diagnose and treat acute, episodic, or chronic illness, independently or as part of a healthcare team. May focus on health promotion and disease prevention. May order, perform, or interpret diagnostic tests such as lab work and x rays. May prescribe medication. Must be registered nurses who have specialized graduate education.

### Typical Tasks:

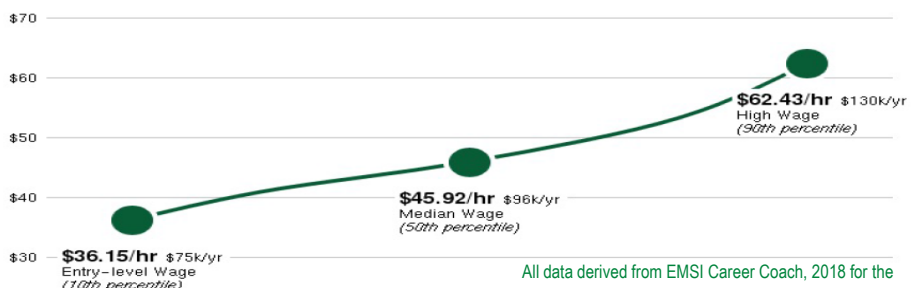
- Order, perform, or interpret the results of diagnostic tests such as complete blood counts (CBCs), electrocardiograms (EKGs), and radiographs (x-rays).
- Analyze and interpret patients' histories, symptoms, physical findings, or diagnostic information to develop appropriate diagnoses.
- Prescribe medication dosages, routes, and frequencies based on patients' characteristics such as age and gender.
- Develop treatment plans based on scientific rationale, standards of care, and professional practice guidelines.
- Diagnose or treat acute health care problems such as illnesses, infections, and injuries.
- Prescribe medications based on efficacy, safety, and cost as legally authorized.
- Counsel patients about drug regimens and possible side effects or interactions with other substances such as food supplements, over-the-counter (OTC) medications, and herbal remedies.
- Recommend interventions to modify behavior associated with health risks.
- Educate patients about self-management of acute or chronic illnesses, tailoring instructions to patients' individual circumstances.
- Detect and respond to adverse drug reactions, with special attention to vulnerable populations such as infants, children, pregnant and lactating women, and older adults.

**Growth Rate:** This career has grown by 7% over the last 2 years, and is expected to grow by 19% over the next 10 years. Currently 1,132 Nurse Practitioners are employed in the region. There are 262 Nurse Practitioners who are age 55 and older. They will likely retire within the next 10 years, creating a demand for new workers.

### How well does it pay?

Normal pay for Nurse Practitioners is \$95,523 per year. That is about \$7,960 per month, or \$45.92 per hour. New workers generally start around \$75,187, while highly experienced workers can earn as much as \$129,858.

Wage



All data derived from EMSI Career Coach, 2018 for the Charlotte & surrounding areas within 50 miles radius

### Typical Education Level

Master's degree

### Related Degrees

Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)

### Similar Careers

Physician Assistant (\$96k/yr)

Nurse Midwife (\$102k/yr)

Clinical Nurse Specialist (\$60k/yr)

Obstetrician and Gynecologist (\$200k/yr)

Family & General Practitioner (\$203k/yr)

Critical Care Nurse (\$60/yr)

Pediatrician, General (206k/yr)

Physical Therapist (\$83k/yr)

Registered Nurse (\$60k/yr)