



Nurse Practitioner Information Fact (1)

Question: Did you know that there are close to 5,000 solutions to the primary health care shortage facing Canada today?

Answer: Yes - there are over 4,800 nurse practitioners licensed in Canada, and NPs have been providing primary care for close to 50 years. There are 27 NPs on PEI.

NPs are proven, expert, patient-centred clinicians, and they are the health care providers of choice for many people because of their unique combination of medical and nursing expertise and skills.

NPs diagnose and treat acute and chronic conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure, infections and injuries; they order, perform, interpret and supervise diagnostic tests such as lab work and x-rays; and they prescribe medications and other treatments. In addition, NPs partner with their patients, providing health education and counselling, thus guiding patients to make smarter health and lifestyle choices, which ultimately may lead to reduced health care costs.