Many nurses pursue higher education without even knowing all of the possible degrees available to them. To help you or your staff make an informed decision, this session will clarify each of the different advanced practice nursing roles, as well as other advanced roles such as clinical nurse leader, doctor of nursing practice, and the research doctorate. You’ll come away with a better understanding of how each relates to your career trajectory, as well as how to use this information in an institution to direct professional development.

**Content Area:** Education

**Content Level:** Intermediate

**Speaker:**
Aaron Begue, MS, RN, FNP  
Director of Advanced Practice  
James Cancer Hospital  
Columbus, OH  

**Full Disclosure:**  
Nothing to Disclose

**Objectives:**  
At the end of this session, participants will be able to:  
1. Distinguish between the different advanced practice nursing roles and what each entails.  
2. List other advanced nursing roles, including the CNL, DNP, and PhD roles.  
3. Discuss the use of career trajectory tracks in professional development.

**Content Outline:**  
I. Introduction/background  
II. Identification of roles  
   A. Advanced practice nurse (APN)  
      1. Nurse practitioner (NP)  
      2. Clinical nurse specialist (CNS)  
      3. Certified registered nurse anesthetist(CRNA)  
      4. Certified nurse midwife (CNM)  
         a. Education required  
         b. Certification required  
         c. Length of time involved  
   B. Clinical nurse leader (CNL)  
   C. Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP)  
   D. Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)  
III. Putting it all together

A. Career trajectory for professional development  
B. Role scenarios  
   1. Who fits this role?

**Bibliography:**  
Significance

- Epidemiology of U.S. Nursing
  - 2.8 million nurses
  - 250,000 APN’s
  - 150,000 graduates each year
  - 28,000 RN’s in 2011
  - 24,000 Master degrees
  - 2200 Doctoral degrees

- Demographics
  - Average age of 36 in 1980
  - Average age of 47 now
  - 26.6% are under age 40
  - 1/3 are over age 50

Institutes of Medicine Report

- Nurses should practice to the full extent of their education and training
  - This recommendation was made to prepare nurses for the more complex care needed by sicker patients and the sophisticated new technologies available for providing care.

- Nurses should achieve higher levels of education and training through an improved education system that promotes seamless academic progression

Roles and Skills

Nurse Roles
- Leader
- Negotiator
- Facilitator
- Change agent
- Communicator

Skills Needed To Advance
- Leadership
- Mentorship
- Critical thinking
- Clinical decision making

Advanced Practice Nurses (APN)

- Master’s level prepared
- Licensure dependent
- Require additional board certification
- Types
  - Nurse Practitioner (NP)
  - Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)
  - Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM)
  - Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA)

Nurse Practitioner (NP)

- Must have advanced degree
  - Master’s or Doctoral
- National certification
- Periodic peer review
- Clinical outcome evaluations
- Code of ethics for practice
### Oncology Nursing Society 39th Annual Congress

**Sunday, May 4**

#### NP Core Competencies

- **Scientific Foundation**
- **Leadership**
- **Quality**
- **Practice**
- **Technology and Information Literacy**
- **Policy**
- **Health Delivery Systems**
- **Ethics**
- **Independent Practice**

#### NP

- **Practice locations**
  - Rural
  - Urban
  - Suburban
  - Clinics
  - Hospitals
  - Emergency rooms
  - Urgent care sites
  - Private physician practices
  - Private NP practices
  - Nursing homes
  - Schools
  - Colleges
  - Public health departments
  - Pharmaceutical companies

- **Services provided**
  - Ordering, performing and interpreting diagnostic tests
  - Diagnosing and treating acute and chronic conditions
  - Prescribing medications and other treatments
  - Managing patients’ overall care
  - Counseling
  - Educating patients on disease prevention and positive health and lifestyle choices

#### Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)

- **Must have advanced degree**
  - Masters or Doctorate
- **National Certification**
- **Periodic peer review**

#### CNS Core Competencies

- **Direct Care**
- **Consultation**
- **System Leadership**
- **Collaboration**
- **Coaching**
- **Research**
- **Ethical Decision Making, Moral Agency and Advocacy**

#### CNS

- **Practice locations**
  - Rural
  - Urban
  - Suburban
  - Clinics
  - Hospitals
  - Emergency rooms
  - Home health care
  - Long term care
  - Nursing homes
  - Public Health centers
  - Ambulatory care
  - Pharmaceutical companies

- **Services provided**
  - Direct patient care
  - Staff development
  - Improving healthcare system
  - Improving patient outcomes
  - Care coordination
  - Monitoring quality indicators
  - Prescriptive authority**
  - Clinical expert
  - Researcher
  - Educator
  - Consultant
  - Leader

#### Other Advance Practice Nurses

**Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM)**

- Masters or Doctorate degree
- National Certification
- **Practice locations**
  - Rural
  - Urban
  - Suburban
  - Private practice
  - Clinics
  - Birth centers
  - Health clinics
  - Home birth services

- **Services provided**
  - Managing births
  - Reproductive health visits
  - Reproductive health visits
  - Reproductive health visits
  - Primary gynecologic care
  - Primary obstetrical care
  - Primary obstetrical care
  - Family planning needs
  - Treatment of sexually transmitted diseases

**Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA)**

- Masters or Doctorate degree
- National Certification
- **Practice locations**
  - Hospital surgical suites
  - Obstetrics delivery rooms
  - Critical access hospitals
  - Ambulatory surgical centers
  - Offices of physicians
  - Outpatient surgery
  - Ambulatory surgery centers
  - Ambulatory surgery centers
  - Ambulatory surgery centers
  - Public health services
  - Vet’s services

- **Services provided**
  - Administration of every type of anesthesia for every type of procedure
Other Advanced Degree Titles

• Clinical Nurse Leader
• Nurse Educator
• Nurse Researcher
• Doctor of Philosophy
• Doctorate of Nursing Practice

DNP vs. PhD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Doctor of Nursing Practice</th>
<th>PhD in Nursing</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Nursing Practice</td>
<td>Nursing Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree Objectives</td>
<td>To create nursing leaders who are able to translate evidence gained through nursing research into practice, improve systems of care and measure outcomes of patient groups, populations and communities</td>
<td>To prepare nurse scientists to develop new knowledge for the science and practice of nursing. Nurse researchers will lead research teams, design, and conduct research studies and disseminate knowledge for nursing and related disciplines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curriculum Focus</td>
<td>Translation of evidence to practice, transformation of health care, health care leadership and advanced specialty practice</td>
<td>Translation of evidence to practice, transformation of health care, health care leadership and advanced specialty practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sample Core Courses</td>
<td>Evidence based practice, applied statistics, health care improvement, financial management, budget planning, effective leadership, health system transformation</td>
<td>Philosophy of science, theory development, advanced research methods and statistics, data analysis, longitudinal and qualitative research methods, chronic illness and care systems</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Putting it all together

• Creating a career trajectory
  – Where and when to begin
  – Pathways
    • Education
      – Definition
      – Roles
    • Research
      – Definition
      – Roles
    • Clinical care
      – Definition
      – Roles
    • Leadership
      – Definition
      – Roles