



BOX BUTTE GENERAL HOSPITAL

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To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is being written to express my full support for expanding the scope of practice for mid-level nurse practitioners (NPs) in Nebraska to include fluoroscopy supervision. As a practicing urologist at Box Butte General Hospital, I have had the privilege of working closely with Nurse Practitioners, that are vital to providing care to the rural population in the state of Nebraska and the ability to assist in providing care to patients suffering disorders such as renal calculi, stress, and urge incontinence.

Sacral nerve stimulation (SNS) trials are a crucial diagnostic tool in the management of patients with urinary and fecal incontinence, as well as pelvic pain syndromes. Mid-level providers, both PA's and NP's, with the proper training can initiate a SNS trial as it is within the scope of practice to be able to perform. These trials can be performed "blind," but why should my nurse practitioner not be able to have the same capability and access to advanced imaging for something that should be in her scope of practice? I prefer to know that I have placed a trial lead correctly which can potentially save a patient an advanced trial. This is good for both the patient and for the facility in the essence of giving timely care. Her ability to assess patient suitability for SNS trials, perform the procedure under my supervision, and manage post-procedural care can greatly enhance our clinical workflows and improve timely access to interventions due to my schedule being booked out 6-8 weeks.

In my home state of Colorado, both PA's and NP's are allowed to operate and supervise fluoroscopy. I do not see why Nebraska should be any different in this scope with the proper education and training.

I urge you to consider the benefits of expanding the scope of practice for mid-level nurse practitioners in Nebraska. Urology is a very busy profession and wait times to get into a urology clinic are ever-growing. Due to working in satellite facilities in Nebraska, I heavily rely on the NPs and nursing/clinic staff to be my eyes and ears. Having the necessary tools on site, but unable to use them due to a formality is a hinderance to my patient population. This change will not only improve efficiency within our healthcare system but also enhance patient satisfaction and outcomes by ensuring prompt and expertly managed interventions.

Thank you for considering this important matter.

Sincerely,

Dr. Derek Zukosky
Urology
Box Butte General Hospital