#### Show Me The... Records

Satellite Conference and Live Webcast Wednesday, November 15, 2017 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Central Time

Produced by the Alabama Department of Public Health Distance Learning and Telehealth Division

# **Faculty**

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## **Topics of Discussion**

- Physician Collaboration
- Documentation Guidelines
- Dissecting Medical Malpractice Cases
- How to Prevent Lawsuits

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## **Topics of Discussion**

- Regulatory / Licensure Requirements
- Dealing with High Risk Patients
- Patient Confidentiality

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# Physician Collaboration Ala. Code § 34-21-81(5)

A formal relationship between one or more certified registered nurse practitioners and certified nurse midwives and a physician or physicians under which these nurses may engage in advanced practice nursing...

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# Physician Collaboration Ala. Code § 34-21-81(5)

The term collaboration does not require direct, on-site supervision of the activities of a certified registered nurse practitioner or a certified nurse midwife by the collaborating physician

# Physician Collaboration Ala. Code § 34-21-81(5)

The term does require such professional oversight and direction as may be required by the rules and regulations of the State Board of Medical Examiners and the Board of Nursing

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# Medical Record Documentation

Medical record documentation chronicles pertinent facts, findings, and observations about an individual's health history, including past and present illnesses, examinations, tests, treatments and outcomes

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# Medical Record Documentation

- Critical for physician evaluation
- · Essential for continuity of care
- Must be legible, accurate and complete

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### What is Malpractice?

Malpractice is the failure of a professional to exercise that degree of skill and learning commonly applied by the average prudent, reputable member of the profession

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# What is Negligence?

Negligence is the predominant legal theory of malpractice liability. Negligence includes failure to follow up, failure to refer when necessary, failure to disclose necessary information to a patient, and failure to give necessary care

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# Essential Elements of a Malpractice Case

- The Nurse Practitioner owed the plaintiff a duty
- The Nurse Practitioner's conduct fell below the standard of care
- The Nurse Practitioner's conduct caused the plaintiff's injury
- · The plaintiff was injured

# Dissecting A Medical Malpractice Case

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#### **Case Studies**

Example 1
Missed Diagnosis

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# **Case Studies**

Example 2

Failure To Refer

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# **Case Studies**

Example 3

**Medication Error** 

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#### **Case Studies**

Example 4

**Failure To Perform Routine Screening** 

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## Reduce You Risk of Being Involved in a Medical Malpractice Case

Appropriate documentation and what opposing counsel is looking for in the records

# Communications with Lawyers

- Your Lawyer
- Opposing Counsel

Tips for Handling High Risk Patients

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## **Patient Confidentiality**

- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)
- Trending Concerns

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#### **NP Statistics**

- There are more than 234,000 nurse practitioners (NPs) licensed in the U.S.
- 97.7% of NPs have graduate degrees
- 89.2% of NPs are certified in an area of primary care

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#### **NP Statistics**

- 95.8% of NPs prescribe medications, and those in full-time practice write an average of 23 prescriptions per day
- NPs hold prescriptive privileges, including controlled substances in all 50 states and D.C.

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## **NP Statistics**

- The majority (61.4%) of NPs see 3 or more patients per hour
- Nurse Practitioners have been in practice an average of 11 years
- The average age of NPs is 49 years

# **Contact Information:**

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