

Dr. Ernster and classmates,

Discuss how advanced practice nurses use population health competencies to identify and address the needs of their client population.

Advanced practice nurses are critical in promoting population health by utilizing their specialized competencies. They recognize that a population encompasses a discrete group of individuals across various local, regional, national, and global settings, including public health, acute care, ambulatory care, and long-term care settings. They aim to collaborate with many stakeholders to determine the appropriate health priorities among the different population groups. They create action plans that will address and identify the specific needs of a population while providing diversity, equality, inclusion, and ethics, as well as advocating for their patients.

Describe how advanced practice nurses can collaborate with other healthcare professionals and community stakeholders to address the needs of populations.

Advanced practice nurses (APNs) are crucial in collaborating with other healthcare providers to address the population's diverse needs. There are many different avenues through which they collaborate with healthcare providers and community stakeholders. The APN works alongside physicians, nurses, social workers, case managers, therapists, and other community members (Sarzynski & Barry, 2019). They frequently participate with these interdisciplinary teams to make the appropriate healthcare decisions. They advocate for policy changes that affect the population on a local, state, and national level (Beverly, 2023). Their goal is to provide a comprehensive multidisciplinary approach to all patient care while addressing physical, emotional, and social aspects. APNs assist with the diagnosing and managing of many patient conditions as well as figuring out strategies for the patients to be proactive in their care.

Discuss challenges advanced practice nurses face when integrating population health competencies into their practice, including strategies to overcome these barriers.

There could be many reasons that an advanced practice nurse could encounter challenges when integrating population health competencies into their practice. Being a new APN could limit their ability due to the decreased understanding of community health, social determinants, and health disparities among their population due to the lack of education during their nursing programs. Lacking awareness and recognition of health inequalities could be a potential challenge, and increasing education concerning cultural competence and disparities and reducing inequalities could be a strategy to help with this challenge. They could have limited resources that will increase their challenge to help with population health initiatives. We could help deter this by advocating for increased funding and resource allocation through the local, state, and national government entities. There are many other challenges that APNs encounter, such as resisting change in an ever-changing environment, having constraints on their time and responsibilities, and barriers to policies. APNs can overcome many challenges by advocating for change,