

American Nurses Association
8515 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3492
Tel (301) 628-5000
Fax (301) 628-5001
www.NursingWorld.org

NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: Michael Nicol, 301-628-5024
Michael.nicol@ana.org
Mary McNamara, 301-628-5198
Mary.mcnamara@ana.org
www.nursingworld.org/rnrealnews/

MEDIA ALERT:
**ANA President Reinforces Unwavering Commitment to
Health Reform, Touts Critical Need to Expand Role of Nurse Practitioners**

- WHO:** Rebecca M. Patton, MSN, RN, CNOR, president of the American Nurses Association (ANA), the largest nursing association in the U.S. President Patton was one of *Modern Healthcare's* 100 Most Powerful People in Healthcare in 2009, and has appeared by invitation twice with President Obama at White House press conferences to support his administration's push for health care reform.
- WHAT:** President Patton engages an expected gathering of more than 400 nurse practitioners on the critical role of NPs in health care reform. Nurse practitioners (and all advanced practice registered nurses) represent the one perfectly logical and obvious solution to a tiresome rationale for inaction on health care reform; that is, that our health care system lacks the capacity to care for the millions of new people who will receive health care coverage once we achieve desperately-needed reform of a broken health care system.
- WHEN:** Friday, March 5, 2010; 8:00-9:15am
- WHERE:** Virginia Council of Nurse Practitioners (VCNP) 2010 Annual Conference, Hyatt Regency, 1800 Presidents Street, Reston, VA 20190.
- WHY:** Right now, there are organized, well-funded efforts at work to put barriers in place that would restrict advanced practice registered nurses from practicing to the full extent of their licensing, training, and capabilities. Unfortunately, these efforts come at a time when nearly 250,000 highly qualified nurse practitioners stand ready and able to provide expert primary health care services for an estimated 31 million individuals who will finally have the health insurance they deserve once meaningful health reform is enacted. You will want to hear the facts on this concerning development, and on the battle ANA is fighting on every front to ensure that every individual in this country has access to high-quality health care from the qualified provider of their choice.

ABOUT THE AMERICAN NURSES ASSOCIATION (ANA):

The ANA is the only full-service professional organization representing the interests of the nation's 2.9 million registered nurses through its constituent member nurses associations, its organizational affiliates, and its workforce advocacy affiliate, the Center for American Nurses. The ANA advances the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting the rights of nurses in the workplace, projecting a positive and realistic view of nursing, and by lobbying the Congress and regulatory agencies on health care issues affecting nurses and the public.

