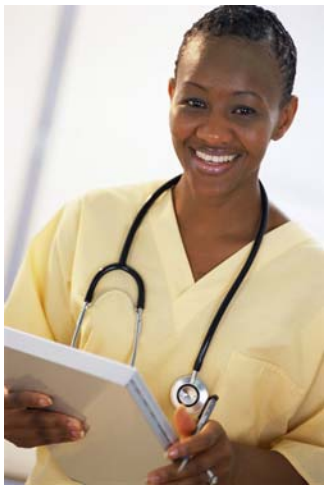
Pediatric Endocrinology Nurse Practitioner



A Pediatric Endocrinology Nurse Practitioner is a long name for a nurse with advanced training who sees young patients with diabetes and other hormone problems. This type of nurse teaches children and their families how to cope with the problems of their disease, checks patients for any health problems and teaches children and their parents about healthy lifestyle choices.

Career Path

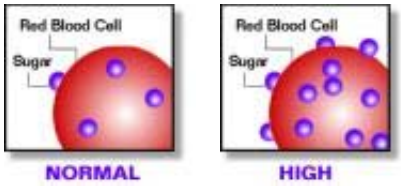
In high school, students wishing to go into nursing must pay close attention in math and science. A Nurse Practitioner must complete a nursing program in college and then get a Masters Degree. The extra training allows the Nurse Practitioner to make important healthcare decisions for their patients!

Growing up with diabetes can be very challenging, but it is easier with the help of a skilled nurse practitioner. A nurse practitioner can do many of the same things that a doctor would do, such as diagnose medical problems and prescribe medicines to take care of those problems. Nurse practitioners also spend time teaching patients how to stay healthy. Nurse practitioners enjoy getting to know their patients and the patient's families and making a positive difference in their lives.

A nurse practitioner must know a lot about medicine and human health, but it is just as important to be a good listener. Nurses can tell a lot about how to help a patient by listening carefully to them talk about their problems and successes. To be a good nurse, you must care a lot about your patients and their families and work hard to help them live healthy lives.

Technology Spotlight

At every visit with a nurse practitioner, young patients with diabetes discuss their blood sugar levels for the last three months. If blood sugars are too high, the patient can develop serious problems. A new kind of technology allows the nurse practitioner to find out if their patient's average blood sugars are at a good level. The nurse takes a very small sample of the patient's blood and puts it into a machine that can tell the patient's average blood sugars over the last three months in just a few seconds. This helps the nurse adjust the patient's diet, exercise routine and medications to keep blood sugars in check. What else might a nurse practitioner want to know about a patient? Can you think of a technology that would tell the nurse about this?



The A1c test tells if a person has had too much sugar in their blood over the last 3 months.

This machine shows a patient's A1C level. The photo shows that this patient's level is 6.7. This is a good level for a person with diabetes.