

ACR recently joined the AMA Scope of Practice Partnership (SOPP) Steering Committee. The Partnership includes 105 national, state and specialty medical associations and concentrates the resources of organized medicine to oppose scope of practice expansions by allied health professionals that threaten the health and safety of the public. Moreover, the SOPP is committed to creating a true partnership that operates by consensus and functions in a cooperative and coordinated manner. The SOPP accomplishes this through a wide range of efforts, including a combination of legislative, regulatory and judicial advocacy, programs of information, research, and education.

The AMA's Health Workforce Mapper helps to illustrate that, in states where APRNs and other ancillary personnel can practice independently, they are likely to practice in the same markets as physicians refuting the argument of practicing in underserved or rural areas. Scope of Practice resources include education and training modules on nonphysicians. By comparison, physicians complete between 10,000 and 16,000 hours of clinical education and training—four years in medical school and another three to seven years of residency training whereas nurse practitioners, for example, complete between 500–720 hours of clinical training during two or three years of graduate-level education.

Additional issue briefs and media tools from the Physician-led Team Care and the Truth in Advertising campaigns are available on www.amascopeofpractice.org.