

Survey Insights: Physician-Led Care

Nurse practitioners cite high satisfaction and key benefits of physician-led care

New findings from an American Medical Association survey suggest that an overwhelming majority of nurse practitioners (NPs) practice as part of a physician-led team, with nearly nine in ten respondents expressing satisfaction with this model. Nurse practitioners also value working alongside physicians, notably citing collaboration on complex and routine cases, mentorship, and patient safety as significant benefits. These results affirm the critical role of physician leadership in the delivery of high-quality, safe patient care.

Nurse practitioners tend to work on physician-led teams

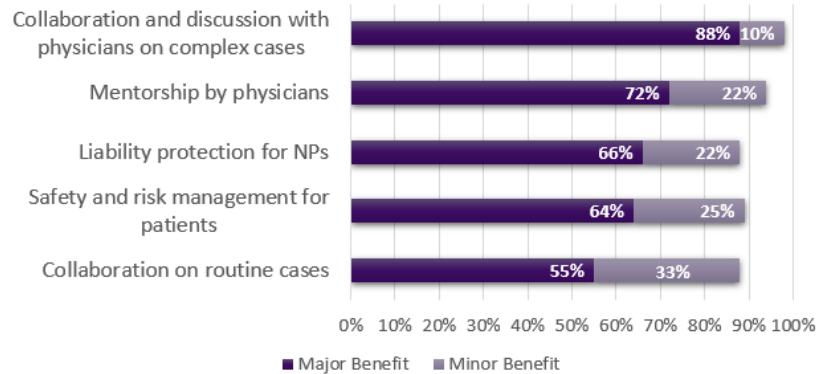
In a national survey of more than 500 nurse practitioners, **95 percent report practicing on a physician led team**. This includes respondents who indicate they work with a collaborating or supervising physician (78%), work as part of a physician-led team (75%), and/or have a written practice agreement with a physician (72%).

Nurse practitioners are overwhelmingly satisfied with physician-led care models

Nurse practitioners value working with physicians. Of nurse practitioners on physician-led teams, **88% are satisfied**, with over half stating they are “very satisfied.”

Nurse practitioners value physician mentorship and collaboration

Nurse practitioner respondents highly value working with physicians. In fact, 98% said collaborating and discussing complex patient cases with physicians is a benefit, with 89% citing it as a major benefit. Additionally, 94% value physician mentorship, and 89% cite patient safety as a key benefit to physician-led care. Additional reported benefits include liability protections and collaboration on routine cases.



Policy Implications

The AMA has long supported physician-led care, as research consistently demonstrates that physician involvement leads to better patient outcomes and ensures the highest standards of safety. This new survey data shows that nurse practitioners themselves overwhelmingly value physician leadership on care teams.

As lawmakers consider changes to scope of practice laws, these findings reaffirm the importance of keeping physicians central to patient care teams – not only for the satisfaction and confidence it brings to nurse practitioners, but also because patients want and expect physicians to be involved in their care. Maintaining strong physician leadership in health care teams is essential to ensuring the highest standards of quality, safety, and patient trust.

Data is from a national survey conducted by Public Opinion Strategies from July 16-August 4, 2025. The survey consisted of 502 nurse practitioners with a credibility interval of ± 4.99 percent