

# Department of Family & Community Medicine

## Nurse Practitioner Services

St. Michael's Hospital  
Academic Family Health Team  
Youth Advisory Council



A Nurse Practitioner (NP) is a registered nurse with advanced education (typically a master's) focusing on holistic, collaborative care. At St. Michael's Hospital, all NPs must have a master's degree.



There are four types of NP specialty certificates in Ontario:

- NP – Primary Health Care
- NP – Adult
- NP – Pediatrics
- NP – Anesthesia

### Services Provided

NPs work both autonomously and in collaboration with other members of the health care team to provide services including but not limited to:

- Preventative health care (e.g., annual physical examinations, prenatal care, etc.)
- Chronic disease management (e.g., diabetes, asthma, COPD, etc.)
- Episodic care (e.g., acute illness or follow-up visits)
- Complex case management (e.g., patients with multiple health and/or psychosocial needs)

Currently, NPs may prescribe all medications, including controlled substances and order diagnostic tests.

### How To Refer

A formal referral is not required. A patient may self-refer or be referred by another member of the interdisciplinary team. The reason for the referral is generally communicated verbally or written in the patient's chart.

