



**National  
Association of  
Neonatal  
Nurses**

**National Association of  
Neonatal Nurse Practitioners**



*A division of NANN*

**“The advocate  
and leading  
change agent for  
the neonatal  
nursing profession  
to optimize care  
for neonates and  
their families.”**

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# About NANN/NANNP

**The National Association of Neonatal Nurses (NANN)** is the professional voice that shapes neonatal nursing through excellence in practice, education, research, and professional development. Founded in 1984, NANN represents the community of neonatal nurses who provide evidence-based care to healthy newborns as well as low- and high-risk neonates.

**The National Association of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners (NANNP)**, a division of NANN, is the unifying voice of neonatal nurse practitioners, and promotes quality, cost-effective health care for neonates, infants, and families.



**Neonatal nursing** is a subspecialty of nursing that encompasses care of both healthy newborn infants and critically ill neonates born with a variety of problems such as prematurity, infection, birth defects, and cardiac malformations.

**Neonatal nurse practitioners (NNP)** are advanced practice neonatal nurses who work with the multidisciplinary health care team to provide comprehensive care to infants in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). The NNP role requires a graduate degree because these professionals are trained to provide complex health care management of neonates and perform critical care procedures.

**The neonatal period is defined as the first month of life**, however, infants cared for in a NICU may require care for many months before they are discharged from the hospital. During this difficult time for the infants and their families, neonatal nurses and nurse practitioners provide highly technical and sophisticated care to their tiny patients while providing the infants' families with education, support, and anticipatory guidance regarding their child's illness.

**NANN and NANNP join with the general nursing community in advocating for the following critical health care and health care related issues:**

✦ Nursing workforce development programs (Title VIII) and solutions to the nursing and faculty shortages.

✦ Access to care for women of child-bearing age, infants, and children, as well as research to prevent prematurity, birth defects, and infant mortality.

✦ Legislation related to educational requirements and reimbursement for nurse practitioners, the needs of aging nurses in the workplace, maintaining patient safety, improving public health, disaster preparedness and response, and general health care reform.