

NSRH Applauds Findings of Institute of Medicine Report on the Safety and Quality of Abortion Care in the US.

In a landmark study, the Institute of Medicine has released a comprehensive report, “The Safety and Quality of Abortion Care in the United States.” The report unambiguously concludes that **“The clinical evidence clearly shows that legal abortions in the United States – whether by medications, aspiration, dilation and evacuation (D&E), or induction – are safe and effective.”** The study also highlights that restrictions on abortion care reduce safety.

The report examines evidence related to safety and quality of abortion services by Advanced Practice Clinicians, including Nurse Midwives, Nurse Practitioners, and Physician Assistants, and unequivocally highlights the important role that these clinicians can and do play in abortion provision.

“Both trained physicians and advanced practice clinicians (APCs) (physician assistants [PAs], certified nurse midwives [CNMs], and nurse practitioners [NPs]) can safely and effectively provide medication and aspiration abortions... Induction abortions can be provided by clinicians (OB/GYNs, family medicine physicians, and nurse-midwives) with training in managing labor and delivery.”

Our Advanced Practice Clinician community has been hard at work for years, alongside our physician colleagues and independently in full scope practice, in abortion care. Advanced Practice Clinicians play a critical role in referral, counseling, diagnostic testing and ultrasound, informed consent, anesthesia medication and procedure provision, post-abortion care, and contraception. NSRH applauds recent successes in expanding legal and safe abortion provision and access including [California’s Assembly Bill 154 authorizing APCs to perform manual vacuum aspiration](#), and new challenges in Maine and Montana to state regulations that limit Advanced Practice Clinicians from providing abortion care within their scopes of practice.

NSRH looks forward to being part of strategic initiatives to expand the scope of practice for Advanced Practice Clinicians and to partner with those advocating for training and advocacy within all clinicians for the integration of the full spectrum of reproductive health care into practice. [Donate to our work here.](#)

In solidarity,

***Stephanie Tillman, CNM
Chair, Board of Directors
Nurses for Sexual and Reproductive Health***

[Nurses for Sexual and Reproductive Health](#) envisions a world in which all people have access to just and dignified full-spectrum reproductive and sexual health care. Our mission is to provide students, nurses and midwives with education and resources to become skilled care providers and social change agents in sexual and reproductive health and justice.

Resources

- Full report available publicly at [nationalacademies.org](https://www.nationalacademies.org)

- [Register for a webinar reviewing the report](#), March 23rd at 12:00pm EST
- Advanced Practice Clinician (APC) Toolkit – [Providing Abortion Care: A Professional Toolkit for Nurse-Midwives, Nurse Practitioners, and Physician Assistants](#)