Position Statement: Family Nurse Practitioners in Acute Care Settings

The Georgia Board of Nursing (“Board”) supports the changes to the Family Nurse Practitioner (“FNP”) credentialing process related to those FNPs working in the acute care environment. The following is guidance from the Board to current FNPs working in acute care:

1) **The Board supports FNPs currently practicing in acute care settings allowing the FNP to remain employed in those settings after January 1, 2015 with the following stipulations:**
   a. FNPs must demonstrate competence in their practice setting in acute care to continue working in acute care according to the facility assessment of practice.
   b. FNPs not certified in Acute Care should maintain current FNP certification and current RN and APRN licenses.
   c. FNPs not certified in acute care should obtain part of the required CEUs in care of patients in the acute care setting each RN and certification renewal period. FNP should seek guidance from the certifying body as to how many hours would be needed to meet requirement.
   d. If certification or licensure lapses, FNPs would have to become certified in Acute Care before returning to work in an acute care setting. It is most important to maintain certification and RN licensure.
   e. The Board supports current FNPs working in acute care settings having the option to change positions or facilities in the acute care setting if qualified for the practice setting.

2) The Board supports the change in certification requirements for new FNPs and current FNPs not working in acute care as of January 1, 2015. Certification requirements are determined by the certifying bodies.

3) **The Board highly recommends FNPs currently working in acute care organizations to begin the process of completing requirements to allow for meeting the full certification requirements as Acute Care NP in the future.**