



Florida Nurse Practitioner Network

ADVOCACY THROUGH UNITY & LEADERSHIP SINCE 2002

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUGUST 29, 2025

Insurance Terminations Threaten Patient Access and Undermine Florida's Autonomous Nurse Practitioners

The Florida Nurse Practitioner Network (FNPN), Florida's oldest and statewide nurse practitioner organization, warns of an alarming pattern of insurance terminations targeting autonomous Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)-owned practices. These actions jeopardize patient access to care and destabilize the healthcare safety net for Florida's most underserved populations.

In recent months, multiple FNPN members who represent the backbone of rural and community-based healthcare delivery have received termination notices from insurers without cause, stripping them of their ability to care for thousands of patients who rely on Medicaid, Medicare, and commercial insurance coverage.

Dr. Monica Barfield, DNP, APRN, AGACNP-BC, FNP-BC, autonomous practice owner of New Horizon Primary Care in Port St. Joe, lost her WellCare/Medicare contract without cause, despite years of providing comprehensive primary care in rural Gulf County. This termination removed access for her most vulnerable patients, including seniors and individuals with multiple chronic conditions.

Heather Taylor, APRN, autonomous practice owner of Advanced Healthcare Associates, was recently terminated from Humana's network without cause. Her practice has long been a trusted access point for patients in North Florida, yet Humana's decision further destabilizes access in a region already facing provider shortages.

Logan Andrews, APRN, of Andrews Healthcare Consulting, serves 21 counties with 27 providers, supports EMS diversion programs, and cares for over 336 Humana patients. Despite his proven track record, Humana terminated his Medicaid and Medicare contracts without cause. This decision leaves homebound patients, nursing home residents, and EMS systems without critical support, forcing many back into already-overburdened emergency rooms.



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These are not isolated incidents. Similar actions by insurers threaten to dismantle the progress made under HB 607 (2020), which created autonomous practice authority in Florida to expand access to care in rural and underserved areas. Instead of recognizing the vital contributions of nurse practitioners, insurers are unilaterally removing APRN-owned practices from their networks—placing Floridians at risk.

The consequences of these terminations are profound:

- Increased ER utilization for non-emergent conditions
- Longer wait times for patients seeking care
- Loss of continuity for medically complex patients
- Disruption to EMS partnerships that prevent unnecessary hospitalizations

FNPN calls on state leaders, regulators, and insurers to address this crisis and to implement protections for autonomous APRN practice owners who serve as lifelines in Florida's rural and underserved communities.

FNPN has been uniting and advancing nurse practitioners across Florida since 2002. As the state's oldest and longest-standing NP organization, we stand firmly behind our members and call for immediate action to end insurance discrimination against APRN-owned practices.

For media inquiries or to connect with impacted providers, please contact:

Florida Nurse Practitioner Network (FNPN)

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