

NEUROLOGY ADVANCED PRACTICE PROVIDER CLINICAL COMPETENCIES



The American Academy of Neurology (AAN) supports team-based care models, of which neurology advanced practices providers (APP) are a vital component. The following is a guide of clinical competencies that neurology APPs should complete by the end of their onboarding period into a neurology practice. Practices and academic departments should add to and adapt this checklist, depending on their practice setting and type and in compliance with their state's scope of practice regulations.

Employee Name: _____

Preceptor Name: _____

Start Date: _____ End Date: _____

Clinical Competency	Date	Complete (or N/A)
General Neurology		
Perform and record history and physical and initial consultation		<input type="checkbox"/>
Perform the following neurologic exams:		<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed, comprehensive neurologic examination and focused neurologic exam including ophthalmological exam Demonstrate ability to distinguish normal from abnormal exam findings Describe/document normal and abnormal examination findings 		<input type="checkbox"/>
Perform the following cognitive screening assessments:		<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mini-Mental Status Examination® (MMSE) Montreal Cognitive Assessment® (MoCA) Other tests as applicable (SLUMS, RBANS, etc.) 		<input type="checkbox"/>
Patient Diagnoses and Care		
Review indications for procedures to be performed by the APP		<input type="checkbox"/>
Provide care for neurology patients with the following diagnoses:		<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brain and Spine Trauma Cognitive and Behavioral Disorders Demyelinating and Immunologic Disorders Developmental and Congenital Disorders Epilepsy and Episodic Disorders Headache and Pain Disorders Movement Disorders Neuromuscular Disorders Neuro-oncologic and Paraneoplastic Disorders Neuro-ophthalmologic and Neuro-otologic Disorders Sleep Disorders Stroke and Other Vascular Conditions Toxic, Metabolic, and Nutritional Disease 		<input type="checkbox"/>
Review and initiate power plans for stroke with and without thrombolytics, and for endovascular therapy		<input type="checkbox"/>
Order and adjust medications appropriately		<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication and Documentation		
Document all patient encounters appropriately and within time expectations		<input type="checkbox"/>
Communicate with physicians and other providers of record to enhance patient care		<input type="checkbox"/>
Provide education and updates to patients and families		<input type="checkbox"/>
Write appropriate consultation for physical therapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, and other services		<input type="checkbox"/>

Clinical Competency	Date	Complete (or N/A)
Communication and Documentation Continued		
Review frequency and indications of patient case and review with physicians in the practice		<input type="checkbox"/>
Consult list of indications for referrals and provider referrals		<input type="checkbox"/>
Demonstrate appropriate documentation of obtaining informed consent		<input type="checkbox"/>
Review terms for terminating a patient relationship with the practice		<input type="checkbox"/>
Assist with daily rounds		<input type="checkbox"/>
Write daily progress notes		<input type="checkbox"/>
Prepare patient for discharge		<input type="checkbox"/>
Arrange for appropriate outpatient follow-up clinic visits		<input type="checkbox"/>
Dictate discharge summary		<input type="checkbox"/>
Review, Interpretation, and Ordering of Tests		
CT scan		<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop knowledge on the indications for CT imaging of the brain and spine, CTA of the head and neck, CTV of the head Develop the ability to locate and identify major neuroanatomic structures Demonstrate the ability to locate and identify major arteries of extracranial and intracranial circulation Develop the ability to identify and properly describe the appearance and location of abnormal findings 		<input type="checkbox"/>
Cerebral Angiogram		<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe common clinical indications for ordering cerebral angiogram Demonstrate the ability to interpret findings from a cerebral angiogram and differentiate normal from abnormal findings 		<input type="checkbox"/>
Magnetic Resonance Imaging, Angiography, Venography (MRI/MRA/MRV)		<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop knowledge on the indications for MRI of the brain and spine, MRA of the head and neck, MRV of the head Develop the ability to identify and describe the differences in appearance of commonly scanned tissues in DWI, ADC, GRE, T1-weighted, T2-weighted, and FLAIR MRI images Develop the ability to differentiate normal anatomy from abnormal anatomy Develop the ability to identify and properly describe the appearance and location of abnormal findings in common brain and cerebrovascular diseases Demonstrate the ability to locate and identify major arteries of extracranial and intracranial circulation Demonstrate the ability to locate and identify major intracranial venous sinuses Demonstrate the ability to locate and identify vertebrae of the cervical, thoracic, and lumbar spine Demonstrate the ability to identify and properly describe the appearance and location of abnormal findings in common spine diseases 		<input type="checkbox"/>
Chest X-Ray		<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe common clinical indications for ordering chest x-ray Demonstrate the ability to interpret a chest x-ray and differentiate normal from abnormal findings 		<input type="checkbox"/>

Clinical Competency	Date	Complete (or N/A)
Review, Interpretation, and Ordering of Tests Continued		
Electroencephalogram (EEG) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the methods of performing an EEG study Describe the role of EEG in diagnosis and management of seizures Describe common clinical indications for ordering EEGs 		<input type="checkbox"/>
Electromyography (EMG) / Nerve Conduction Studies (NCS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the method of performing EMG/NCS Describe common clinical indications for ordering EMG/NCS 		<input type="checkbox"/>
Electrocardiogram (EKG) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe common clinical indications for ordering EKG Demonstrate the ability to interpret an EKG and differentiate normal from abnormal findings 		<input type="checkbox"/>
Interventional Radiology (IR) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop knowledge and skills in the ordering and interpretation of interventional radiology tests commonly used in the evaluation of patients with neurologic disorders 		<input type="checkbox"/>
Laboratory tests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop knowledge and skills in the ordering and interpretation of diagnostic labs commonly used in the evaluation of patients with neurologic disorders 		<input type="checkbox"/>
Lumbar Puncture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe common clinical indications for ordering a lumbar puncture Demonstrate the ability to perform lumbar puncture Demonstrate ability to differentiate normal from abnormal findings 		<input type="checkbox"/>