

Letter: Nurse practitioners no match for doctors

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<http://www.readingeagle.com/news/article/letter-nurse-practitioners-no-match-for-doctors>

Editor:

A patient commented that a nurse practitioner insisted the growing lesion on his arm was an "age spot." After a year, the patient demanded to see the dermatologist. The doctor stated: "That is a squamous cell carcinoma. It has to come out."

TODAY'S SPONSOR:

Would a member of the Legislature with crushing chest pain and shortness of breath want to be seen by a cardiologist or by a nurse practitioner typing an electronic record? The lives of black people on Medicaid are worth no less than that of the white legislator. The movement to allow nurse practitioners to prescribe unsupervised will result in a two-tiered health system, one for whites, one for blacks.

There is no doctor shortage, only of doctor time. Half of that time is consumed by worthless procedure so that fewer payments are made for patient care by government and by insurance companies. It is the greatest fraud crime in history, netting trillions.

People with perfect grades get into nurse practitioner programs. All could go to medical school. They choose to make money earlier. That corner-cutting should not be rewarded with independent prescribing privileges. They know one-quarter of what specialists know, and half as much as primary care physicians do. They are fit only to prescribe for patients doing well, under supervision.

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