

Medix

Flu Fighters

The Advanced Practice Provider Advantage



Flu season plus a shortage of talent creates an intensely challenging time of the year. Healthcare organizations must maximize use of existing talent and get creative with staffing models to handle the load. Nowadays, that means relying on advanced practice providers (APPs), including nurse practitioners (NPs) and physician assistants (PAs).

Let's explore the flu season and the increasingly vital role of APPs:

1.9 Million
average healthcare
job openings

59.5
median days to fill a
healthcare position

650,000
healthcare industry
jobs added in 2023



Healthcare's 1-2 Punch Staffing Shortages + Flu Season

What's behind healthcare's shortage of talent, and how will flu season affect the industry?

STAFF BURNOUT

45%

of healthcare workers often
experienced burnout in 2022



LEAVING THE PROFESSION

24%

of U.S. healthcare workers
were age 55 and older and
approaching retirement in 2022



**6.5
Million**

Healthcare professionals
will permanently leave
their positions by 2026



**1.9
Million**

Will step in to replace
the outgoing talent in
the same period



POPULATION NEEDING CARE

18%

of the U.S. population will be 65
or older in 2024



INSUFFICIENT TRAINING



Limited capacity in medical programs
contributes to the shortage of qualified
healthcare professionals

GEOGRAPHIC DISPARITIES



High-income regions attract more
healthcare grads, leaving low-income
areas with shortages

FLU + HEALTHCARE

**30
Million**

the amount of flu-related medical
visits last year in the U.S.



FLU + THE ECONOMY

**\$6.3-\$25.3
Billion**

the annual economic burden of
the flu on the healthcare system
and society



Risks Associated with Understaffed Healthcare Teams

Having unfilled healthcare roles isn't just inconvenient,
it's a risk to patients and providers alike.

The rise in adverse medical events in 2022

19%

400,000

**Hospitalized patients who experience adverse
events each year due to preventable medical errors**

**Healthcare professionals who left the workforce
from 2021 to 2022, with burnout a primary factor**

145,000

**2hrs. &
22min.**

**The average emergency room wait time in the United States,
a number that only increases due to inadequate staffing**

**Chronic understaffing can perpetuate a
cycle of burnout and high turnover**

**Long-term
Damage**

The Future of APPs in Healthcare

APPs are growing in importance — and a range of
factors indicate that's not likely to end soon.

No. 1 + No. 8

Rank for NPs and PAs among the fastest growing U.S. occupations

How APPs Can Help Fight Flu Season

Versatile and flexible, APPs can be a
healthcare team's secret weapon in
the battle against flu.



10%

APP Patient care
satisfaction increase

**Enhanced
Patient Access**

APPs can handle
physician duties

**Reduced
Wait Times**

APPs take on large
patient volumes

**Cost-
Effectiveness**

Median NP and PA salaries (\$126,260
and \$130,020, respectively) are more
than half that of physicians (\$239,000)

**Flexible
Staffing**

APPs can fill many
roles in healthcare
organizations

Recruit Skilled APPs with Medix

APPs are essential to any healthcare team, bringing many benefits and
offsetting the loss of other talent. That makes the competition fierce for
skilled APPs. Medix finds skilled APPs for you with staffing solutions
tailored to your organization. [Get in touch to get started today.](#)

Sources:

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