



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Do You Know ‘Who’s Practicing on You?’

The Nebraska Medical Association provides new healthcare resource for Nebraskans

(LINCOLN, Neb. – April 30, 2015) – Should you see an optometrist or an ophthalmologist? You made an appointment with a physician assistant; can they provide the same care as your doctor?

Nebraskans now have a new educational resource for information about their healthcare team. ‘Who’s Practicing on You,’ www.whospracticingonyou.com, is a website developed by the Nebraska Medical Association to help healthcare consumers better understand the importance and value of each member of their medical team.

“Understanding who is delivering your care and what role they play on the healthcare team is very important,” said Richard Blatny, Sr., MD, president of the Nebraska Medical Association. “We developed the ‘Who’s Practicing on You?’ resource to help educate and take as much worry away from patients as possible when selecting their healthcare providers.”

Recent research conducted by the Nebraska Medical Association showed that there are significant misperceptions among Nebraskans as to which healthcare professionals are actually medical doctors as well as the training requirements for different healthcare professionals. 48-percent of Nebraskans consider physician assistants to be medical doctors, along with 39-percent considering nurse practitioners to be medical doctors. These percentages increase in comparisons of optometrists and ophthalmologists and psychologists and psychiatrists.

‘Who’s Practicing on You?’ breaks down the healthcare capabilities and care levels of 16 common healthcare providers. Detailed education and training requirements, including graduate-level education, residency/fellowship training and patient care training requirements are also provided.

Because education and training requirements for individual professions vary from state-to-state, the website is designed to be Nebraska specific in the information it provides.

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“The Nebraska Medical Association advocates for the health of all Nebraskans, and we encourage patients to become their own advocates in understanding who is providing their care,” said Blatny. “Knowing that you are seeing the right member of your healthcare team the first time around can save in time and money and in overall provider efficiencies down the line.”

Please visit the ‘Who’s Practicing on You?’ website at www.whospracticingonyou.com to learn more.

ABOUT THE NEBRASKA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

The Nebraska Medical Association was founded in 1868, and represents nearly 3,000 active and retired physicians, residents and medical students from across the state of Nebraska. The mission of the Nebraska Medical Association is to serve physician members by advocating for the medical profession, for patients and for the health of all Nebraskans. **For more information, visit www.nebmed.org.**

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