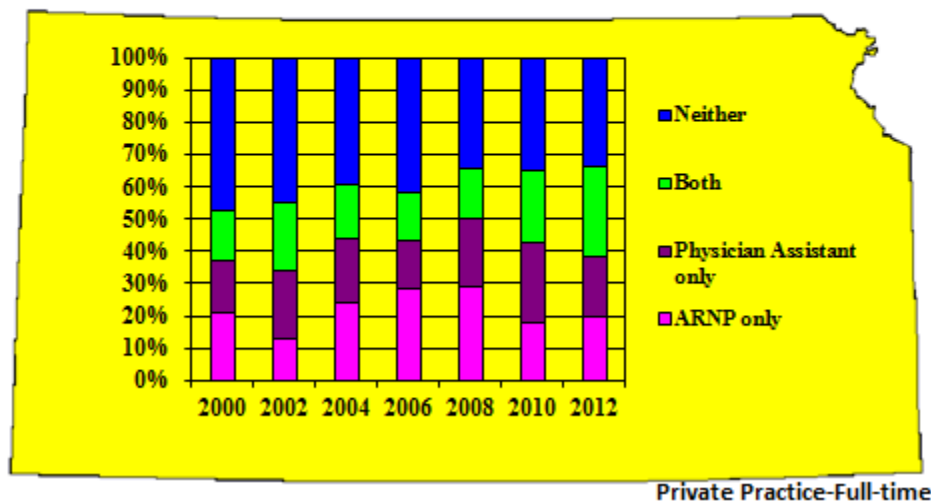


Trends in the Use of Midlevels by Kansas Family Physicians

One of the principles of the patient-centered medical home is team-based care.¹ One of the precepts of team-based care is “all practice to the limit of their skill and license.” Team-based care may allow family physicians to focus on what physicians do best and to delegate tasks that do not require a physician to other team-members. Teams may be composed of physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, medical assistants, office staff members, dietitians, physical therapists, occupational therapists, psychologists, marriage and family therapists and many others.

Over the last decade, an increasing percentage of Kansas family physicians have been working in their offices with physician assistants and nurse practitioners.

Kansas Family Physicians Working in the Same Office With a Physician Assistant or Nurse Practitioner



Notwithstanding the divisiveness of political differences over the future of nurse practitioner independent practice, there has been a steady increasing trend of family physicians working in the same office with physician assistants and nurse practitioners. In 2012, 67% of Kansas family physicians worked in the office with a physician assistant, a nurse practitioner or both.

1. Kellerman R, Kirk L. Editorial: Principles of the Patient Centered Medical Home. American Family Physician. 2007, September 15;76(6):774-775.