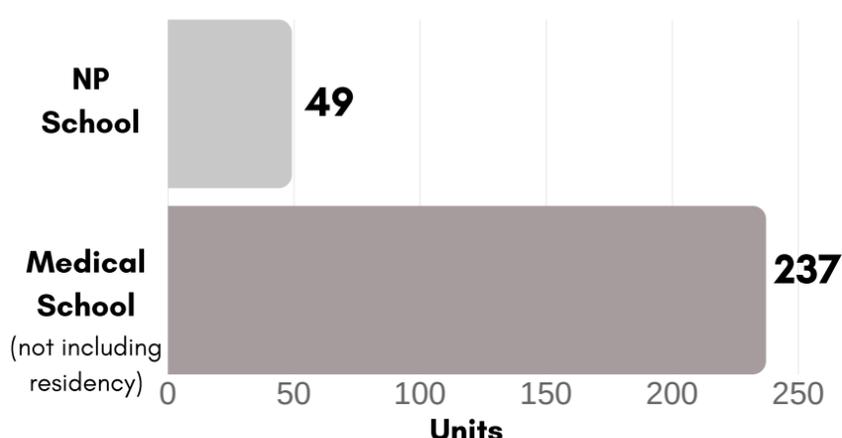


# WHAT IT TAKES TO MAKE A DOCTOR

## The Educational Differences between Medical Doctors and Nurse Practitioners

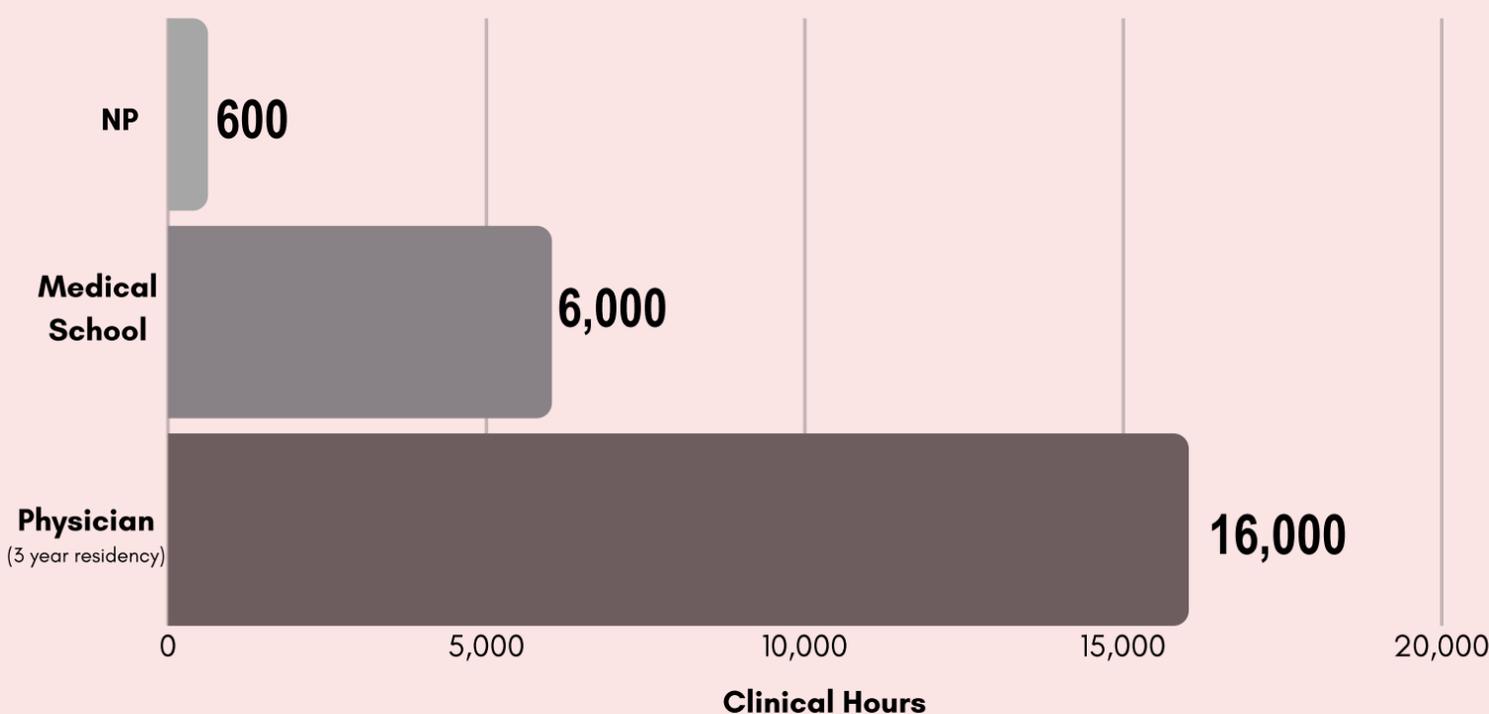
### CERTIFICATION BY UNIT REQUIREMENT<sup>1,2</sup>



- Even without accounting for residency, which is an additional 3-7 years of training, physicians who just graduated medical school had to take nearly 5x the amount of units for their degree compared to NPs.

*\*Example programs are listed that state their specific unit requirements for graduation. These sources closely resemble other programs of their same degree.*

### CLINICAL HOURS REQUIRED FOR CERTIFICATION



- While some nurse practitioner degrees can be completed 100% online in as little as 5 years including college, physicians must complete at least 11 years and more than 16,000 hours of hands-on training before treating patients independently.<sup>3</sup>
- An NP has less than 4% of the clinical hour training of an MD/DO (with the minimum 3 years residency training).<sup>4</sup>
- **A medical student, who is not allowed to treat a patient independently, would have undergone nearly 5x the amount of unit requirements and 10x the amount of clinical training that a fully licensed NP has.**



With the vast amount of education, training, and clinical hours required to produce a single physician (the most of any healthcare team member), physicians can rely on a much larger breadth of knowledge in each of the medical decisions they make. This is why we at AAEM/RSA believe that all healthcare team members, including nurse practitioners, should be under the supervision of a physician in order to ensure the safety and proper health care of our patients.

## #ASKTOSSEYOURPHYSICIAN