

Katie L. Hepfer, DNP, APRN, RN, CPNP-PC

8447 John Sharp Pkwy
Office 3521 CB1
Bryan, TX 77807
Phone: 979.436.9008
E-mail: hepfer@tamu.edu

EDUCATION

DNP	The University of Iowa Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, Primary Care Iowa City, IA	2016
BSN	The University of Iowa Nursing Iowa City, IA	2009
BA	The University of Iowa Spanish Iowa City, IA	2009

LICENSURES AND CERTIFICATES

Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (Texas, 2016 - 2028, AP#132343, Active)
Registered Nurse (Texas, 2016 - 2023, 2024 - 2028, RN#908247, Active Multistate)
Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner - Primary Care (PNCB, 2016 - 2026, PC#20161915)
Certified Academic Clinical Nurse Educator (CNE-cl, NLN#655030, 2026 - 2031)
Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner (Iowa, 2023 - 2026, CNP#C174175, Active)
Registered Nurse (Iowa, 2009 - 2016, 2023 - 2024, RN#122512, Inactive)
Neonatal Resuscitation Program (AAP, #8KH-3789, 2021 - 2025)
Basic Life Support (AHA, Active, 2007 - 2025)
Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (AHA, 2022 - 2023)
Certified Pediatric Hematology Oncology Nurse (ONCC, 2013 - 2022)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Academic Appointments

Texas A&M University College of Nursing, Bryan, Texas	
Clinical Associate Professor	2024 - Present
Clinical Assistant Professor, Part-Time	2017 - 2023
University of Iowa College of Nursing, Iowa City, Iowa	
Adjunct Associate Professor	2024 - 2025
Associate Professor of Instruction	2023 - 2024

Clinical Appointments

Baylor Scott & White Medical Center, College Station, Texas	
Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, NICU Developmental Clinic	2025 - Present
APRN Intensivist Medicine, Neonatology, Newborn Nursery	2021 - 2023
University of Iowa Stead Family Department of Pediatrics,	2023 - 2024
Division of Hospital Medicine, Iowa City, Iowa	
ARNP Hospitalist, Newborn Nursery	
HealthPoint Memorial, Pediatric Clinic (FQHC), Bryan, Texas	2017 - 2021
Pediatric Nurse Practitioner	
University of Iowa Children's Hospital, Iowa City, Iowa	
Staff Nurse, Charge Nurse, 3JCP Pediatric Inpatient Unit	2009 - 2016
Pediatric Research Nurse, NIH H1N1 Vaccine Research Trial	2009

HONORS AND AWARDS

DNP Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Preceptor, UI College of Nursing	2024
Daisy Award Recipient, Texas A&M College of Nursing, Part-Time Faculty	2023, 2021
MSN Family Nurse Practitioner Preceptor, Texas A&M College of Nursing	2020 - 2023
Daisy Award Nominee, Baylor Scott & White, Nurse Practitioner	2023, 2022
Living Your Commitment Recognition Recipient, Baylor Scott & White	2022
Productivity in the Pandemic Award Recipient, HealthPoint (FQHC)	2021

SCHOLARSHIP & PUBLICATIONS

Clements, P.T., Sorenson, M., Evenson, N., Lawrence, T., Buffie, S., **Hepfer, K. (in progress). *Victimology: Violence across the lifespan*. STM Learning (**book, double blind peer reviewed)

Hepfer, K., Vargas, S., Haddad, L., Clements, P.T. (2026). Preparing novice academic nurse leaders: Structural, interpersonal, and organizational strategies. (forthcoming)

Hepfer, K., Pittman, A., Sorenson, M. (2026). Building strength in small bodies: A multidisciplinary review of pediatric resilience. (forthcoming)

Hepfer, K., Vargas, S., Hall, A., Ochoa, B., Pfeiffer, K. (2026). Digital Bridges: Enhancing Nursing Clinical Placements Through Faculty and Compliance Team Collaboration (forthcoming)

Textbook review: The Doctor of Nursing Practice Project: A Framework for Success by Katherine J. Moran, Rosanne Burson, and Dianne Conrad (4th Edition, 2023)

Hepfer, K. (2016). Improving Coordinated Care for Iowa Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder, DNP project, University of Iowa College of Nursing

PROTOCOL REGISTRATIONS

MacKay, L. J., **Hepfer, K.**, Sorsby, M., Thomas, K., & Bognar, J. (2026). Post-NICU interventions in the community to support parents of premature infants' mental health and parent-infant interactions: A scoping review protocol. *JBI Evidence Synthesis*. (Under Review). Manuscript number: JBIES-26-00155

MacKay, L. J., **Hepfer, K.**, LaPreze, D., Thomas, K., Ellis, K., & Currie, G. Exploration of parents of preterm infants' experiences of stress and coping: A scoping review. <https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/6EGYU>

MacKay, L. J., **Hepfer, K.**, Sorsby, M., Thomas, K., & Bognar, J. (2026). Post-NICU interventions in the community to support parents of premature infants' mental health and parent-infant interactions: A scoping review protocol. <https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/F7WQY>

RESEARCH FUNDING

Granting Agency	Title	Total \$	Year	Principal Investigator(s)	Co-Investigators
Submitted: National Institute of Health (NIH) R21	From NICU to Home: A mixed-method exploratory study to co-design a community intervention that strengthens parent-infant relationships and supports preterm infant neurodevelopment	348,000	2026	MacKay, L. Hepfer, K.	Tarwater, P. Thomas, K. Philips, K. Page, R. Oxford, R. Brunt, A. Bosenbark, M
Submitted: The Gerber Foundation Pediatric Major and Novice Research Grant	From NICU to Home: A mixed-method exploratory study to co-design a community intervention that strengthens parent-infant relationships and supports preterm infant neurodevelopment	333,000	2026	MacKay, L. Hepfer, K.	Tarwater, P. Thomas, K. Philips, K. Page, R. Oxford, R. Brunt, A. Bosenbark, M

Submitted: Texas A&M Health Science Seedling Grant	Improving Hospital Care for Children with Medical Complexity: Co- Creation of a Core Outcome	74,895	2026	MacKay, L.	Tarwater, P. Bloom, R. Allison- Hoiem, M. Richmond, E. Patton, L. Hepfer, K.
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PRESENTATIONS

Texas School Nurse Conference, Presenter, “Rashes, Itches, & Bumps, Oh My!” (April 2026)

Vital Record: News from Texas A&M Health, “Sun safety and skin protection” (March 2026)

Texas A&M University College of Nursing BSN Honors Seminar, Invited Speaker, “Coffee, Care Plans, Clinicals and Compassion: My Nursing Journey” (November 2025)

Texas School Nurse Conference, Presenter, “Beyond the Lunchbox: Supporting Kids with Chronic GI Conditions in the School Setting” (May 2025)

Vital Record: News from Texas A&M Health, “Acetaminophen’s effects on vaccines” (2021)

Aggie Pediatrics Nurses Association, Texas A&M College of Nursing, Presenter, “Pediatric Hematology and Oncology Nursing”, “Pediatric Advanced Practice Nursing” (2022, 2019, 2018)

Texas A&M Health Talk, podcast interviewee, “Summertime Health” (2019)

Vital Record: News from Texas A&M Health, “Fever in children: What to know about your child’s temperature” (2017)

“Improving Coordinated Care for Iowa Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder”, DNP project, University of Iowa College of Nursing (2016)

Iowa’s Autism Strategic Plan, Strategic Planning Committee, Contributing Member (2015)

Pediatric Cancer Forum, Pediatric Nurse Panelist, University of Iowa Dance Marathon (2016)

SERVICE

Service to the University and College

DNP Journal Club, Faculty Advisor	2026 - Present
Preceptor Excellence, Engagement, and Partnership Support, Co-Leader	2025 - Present
TAMU College of Nursing Graduate Faculty Committee, Member	2025 - Present

TAMU College of Nursing Graduate APG Committee, Member	2025 - Present
TAMU College of Nursing Bylaws Committee, Member	2024 - 2025
University of Iowa Young Pediatric Nurse Clinician Program, Director	2024
UI College of Nursing DNP Forum	2023-2024
UI College of Nursing BSN Forum	2023-2024
UI College of Nursing Fall Teaching Seminar	2023
ATI Committee, Member, UI College of Nursing	2023-2024
Scholarship Committee, Member, UI College of Nursing	2023-2024
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, Member	2023-2025
Iowa Association of Nurse Practitioners, Member	2023-2024
Texas A&M Employee Drive-Through Flu Vaccine Clinic, Volunteer	2018, 2019
Texas A&M Health Disaster Day, Team Faculty Leader	2017
UI Association of Graduate Nursing Students, Board Member	2014-2016
Iowa Association of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses, Secretary	2014-2016

Service to the Community

Volunteer Vaccinator, Brazos Valley COVID-19 Vaccine Hub	2021
Pre- & Post-Operative Nurse, Rotary International Iowa MOST, Guatemala	2013 - 2015
Camp Nurse, Camp Counselor, Children's Cancer Connection	2007 - 2010
Executive Director, University of Iowa Dance Marathon	2008 - 2009

Service to the State

Iowa's Autism Strategic Planning Committee, Contributing Member	2015
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Professional Organizations

National League for Nursing, Member #655030	Active
American Nurses Association; Texas Nurses Assoc., Member #06717420	Active

TEACHING

Texas A&M College of Nursing (*courses numbered 600 or higher are graduate courses*)

2026 Spring	NURS 625 Primary Care of Families Practicum, 4 Cr., Clinical Faculty
2026 Spring	NURS 727 Application of Translational Science, Co-instructor, Didactic
2026 Spring	NURS 344 Building Healthy Communities II, Clinical Faculty
2026 Spring	NURS 736 DNP Scholarly Project Practicum II, 2 Cr., Course Lead, Didactic
2026 Spring	NURS 739 Residency in Advanced Practice, 1 Cr., Course Lead, Didactic
2026 Spring	NURS 653 Advanced Health Assessment, 3 Cr., Clinical Faculty, OSCEs
2025 Fall	NURS 738 DNP Scholarly Project Practicum IV, 2 Cr., Course Lead, Didactic
2025 Fall	NURS 651 Quality Improvement and Informatics, 3 Cr., Course Lead, Didactic

2025 Fall	NURS 739 Residency in Advanced Practice, 1 Cr., Course Lead, Didactic
2025 Fall	NURS 623 Primary Care II: Care of Families, 6 Cr., Clinical Faculty
2025 Fall	NURS 653 Advanced Health Assessment, 3 Cr., Clinical Faculty, OSCEs
2025 Fall	NURS 621 Diagnostics and Procedures, 2 Cr., Clinical Faculty, OSCEs
2025 Summer	NURS 737 DNP Scholarly Project Practicum III, 2 Cr., Course Lead, Didactic
2025 Summer	NURS 739 Residency in Advanced Practice, 1 Cr., Course Lead, Didactic
2025 Spring	NURS 736 DNP Scholarly Project Practicum II, 2 Cr., Course Lead, Didactic
2025 Spring	NURS 739 Residency in Advanced Practice, 1 Cr., Course Lead, Didactic
2025 Spring	NURS 625 Primary Care of Families Practicum, 4 Cr., Clinical Faculty
2025 Spring	NURS 421 Care of Community Health Clients, 5 Cr., Clinical Faculty
2024 Fall	NURS 651 Quality Improvement and Informatics, 3 Cr., Course Lead, Didactic
2024 Fall	NURS 738 DNP Scholarly Project/Practicum IV, 2 Cr., Course Lead, Didactic
2024 Fall	NURS 739 Residency in Advanced Practice, 1 Cr., Course Lead, Didactic
2024 Fall	NURS 623 Primary Care II: Care of Families, 6 Cr., Clinical Faculty
2024 Summer	NURS 737 DNP Scholarly Project/Practicum III, 2 Cr., Course Lead, Didactic
2024 Summer	NURS 739 Residency in Advanced Practice, 1 Cr., Course Lead, Didactic
2023 Spring	NURS 625 Primary Care III: Care of Families, 6 Cr., 30% responsible
2022 Fall	NURS 623 Primary Care II: Care of Families, 6 Cr., 36% responsible
2022 Spring	NURS 625 Primary Care III: Care of Families, 6 Cr., 30% responsible
2021 Fall	NURS 623 Primary Care II: Care of Families, 6 Cr., 36% responsible
2021 Spring	NURS 625 Primary Care III: Care of Families, 6 Cr., 30% responsible
2020 Fall	NURS 623 Primary Care II: Care of Families, 6 Cr., 36% responsible
2020 Summer	NURS 413 Nursing Care of Children and Families, 4 Cr., 40% responsible
2020 Spring	NURS 413 Nursing Care of Children and Families, 4 Cr., 40% responsible
202 Spring	NURS 625 Primary Care III: Care of Families, 6 Cr., 3% responsible
2019 Fall	NURS 623 Primary Care II: Care of Families, 6 Cr., 36% responsible
2019 Fall	NURS 653 Advanced Health Assessment, 3 Cr., 15% responsible
2019 Summer	NURS 413 Nursing Care of Children and Families, 4 Cr., 40% responsible
2019 Spring	NURS 413 Nursing Care of Children and Families, 4 Cr., 40% responsible
2018 Spring	NURS 413 Nursing Care of Children and Families, 4 Cr., 40% responsible
2017 Fall	NURS 413 Nursing Care of Children and Families, 4 Cr., 40% responsible
2017 Summer	NURS 413 Nursing Care of Children and Families, 4 Cr., 40% responsible
2017 Spring	NURS 413 Nursing Care of Children and Families, 4 Cr., 40% responsible
2017 Spring	NURS 421 Care of Community Health Clients, 5 Cr., 30% responsible

University of Iowa College of Nursing (*courses number 6000 or higher are graduate courses*)

2025 Fall	NURS 6808 Population Health for Advanced Practice, 22 students, 3 Cr., Lead
2025 Spring	NURS 6808 Population Health for Advanced Practice, 17 students, 3 Cr., Lead

2024 Fall	NURS 6808 Population Health for Advanced Practice, 26 students, 3 Cr., Lead
2024 Spring	NURS 6701 Advanced Practice Clinical Practicum, 7 students, 3 Cr., Co-Lead
2024 Spring	NURS 6808 Population Health for Advanced Practice, 25 students, 3 Cr., Lead
2024 Spring	NURS 3631 Nursing Care of Children, 80 students, 2 Cr., Lead
2023 Fall	NURS 3631 Nursing Care of Children, 81 students, 2 Cr., Lead
2023 Fall	NURS 6808 Population Health for Advanced Practice, 18 students, 3 Cr., Lead
2023 Fall	NURS 6826 Doctor of Nursing Practice Project 1, 77 students, 2 Cr., Co-Taught, Lead for 10 DNP students
2023 Fall	NURS 6701 Advanced Practice Clinical Practicum, 6 students, 3 Cr., Co-Lead

Student Advising and Mentoring

Undergraduate:

Shannon LaRue: *Practice Patterns and Clinical Impact of Invasive Line Blood Sampling in Pediatric Critical Care* (BSN Honors Program Student, May 2027 cohort), **Faculty Mentor**

Graduate (Texas A&M University College of Nursing):

Isela Garcia: *Breaking Bias: The Impact of Disability Education of Nursing Student Attitudes* (DNP Student, December 2026 cohort), **Chair**

Melissa Sanchez: *Rationing of Nursing Care by Unlicensed Personnel: Effects on Quality of Care* (DNP Student, December 2026 cohort), **Committee**

Shalya Hernandez: *Rethinking Rationed Care: Educating Acute Care Nurses for Better Decision-Making* (DNP student, December 2026 cohort), **Committee**

Megan Markowsky: *Increasing Confidence and Retention in New Graduate Nurses Through Simulation-based Orientation* (DNP student, December 2026 cohort), **Committee**

Sarah Ortiz: *Interpreter Modalities in Primary Care Gynecologic Encounters: Provider Perceptions* (DNP student, December 2026 cohort), **Committee**

Debora Barnola: *Development of a Fever Education Bundle for Spanish-Speaking Caregivers; Impact on Language-Concordant Discharge Education* (DNP Student, December 2025 graduate), **Co-Chair**

Graduate (University of Iowa College of Nursing):

Logan Kiche: *Standardization of Topical Pain Management for Invasive Procedures in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit* (DNP program, May 2024 graduate), **Committee**

Erin Mitchell: *Implementation Of Project ADAM: A CPR & AED Training Program in a School-Based Setting* (DNP program, May 2024 graduate), **Committee**

Emily Puetz: *Evaluating Pediatric Asthma Education through a Health Literacy Lens* (DNP program, May 2024 graduate), **Committee**