Key Message #1

• “Nurses should practice to the full extent of their education and training.”

No other segment of the workforce interacts with the health care system at as many levels

- CNAs & Nurse Techs
- LPNs, ADNs
- Diploma
- BSNs
- MSNs
- PhDs
- DNPs
Or in as many settings….

• Acute Care
• Community, Home, & Public Health
• Schools
• Long Term Care
• Ambulatory Care
• Parishes
• Industry
• Academia
Or in as many roles…

- Bedside caregiver
- Manager
- Educator
- Care Manager
- Executive
- Primary Care Provider
- Scientist
Nursing is uniquely prepared and exquisitely positioned to lead the necessary transformation of our health care system

So, what’s stopping us?
Challenges

- **Education**
  - Enhanced skill set
  - 80 by 20
  - ADNs outnumber BSN 2:1

- **Finances**
  - Many nurses primary support for family
  - Return on investment
Challenges

• **Regulation**
  - Nurse practice acts not consistent across state lines
  - Federal regulations limit advanced practice practice
    - And ultimately access to care for patients

• **Reimbursement**
  - Medicare pays NPs 85% of Physician reimbursement for the same service
  - Some third party payers will not empanel advanced practice nurses
Challenges

• **Turf Wars**
  - How can we package our message to minimize the defensive reaction of physicians?
  - Reality is that there are more patients than there are primary care providers

• **Institutional or Organizational Policy**
  - Acute care privileges are rare
  - Not based on Iowa Law
  - Not limited to advanced practice
  - Much overlap between RN & Physician Function particularly in history taking & assessment

And, lastly. . .

• Visibility!
Who Will Influence Health Reform in the United States in the Next 5-10 Years

**Question Wording:** Thinking about the next five to ten years, how much influence do you think each of the following professions or groups of people will have in health reform in the United States?

*Nursing Leadership from Bedside to Boardroom, RWJF-Gallup study, January, 2010.*
Challenges = Opportunities