APPENDIX D

Questions Used in Physician Telephone Interviews
(Critical NPC Scope-of-Practice Questions)

1. What factor(s) are responsible for increasing the numbers of PAs, NPs, and CNMs in Texas over the past 10 years? [expanded educational programs, acceptance by public, acceptance by physicians, legislation affecting scope of practice, insurance reimbursement practices, privileges/authority as health care provider, increased practice opportunities, other factors]

2. What kind of influence has the increased number of PAs, NPs, and CNMs had on the overall quality of health care in the state? [highly positive influence, positive influence, no noticeable influence, negative influence, highly negative influence]

3. Are there limitations in current scope of practice laws for PAs, NPs, and CNMs that should be overcome, or are the remaining limitations necessary? Specify limitations [prescriptive authority, supervision by physician, reimbursement practices, other legal limitations]

4. Are there other limitations on the growth and utilization of the three professions that need to be overcome? [limited educational programs, resources, faculty; limited clinical rotations, preceptors; limited ethnic diversity of students, faculty; lack of collaboration with physicians; competition among professions; other limitations]

5. What kind of influence has the increased number of NPs, PAs, and CNMs had on access to health care by medically underserved citizens? [highly positive influence, positive influence, no noticeable influence, negative influence, highly negative influence]

6. What barriers (related to the practice of PAs, NPs, & CNMs) still impede access to health care services in underserved areas of Texas? [recruitment/retention of practitioners, physician supervision requirements, insurance reimbursement practices, prescriptive authority, hospital privileges, regional/cultural beliefs about health care, language requirements (Spanish speaking), acceptance by physicians, other barriers]