

*Abstract:* This paper considers the role of organizations in the division of labor among professions. Drawing on Abbott's (1988) theoretical model of interprofessional competition for jurisdiction, this paper analyzes a case of a jurisdictional disruption between nurse practitioners and physicians, that occurred when nurse practitioners began to practice within a new organizational form of retail health clinics. Using archival and interview data, this paper shows that retailer organizations operating the clinics, instead of being venues or resources for the competition of professions, as the existing theory would predict, have inserted themselves into the system of professions as active agents. The organizations assigned jurisdictions to the competing professions in such a way that allowed the organizations to extract economic rents from the jurisdiction over tasks. The implications for the theory of professions are discussed.