



Position statement **Advanced clinical practice roles**

The purpose of this position statement is to outline support for Advanced Practice Roles.

Nurses in advanced nursing practice (ANP) roles improve the access of New Zealanders to effective, integrated and co-ordinated health care and contribute to nursing knowledge and the development and advancement of the profession.

Advanced Nursing Practice occurs within the full scope of nursing practice that is dynamic and has flexible boundaries. It is the application of advanced nursing knowledge that determines whether nursing practice is advanced, not the addition of functions from other professions.

Advanced Nursing Practice describes an advanced level of nursing practice that maximises the use of in-depth nursing knowledge and skill in meeting the health needs of clients (individuals, families, groups, populations or entire communities). ANP extends the boundaries of nursing's scope of practice and contributes to nursing knowledge as well as the development and advancement of the profession. (Canadian Nurse Association, 2002)
Advanced Nursing Practice has a clinical or therapeutic focus. It is the integration of research based theory, and expert nursing in a clinical practice area, and combines the roles of practitioner, teacher, consultant and researcher to advance the practice of Nursing. (Canadian Nurse Association, adopted by NCNZ).

Each Nurse Leader acts to provide a professional practice environment for all nurses that develops nursing leadership at all levels, accountability in clinical decision-making and collaboration in practice, with active quality assurance and improvement and appropriate professional development. This environment fosters development and support of advanced clinical practice roles.

Advanced nursing practice differs from expert practice or extended task roles in its scope and sphere of influence and its application of advanced nursing knowledge.

Included:

- **Nurse practitioner**
- **Clinical Nurse Specialist.**



Nurse Practitioner

The Nurse Practitioner is an advanced clinical practice nursing role with a distinct registration and scope of practice, as approved by Nursing Council for a specified area of practice within the scope. They are expert nurses who work within a specific area of practice incorporating advanced knowledge and skills.

The Nursing Council of New Zealand has defined the scope of practice requirements for Nurse Practitioners, including a postgraduate qualification at master's level or equivalent.

Nurse Practitioners are expert nurses who work using advanced knowledge and skills to practise both independently and in collaboration with other health care professionals to promote health, prevent disease and to diagnose, assess and manage peoples' health needs.

The Nurse Practitioner:

- Is able to access, interpret and act upon diagnostics to manage patient care, including differential diagnoses, ordering, conducting and interpreting diagnostic and laboratory tests and administering therapies for the management of potential and actual health needs.
- Is an authorized prescriber under the Medicines Amendment Act 2013. The Misuse of Drugs Amendment Regulations 2014 allows NPs to prescribe controlled drugs within their scope of practice.
- Works in partnership with individuals, families, whanau and communities across a wide range of settings to improve health outcomes through advanced nursing practice with a specific population.
- Practices within interdisciplinary teams, or as an independent practitioner, within consultative frameworks to provide leadership and consultancy in their defined specialty practice area.
- Shows scholarly research inquiry into nursing practice, is actively involved in research contributing to health policy, and enhancing and leading nursing practice within their area of practice at a local, regional and national level.
- Leads clinical audit, process and outcome measurement, leading service improvement in health of the population they serve.

Nurse Leader Considerations

Nurse leaders need to work with health service planners to establish Nurse Practitioner positions and also support nurse development that prepares nurses to contribute to meet community need using advanced clinical practice roles.

Key Documents

Nursing Council of New Zealand. (2012). *Competencies for the nurse practitioner scope of practice*. Author.

Nursing Council of New Zealand. (2010). *Guideline: Expanded practice for Registered Nurses*. Author.

Nursing Council of New Zealand . (2014). *Nurse Practitioner scope of Practice; guidelines for applicants*. Retrieved from; <http://nursingcouncil.org.nz/Nurses/Scopes-of-practice/Nurse-practitioner>



Clinical Nurse Specialist

The clinical nurse specialist is a registered nurse, who uses advanced specialised clinical knowledge to practice within a defined specialty or specialties.

The Clinical Nurse Specialist:

- Works as advanced clinical practice nurses in one or more of the three spheres of influence of CNS practice: patient/client nursing practice, nursing standards and nursing personnel and organization/system.
- Has a broad base of preparation in advanced nursing knowledge with specialized knowledge in a particular specialty or sub-specialty of nursing practice.
- Demonstrates the core competencies that include clinical expertise, collaboration, consultation, education, research, and leadership activities.
- Focuses on direct care delivery, working in interdependent practice and decision making in the management of a defined patient group/area of specialty practice, exemplify interdisciplinary teamwork and collaboration.
- Is actively involved in enhancing evidence based practice and nursing knowledge and leadership within defined specialty, assist/lead development and implementation of pathways, protocols and guidelines, standards of nursing practice in the specific area of practice.
- Contributes to nursing education, research activities and nursing quality improvement in a specialty.
- A clinical nurse specialist has a relevant post graduate qualification to prepare for advanced knowledge requirements to undertake specialist practice.

Nurse Leader Considerations

Professional supervision and support ensures that nurses can meet expectations of specialist roles in an interdisciplinary practice environment

The Specialty Clinical Nurse is a registered nurse who has become highly proficient in a clinical setting. This is a designated senior nurse position

Key Documents

Canadian Nurses Association. (2002). Advanced Nursing Practice Position Statement.

Retrieved from: www.cna-nurses.ca

Holloway, K. (2012). The New Zealand Nurse Specialist Framework: Clarifying the Contribution of the Nurse Specialist. *Policy, Politics and Nursing Practice*. doi 10.1177/1527154412459083 [Published ahead of print]

Holloway, K., Lumby, J. & Baker, J. (2009). Specialist nursing framework for New Zealand: a missing link in workforce planning. *Policy, Politics and Nursing Practice*. 10(4):269-75

Holloway, K. (2009). *New Zealand National Nursing Organisations Glossary of Terms*: New Zealand National Nursing Organisations