

ACRONYMS

ACNP	Australian College of Nurse Practitioners
ANMAC	Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council
AHPRA	Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Authority
DH	Department of Health
DPCS	Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances (Act or Regulations)
HPDAC	Health Professions Drug Access Committee
MBS	Medical Benefits Scheme
NMBA	Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia
NP	Nurse Practitioner
NMP	Nursing and Midwifery Policy
NPC	Nurse Practitioner Candidate
PBS	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme
VENPC	Victorian Emergency Nurse Practitioner Collaborative
VPCNPC	Victorian Palliative Care Nurse Practitioner Collaborative
MHA&DNP	Mental Health Alcohol & Drugs Nurse Practitioner Collaborative
VNPP	Victorian Nurse Practitioner Project

GLOSSARY

ACNP The Australian College of Nurse Practitioners (ACNP) is a membership organisation representing the interests of nurse practitioners across Australia.

ANMAC The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council (ANMAC) is the independent accrediting authority for nursing and midwifery under the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme. It sets standards for accreditation and accredits nursing and midwifery courses and providers, on behalf of the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia.

Category (NP) All endorsed NP's wishing to prescribe in Victoria must have a notation of one or more categories. This is a notation to meet the requirements of the *Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981 (Vic)* and not a condition on practice. The NMBA has approved eight areas for NPs notation:

Acute & Supportive care	Mental Health Care
Care of the older person or Aged care	Paediatric Care
Critical Care	Peri operative Care
Maternity Care	Primary Care

The approved formulary (list of drugs) approved for each category are available on the DH website: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/dpu/prescriber/nurse.htm>

Credentialling Credentialling is the formal process of verifying the qualifications, experience, professional standing and other relevant professional attributes of health professionals for the purpose of forming a view about their competence and suitability to provide safe, high quality health care services within specific organisational environments.

Endorsement In Australia, the NMBA may endorse eligible Registered Nurses as Nurse Practitioners. The title Nurse Practitioner is protected, preventing the use of the title 'nurse practitioner' by anyone who is not endorsed by NMBA as a Nurse Practitioner.

Formulary A circumscribed list of medicines that are normally available at a particular health care location such as a hospital or pharmacy, and that are approved for use in that setting or by a specific prescriber. (*National Nurse Prescribing Glossary, N3ET 2006*) In Victoria, the Minister for Health must approve the formulary (list of poisons) for a group or category of NPs and any NP authorised in that category may only prescribe from that formulary.

HPDAC The Health Professions Drug Access Committee (HPDAC) is an internal DH committee chaired by the Manager, Drugs and Poisons Regulation Group. The HPDAC role is to promote the safe and effective use of drugs, by providing advice to the Minister for Health or the Secretary on issues related to the possession, use or supply (administration and prescribing) of scheduled drugs by professions or occupational groups.

Mentoring/ Mentorship (1) A voluntary, intense, committed, extended, dynamic, interactive, supportive, trusting relationship between two people, one experienced, and the other a newcomer, characterized by mutuality. (*Hayes 1998, p525*)

(2) Mentorship, in the true sense of the word, is more focused on supporting, inspiring and nurturing rather than on the transfer of practical clinical skills as is the case with Preceptorship *Sword et al., 2002*.

Nurse Practitioner (1) A RN whose registration is endorsed as a Nurse Practitioner by the NMBA.

(2) A nurse practitioner (NP) is a registered nurse educated and authorised to function autonomously and collaboratively in an advanced and extended clinical role. The nurse practitioner role includes assessment and management of clients using nursing knowledge and skills and may include but is not limited to the direct referral of patients to other health care professionals, prescribing medications, and ordering diagnostic investigations. The nurse practitioner role is grounded in the nursing profession's values, knowledge, theories and practise. Nurse practitioners provide innovative and flexible health care delivery that complements other health care providers. The scope of practice of the nurse practitioner is determined by the context in which the nurse practitioner is authorised to practise." (*Australian Nurse and Midwifery Council, 2006*)

NMP Nursing and Midwifery Policy (NMP) is responsible for ensuring the government is provided with timely, accurate and appropriate nursing policy advice. The branch seeks to ensure that the Victorian health care system and required nursing services are supported by an educated, experienced and skilled nurse workforce and of an adequate size and distribution to meet the needs of the public. NMP manages the Victorian Nurse Practitioner Project.

Nurse Practitioner Candidate	A Registered Nurse (sic) engaged to undertake a course of study and undertake clinical experience leading to endorsement as a nurse practitioner. A registered nurse engaged as a Nurse Practitioner Candidate (NPC), shall be classified and paid their substantive salary. (Australian Industrial Relations Commission, 2006)
Nurse Practitioner Collaboratives	Nursing and Midwifery Policy support a number of NP Collaboratives/Community of practice. A collaborative network can assist individual sites and candidates to develop and implement NP models of care and provide support to individual candidates. Collaboratives are informal, self-governing groups that support members to share knowledge and experience that impact on the implementation of NP services.
National Competency Standards for the Nurse Practitioner	These are the nationally accepted competency standards for NPs. Three generic standards and nine competencies each with specific performance indicators that define the parameters of nurse practitioner practice have been identified (National Competency Standards for the Nurse Practitioner, ANMC, 2006)
Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) is a Commonwealth Government system of subsidising prescription medications. All Australian residents have access to medicines at a subsidised price through the PBS: Only prescribers with a PBS prescriber number can write prescriptions that will be subsidised by PBS. Prescribers must apply for a PBS prescriber number from the Health Insurance Commission (HIC).
Prescribe	<p>The provision usually in writing by an authorised prescriber, after clinical assessment of a specified patient/client, of instructions for the supply or administration of medicine for that specified patient/client. Legal authority to prescribe is required. Adapted from: National Health and Medical Research Council (1998)</p> <p>In Victoria, the term prescribe is not used in legislation. NP are authorised to “obtain and have in his or her possession and to use, sell or supply any Schedule 2, 3, 4 or 8 poison approved by the Minister in relation to the category of NP specified in the endorsement of that NPs registration in the lawful practice of his or her profession as a NP.</p>
Poison	The term used in Victorian <i>Drugs Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981 and Regulations 2006</i> that refers to a substance (including medicines) in various schedule of the Commonwealth Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons (SUSMP)
MBS	Medicare Benefits Scheme (MBS) is a Commonwealth scheme that funds a number of health services provided to the community. Costs incurred by patients receiving private doctors’ services and some optometric services and dental surgery, whether in or out of hospital, are generally reimbursed either fully or in part by means of Medicare benefits.
Schedule	Refers to the Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons (SUSMP) , also known as the Poisons Standard. Scheduling is a classification system that controls how medicines and chemicals are accessible to consumers. Medicines and chemicals are grouped into Schedules according to the appropriate level of regulatory control over their availability (e.g. Schedule 4 - medicines available only by prescription; Schedule 2 - medicines available over the counter in pharmacies).
Supervision – Clinical	“Clinical supervision is the process of two or more professionals formally meeting to reflect and review clinical situations with the aim of supporting the clinician in their professional environment “(Clinical supervision framework for WA Mental Health Series and clinicians 2004-2007). A NPC may need academic, clinical and/or professional supervision.
Supervision – Academic	An intensive form of teaching that goes beyond knowledge acquisition (James & Baldwin, 2006). Academic supervision is commonly used to describe the relationship between academics and students completing a postgraduate research degree but the principles of research supervision can be applied to other academic contexts.
Supply	The act of providing medicines to a patient/client or third party for the use by the patient/client only. National Health and Medical Research Council (1998) Review of Services Offered By Midwives.
SUSMP	See Schedule.
VNPP	The Victorian Nurse Practitioner Project (VNPP) is the Victorian Government funded project to implement the NP role in Victoria. The VNPP provides the policy focus for NP role development and funding for health services to development and implement NP models, and undertake NP service planning. In addition, the VNPP funds scholarships for nurses to assist them to complete the required academic qualifications for endorsement as an NP. The VNPP is managed by the Nursing and Midwifery Policy Branch, Department of Health.

