

Office of the Chief Nurse – Communiqué

March 2010

Nurse Policy: Building capacity and capability in the Victorian nursing workforce.

With Easter upon us, there is now only just over 13 weeks until the national registration and accreditation scheme commences.

There will undoubtedly be some hurdles and challenges as we work through the practicalities and for employers in particular there will be an ongoing emphasis on local governance and credentialing with respect to practice scopes.

I urge you to stay in touch with the changes via the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia and in this Communiqué we also have a link to FAQs that you and your staff may be interested in.



Adj Professor Belinda Moyes
Chief Nursing Advisor

Please circulate me to wards/areas where nurses and midwives work in your organisation!

National Registration Update

On 25 March 2010 the final piece of legislation to adopt the national registration and accreditation scheme for health professionals in Victoria, including nurses and midwives was passed in the Upper House of Parliament. The scheme commences on **1 July 2010**.

Fact sheets about the national scheme are available from the Victorian Practitioner Regulation website.

For further information contact the Practitioner Regulation Team on 9096 6982 or email practitioner.regulation@health.vic.gov.au.

FAQs at: www.health.vic.gov.au/pracreg/natdev

NP equivalence of academic qualifications

NBV have just published important advice regarding assessment of applications for equivalence of qualifications that may affect some NP candidates.

NP candidates are advised to review this advice as the window for lodging applications for equivalence assessment is close of business on **19 May 2010**.

www.nbv.org.au/web/guest/endorsements-nurse-practitioner

Office of the Chief Nurse Communiqués are produced monthly for Directors of Nursing of public health services. Communiqués are also available on the *Nursing in Victoria* website <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/principal>

Department of Health

Amateur Photographic Exhibition Open

The photographic exhibition website is now live ready to accept submissions until **5pm 26 April 2010**. Amateur photographers are invited to submit photographs of Victorian Nurses and Midwives into the amateur photographic exhibition via 'Nursing in Victoria' website (see link below).

Hard copy promotional flyers have also been mailed to health services for distribution/display on staff/visitor notice boards.

NP Contact: lisa.broun@health.vic.gov.au
www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/photoexhib

Open round NP Candidate Support Packages

Due to some deferments of uptake of Nurse Practitioner Candidate Support Packages in targeted areas in 2009-10, some VNNP funding is now available for a small number of untargeted NPC Support packages.

The support packages are up to \$8000 for organisations as a contribution towards the costs of providing clinical and professional supervision and support for a NP candidate.

Applications will be available on the nursing in Victoria website this week and will close on **23 April 2010**.

NP Contact: nonie.rickard@health.vic.gov.au
www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/furthering/practitioner

Commonwealth Aged Care Scholarships

Scholarships for nurses in community aged care sector are now available through the [Royal College of Nursing](http://www.rcna.org.au) (RCNA) and will close **16 April 2010**. For further information and applications process: www.rcna.org.au

VNPP Publication Grants 2010

This grant round is open and closes **23 April 2010**.

www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/furthering/practitioner/vnpp-publication-grants