

# Allied health workforce

## Advanced practice case studies

### Introduction

Victoria's health system is continuing to evolve to meet a range of challenges and opportunities. In recent years, the Department of Health & Human Services (the department) has encouraged health services to grow the numbers and better utilise the full range of skills of the allied health sector, including through investment in advanced practice roles.

Advanced practice roles are roles that are currently within the recognised scope of practice for a profession, but that through custom and practice have been performed by other professions. When properly designed and resourced, there is a growing body of evidence that such roles can have a positive impact on patient care through improved access, efficiency, workforce productivity and patient experience.

To support Victorian health care providers to establish and embed proven advanced allied health practice roles into new services or settings, the department has recently provided funding through the Advanced Practice in Allied Health Workforce Grant Program. This funding complements the [Allied health credentialing, competency and capability framework](#), which provides a platform for the safe introduction of new allied health services models, therapies, procedures and roles, including advanced practice roles.

In addition, the department has worked with health services to develop a suite of advanced practice case studies to disseminate information and encourage wider implementation of these roles. The case studies showcase roles within Victorian metropolitan and regional health services across a range of allied health professions and help build an evidence base on their service and workforce impacts. The case studies reinforce that advanced practice roles can successfully increase options for service provision, as well as enable development of additional career pathways and leadership opportunities for allied health practitioners. The advanced practice case studies presented provide a sample of the range of excellent work taking place in allied health across Victoria.

The case studies are available on the department's website at the [following link](#).

Allied health plays a key role in improving the health, wealth (economic and social participation) and wellbeing of all Victorians. Further embedding advanced practice service models in Victoria will enable the allied health workforce to utilise their full scope of practice as part of contemporary practice and increase their contribution to meeting our healthcare needs. For further information and resources please email [alliedhealthworkforce@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:alliedhealthworkforce@dhhs.vic.gov.au).



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