University sends medical students to rural NZ to help relieve doctor shortages

ESTHER TAUNTON
Last updated 08:49, May 19 2017

NEW ZEALAND

NZ's doctor shortage: What needs to be done?

RACHEL THOMAS
Last updated 05:00, December 18 2016

Chronic GP shortages across the country to worsen when aging doctors retire

GP workforce lurching toward further crisis

AARON LEAMAN
Last updated 08:51, July 23 2017
WHAT IS A NURSE PRACTITIONER?

“advanced education, clinical training and the demonstrated competence and legal authority to practice beyond the level of a registered nurse”
SCOPE OF PRACTICE

3 Scopes

- Enrolled Nurse (EN)
- Registered Nurse (RN)
- Nurse Practitioner (NP)

Different education requirements
NURSE PRACTITIONER REGISTRATION

• Registration with the Nursing Council of New Zealand in the registered nurse scope of practice

• A minimum of four years of experience in an area of practice

• An approved clinical master’s degree programme for the nurse practitioner scope of practice

• An assessment against the nurse practitioner competencies by a Council approved panel
ADVANCED PRACTICE ROLES
## COMPARISON OF 3 ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSING ROLES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>RN expanded practice e.g. CNS</th>
<th>RN with prescribing</th>
<th>Nurse Practitioner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scope of practice</strong></td>
<td>Registered Nurse</td>
<td>Registered Nurse</td>
<td>Nurse Practitioner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Academic preparation</strong></td>
<td>Usually minimum post graduate diploma / 4 level 8 papers</td>
<td>Grad cert in RN prescribing / 2 level 8 prescribers</td>
<td>Masters of Nursing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Diagnostic ordering</strong></td>
<td>By arrangement</td>
<td>By arrangement</td>
<td>By right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Medical diagnosis</strong></td>
<td>Provisional only</td>
<td>Provisional only</td>
<td>Definitive and differential</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prescribing range</strong></td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>Requires supervision of medical diagnosing and prescribing</td>
<td>Authorised prescriber No supervision required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Autonomy</strong></td>
<td>Autonomous practice</td>
<td>Autonomous practice</td>
<td>Extended autonomy and authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NCNZ requirement for prescribing competence assessment for APC renewal</strong></td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Annual assessment by authorised prescriber</td>
<td>Three yearly assessment by prescribing peer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NURSE PRACTITIONER ROLE
NURSE PRACTITIONER BENEFITS
REFERENCES