



Newsletter

27 July 2011

Introduction

The Nurse Practitioner Advisory Committee of New Zealand (NPAC-NZ) was established in May 2002 for the purpose of the nursing profession to work collaboratively on matters relating to the registration of Nurse Practitioners (NPs) and the development of the Nurse Practitioner model within New Zealand/Aotearoa. NPAC-NZ comprises of representatives of the four major professional nursing representative associations working with the Nursing Council of New Zealand (NCNZ) under the terms of a Memorandum of Understanding. The Committee meets face to face three times yearly and holds monthly teleconferences. This newsletter provides ongoing updates of NPAC-NZ activities since April 2005.

For any administrative enquiries please contact Georgina Araboglos (Administrative Support) georginaa@nzno.org.nz or DDI 04-494 8237.

Further details are available on the NPAC-NZ website (www.nursepractitioner.org.nz) or NZNO website and enter NPAC-NZ in search tool

Current NPAC-NZ committee members include:

- Helen Snell, *Nurse Practitioner*, & Charlotte Thompson, *Professional Nursing Advisor* – representatives New Zealand Nurses Organisation (NZNO).
- Pip Rutherford, *Nurse Practitioner*, & Sue Wood, *Director of Nursing Midcentral DHB* – representatives College of Nurses Aotearoa (CONA).
- Bernadette Paus, *Nurse Practitioner*, & one vacancy, *Director of Nursing* – representatives College of Mental Health Nurses.
- Vacancy: – representative National Council of Maori Nurses

Summary of Activities – July 2011

- **New Terms of Reference**

These have been updated and have been sent out to NPAC-NZ representative groups for review

- **Legislative Barriers**

Chief Nurse Jane O'Malley and her team at the Ministry Of Health are preparing submissions on legislative barriers including the Cremation and Burial Act and prescribing. There are no further updates on NPs using electronic special authority however NPs able to request special authority in paper format

- **Registration medal for Nurse Practitioner**

The medal is still at Nursing Council awaiting approval. Once this is approved NPAC-NZ will be notified and the medals can then be purchased, price to be confirmed

- **DHBNZ Nurse Practitioner website**

DHBNZ is unable to continue to host the Nurse Practitioner website (www.nursepractitioner.org.nz). Discussions are ongoing re using the Ministry of Health HIIRC website to continue to provide information for NPs, NP candidates, mentors, employers and the general public.

- **Nurse Practitioner Clinical Training and Education Programme**

The consultation has been completed with thirty two submissions collated which were generally favourable. Discussions continue and NPAC-NZ and NPNZ have agreed on four core principles: a formal programme is needed, a set number of clinical hours, that it occurs in clinical practice, and that supervision of extended practice is provided. The updated version as well as a covering letter, will be sent out to the College of Nurses Aotearoa, College of Mental Health Nurses, NPNZ, NZNO, Nursing Council and Ministry of Health. Discussions have also occurred with a representative from Health Workforce New Zealand central region training hub.

- **Nurse Practitioner Mentor Programmes & study day**

Workshops and study days for mentors have been ongoing through the country. This work will now be provided by NPNZ

- **Closer ties with NPNZ**

NPNZ chair person Dr Michal Boyd attended the face to face NPAC-NZ meeting in Wellington and links between these two groups have been strengthened. Collaboration on the 100 celebration, NP activities, strategic planning and consultation is ongoing.

- **Celebration of 100 NPs**

NPAC-NZ and NPNZ are working on options to celebrate the first 100 NP registrations in New Zealand. They will be collaborating with Nursing Council of New Zealand, the Chief Nurse and Ministry of Health.