

Advanced Nursing Practice Skills for Registered Nurses and Midwives

Policy Number 1.176

Policy Function Continuum of Care

Issue Date 8 May 2019

Summary This policy provides a framework for Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network registered nurses and midwives to be authorised to perform advanced nursing practice skills. The policy aims to ensure evidence of efficacy, safety and effective resource utilisation to safely comply with patient care. The policy is an overarching policy regarding current advanced nursing practice procedures set out by Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network.

Responsible Officer Executive Director Clinical Operations

Applicable Sites

- Administration Centres
- Community Sites (e.g. Court Liaison Service, Community Integration Team, etc.)
- Health Centres (Adult Correctional Centres or Police Cells)
- Health Centres (Juvenile Justice Centres)
- Long Bay Hospital
- Forensic Hospital

Previous Issue(s) Policy 2.006 (Dec 2017)

Change Summary

- Minor wording changes
- Policy number is updated from 2.006 to 1.176

HPRM Reference POLJH/1176

Authorised by Chief Executive, Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network

1. Preface

The policy ensures Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network (the Network) supports the delivery of advanced nursing practice skills for registered nurses and midwives. The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) defines Advanced nursing practice as *'a continuum along which nurses develop their professional knowledge, clinical reasoning and judgement, skills and behaviours to higher levels of capacity'*. ([NMBA 2016](#)).

The NMBA advises that advanced nursing practice is a level of practice and not a role. This is to distinguish it from Advanced Practice Nursing which is the roles of a nurse practitioner.

2. Policy Content

2.1. Mandatory Requirements

Advanced nursing practice within the Network covers the following provisions and requirements:

- Registered nurses and midwives scope of advanced nursing practice is limited to procedures authorised by the Clinical Operations Committee.
- Recognition that the authority to perform an authorised advanced nursing practice procedure applies only whilst nurses & midwives are employed within the Network.
- Registered nurses and midwives commencing with the Network who have undertaken training in advanced nursing procedure elsewhere will be required to obtain proof of competency to undertake these procedures within the Network.
- To achieve proof of competency registered nurses and midwives will be required to complete the processes as outlined for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), if offered, each authorised procedure.

[Women's Health Advanced Nursing Practice Skills for Registered Nurses](#) have been prepared and authorised by the Clinical Operations Committee. Each document covers the necessary requirements for each advanced nursing practice procedure. The education, proficiencies and skills outlined within the guidelines and procedures must be followed at all times to ensure safe best practice when undertaking these procedures.

2.2. Implementation - Roles & Responsibilities

2.2.1 Managers

- Ensure registered nurses and midwives are given the opportunity to attend education, have the appropriate tools and resources available and work within the outlined guidelines or procedures of the advanced nursing practice.
- Ensure the recording of current accreditation for the advanced nursing practice in the staff members personnel file.
- Ensure that the skill capacity in staff for advanced nursing practice procedures is maintained so that patient treatment is not unnecessarily delayed.

2.2.2 Registered Nurse and Midwives

- All registered nurses and midwives providing advanced nursing practice procedures within the Network must refer to this policy and work within the guidelines and procedures for the advanced nursing practice. Registered nurses and midwives should refer any issues to their line managers in the first instance.
- Registered nurses and midwives should ensure that they are up to date with current practices and processes within the Network as outlined in the relevant guideline or procedure. This may include attendance at refresher workshops and training days.

3. Procedure Content

This policy covers guidelines and procedures established by the Network to support ongoing advanced nursing practice skills performed by registered nurses and midwives working within the Network. This policy is an overarching framework to support developed guidelines and procedures. Each approved advanced nursing practice skill for registered nurses and midwives guideline or protocol will be placed on the intranet under the following link: [Advanced Nursing Practice Skills for Registered Nurses and Midwives](#).

4. Definitions

Must

Indicates a mandatory action to be complied with.

Should

Indicates a recommended action to be complied with unless there are sound reasons for taking a different course of action.

5. Legislation and Related Documents

Network Policies and Guidelines	Adult Urinary Catheterisation Guidelines Women's Health Advanced Nursing Practice Skills for Registered Nurses Ear Irrigation Procedure 2018 Nail Clipping Procedure for Registered Nurses 2018
External Resources	Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia: Advanced nursing practice and speciality areas within nursing. Oct 2016 Adult Ambulatory Urinary Tract Infection Treatment Guideline