

Definitions of advanced nursing practice

The following definitions of advanced nursing practice are taken from the *Competency Standards for the Advanced Registered Nurse* and the *Competency Standards for the Advanced Enrolled Nurse* (2005) developed by the Australian Nursing Federation. Copies of these competency standards are available on the ANF website at http://www.anf.org.au/anf_pdf/publications/Competency_Standards.pdf

Advanced registered nurses

Advanced registered nurses are experienced, knowledgeable and competent nurses who use evidence for practice, take responsibility for complex situations, show leadership in clinical and professional settings, contribute to effective team work, and focus on improving the health of individuals and groups.

The advanced registered nurse might typically be described as:

- being prepared for evidence based practice through post registration qualifications/education;
- an active member of the nursing profession;
- accepting responsibility for complex situations which may encompass clinical, managerial, educational or research contexts;
- demonstrating leadership and initiating change;
- practising comprehensively as an interdependent team member;
- practising outside of single contexts or episodes of care;
- having particular breadth or depth of experience and knowledge; and focused on outcomes for individuals and groups.

To access the *Competency Standards for the Advanced Registered Nurse*, follow this link: http://www.anf.org.au/anf_pdf/publications/Competency_Standards_Adv_RN.pdf

Advanced enrolled nurse

The practice of advanced enrolled nurses is characterised by:

- specialisation in an area or field of practice;
- a higher level of clinical knowledge and skills informed by further education and on-the-job experience;
- a greater level of responsibility in the management of client care which may include clinical and non clinical roles;
- acting as a resource to other staff; and
- more indirect levels of supervision.

The typical advanced enrolled nurse is described as:

- having post enrolment training, education and qualifications;
- having a breadth or depth of clinical experience and knowledge;
- undertaking a greater scope of delegated responsibility which may include clinical and management responsibilities;

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- able to practice competently with indirect registered nurse supervision;
- a role model and resource to others in their area of practice; and
- an active member of the nursing profession.

To access the *Competency Standards for the Advanced Enrolled Nurse*, follow this link:
http://www.anf.org.au/anf_pdf/publications/Competency_Standards_Advanced_EN.pdf

National Nursing Organisations- Glossary of terms

In 2004, the National Nursing Organisations (NNOs) republished their *Glossary of Terms: Criteria for Specialities in Nursing / Principles of Credentialing for Nurses*. The Glossary provides some additional information to assist nurses to understand and define advanced practice.

The Glossary can be found at: http://www.conno.org.au/pdf/NNO_Glossary_of_Terms.pdf