



Figure 1 Core role of the Nurse Practitioner

**Table 1: Nurse practitioner Competencies and performance indicators for Standard 1**

<b>Standard 1 – Competencies</b>	
1.1	<p><b>Conducts advanced, comprehensive and holistic health assessment relevant to a specialist field of nursing practice</b></p> <p><u>Performance indicators</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Demonstrates advanced knowledge of human sciences and extended skills in diagnostic reasoning</li><li>b. Differentiates between normal, variation of normal and abnormal findings in clinical assessment</li><li>c. Rapidly assesses a patient's unstable and complex health-care problem through synthesis and prioritisation of historical and available data</li><li>d. Makes decisions about use of investigative options that are judicious, patient-focused and informed by clinical findings</li><li>e. Demonstrates confidence in own ability to synthesise and interpret assessment information including client/patient history, physical findings and diagnostic data to identify normal and abnormal states of health and differential diagnoses</li><li>f. Makes informed and autonomous decisions about preventive, diagnostic and therapeutic responses and interventions that are based on clinical judgment, scientific evidence, and patient-determined outcomes</li></ul>
1.2	<p><b>Demonstrates a high level of confidence and clinical proficiency in carrying out a range of procedures, treatments and interventions that are evidence based and informed by specialist knowledge.</b></p> <p><u>Performance indicators</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Consistently demonstrates a thoughtful and innovative approach to effective clinical management planning in collaboration with the patient/client</li><li>b. Exhibits a comprehensive knowledge of pharmacology and pharmacokinetics related to a specific field of clinical practice</li><li>c. Selects/prescribes appropriate medication, including dosage, routes and frequency pattern, based upon accurate knowledge of patient characteristics and concurrent therapies</li><li>d. Is knowledgeable and creative in selection and integration of both pharmacological and non-pharmacological treatment interventions into the management plan in consultation with the patient/client</li><li>e. Rapidly and continuously evaluates the patient/client's condition and response to therapy and modifies the management plan when necessary to achieve desired patient/client outcomes</li><li>f. Is an expert clinician in the use of therapeutic interventions specific to, and based upon, their expert knowledge of specialty practice</li><li>g. Collaborates effectively with other health professionals and agencies and makes and accepts referrals as appropriate to specific model of practice</li><li>h. Evaluates treatment/intervention regimes on completion of the episode of care, in accordance with patient/client-determined outcomes</li></ul>
1.3	<p><b>Has the capacity to use the knowledge and skills of extended practice competencies in complex and unfamiliar environments</b></p> <p><u>Performance indicators</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Actively engages community/public health assessment information to inform interventions, referrals and coordination of care</li><li>b. Demonstrates confidence and self-efficacy in accommodating uncertainty and managing risk in complex patient care situations</li><li>c. Demonstrates professional integrity, probity and ethical conduct in response to industry marketing strategies when prescribing drugs and other products.</li><li>d. Uses critical judgment to vary practice according to contextual and cultural influences</li><li>e. Confidently integrates scientific knowledge and expert judgment to assess and intervene to assist the person in complex and unpredictable situations</li></ul>

1.4	<p>Demonstrates skills in accessing established and evolving knowledge in clinical and social sciences, and the application of this knowledge to patient care and the education of others.</p> <p><u>Performance indicators</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Critically appraises and integrates relevant research findings in decision making about health-care management and patient interventions</li><li>b. Demonstrates the capacity to conduct research/quality audits as deemed necessary in the practice environment</li><li>c. Demonstrates an open-minded and analytical approach to acquiring new knowledge</li><li>d. Demonstrates the skills and values of lifelong learning and relates this to the demands of extended clinical practice</li></ul>
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**Table2: Nurse practitioner Competencies and performance indicators for Standard 2**

<b>Standard 2 – Competencies</b>	
2.1	<p><b>Applies extended practice competencies within a nursing model of practice</b></p> <p><u>Performance indicators</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Readily identifies the values intrinsic to nursing that inform nurse practitioner practice and an holistic approach to patient/client/community care</li><li>b. Communicates a calm, confident and knowing approach to patient care that brings comfort and emotional support to the client and their family</li><li>c. Demonstrates the ability and confidence to apply extended practice competencies within a scope of practice that is autonomous and collaborative</li><li>d. Creates a climate that supports mutual engagement and establishes partnerships with patients/carer/family</li><li>e. Readily articulates a coherent and clearly defined nurse practitioner scope of practice that is characterised by extensions and parameters</li></ul>
2.2	<p><b>Establishes therapeutic links with the patient/client/ community that recognise and respect cultural identity and lifestyle choices</b></p> <p><u>Performance indicators</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Demonstrates respect for the rights of people to determine their own journey through a health/illness episode while ensuring access to accurate and appropriately interpreted information on which to base decisions</li><li>b. Demonstrates cultural competence by incorporating cultural beliefs and practices into all interactions and plans for direct and referred care</li><li>c. Demonstrates respect for differences in cultural and social responses to health and illness and incorporates health beliefs of the individual/community into treatment and management modalities</li></ul>
2.3	<p><b>Is proactive in conducting clinical service that is enhanced and extended by autonomous and accountable practice</b></p> <p><u>Performance indicators</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Establishes effective, collegial relationships with other health professionals that reflect confidence in the contribution that nursing makes to client outcomes</li><li>b. Readily uses creative solutions and processes to meet patient/client /community defined health-care outcomes within a frame of autonomous practice</li><li>c. Demonstrates accountability in considering access, clinical efficacy and quality when making patient-care decisions</li><li>d. Incorporates the impact of the nurse practitioner service within local and national jurisdictions into the scope of practice</li><li>e. Advocates for expansion to the nurse practitioner model of service that will improve access to quality, cost-effective health care for specific populations</li></ul>

**Table3: Nurse practitioner Competencies and performance indicators for Standard 3**

<b>Standard 3 - Competencies</b>	
3.1	<p>Engages in and leads clinical collaboration that optimise outcomes for Patients/clients/communities</p> <p><u>Performance indicators</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Actively participates as a senior member and/or leader of relevant multidisciplinary teams</li><li>b. Establishes effective communication strategies that promote positive multidisciplinary clinical partnerships</li><li>c. Articulates and promotes the nurse practitioner role in clinical, political and professional contexts</li><li>d. Monitors their own practice as well as participating in intra- and inter-disciplinary peer supervision and review</li></ul>
3.2	<p>Engages in and leads informed critique and influence at the systems level of health-care</p> <p><u>Performance indicators</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Critiques the implication of emerging health policy on the nurse practitioner role and the client population</li><li>b. Evaluates the impact of social factors (such as literacy, poverty, domestic violence and racial attitudes) on the health of individuals and communities and acts to moderate the influence of these factors on the specific population/individual</li><li>c. Maintains current knowledge of financing of the health-care system as it affects delivery of care</li><li>d. Influences health-care policy and practice through leadership and active participation in workplace and professional organisations and at state and national government levels</li><li>e. Actively contributes to and advocates for the development of specialist, local and national, health-service policy that enhances nurse practitioner practice and the health of the community</li></ul>