

Queensland Office of the Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer

Submission to ANMAC- Registered nurse accreditation standards review consultation stage 3

This office appreciates the opportunity to contribute to the third stage of consultation for this review and acknowledges the consideration ANMAC has given our earlier comments. The work done in this review has led to the development of contemporary standards that can guide the development of curricula.

Our feedback is brief and, and is given to specific elements of the standards:

1.5 The education provider undertakes screening and management of students who present with an impairment and reports to the NMBA as required.

Suggest re-wording of this statement to improve readability:

The education provider undertakes screening of students for impairment and has a documented process for management of identified impairments, including reporting to NMBA as required.

3.5 Program content and subject learning outcomes integrates cultural diversity and cultural safety.

and

3.8 The program includes:

a) **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' history, culture and health taught from an Indigenous perspective as a discrete unit of study and based on the Nursing and Midwifery Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Curriculum Framework⁶**

b) **content relevant to health outcomes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples embedded throughout the program.**

These two elements have overlap and could be integrated into a single element to reduce duplication.

3.7 Program content and subject learning outcomes prepares students to supply under a structured prescribing arrangement.

Suggest rewording to: Program content and subject learning outcomes prepares students to supply and administer under a structured prescribing arrangement.

It is acknowledged that it could be argued that, in its entirety, the undergraduate program of study prepares a registered nurse (RN) to administer under protocol. Despite this, "supply and administer" is the term used in the majority of papers and documents addressing this part of the registered nurse's role.

Supplying and administering under a structured prescribing arrangement (or under protocol) by an RN is seen as within scope by the profession and by its regulatory body the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA), however it may be a novel concept to many outside the profession. Inclusion of "and administer" will make explicit to all stakeholders that undergraduate education adequately prepares RNs for this role.

Queensland legislation currently creates authorisation for RNs to administer and supply under protocol and relies upon the NMBA scheduled medicines/ RIPEN endorsement as a necessary qualification. This endorsement is to be discontinued by the NMBA.

Queensland is pursuing amendments to its legislation to ensure that nurses practising with a specific scope of practice, such as those working in rural and isolated practice, immunisation program or sexual health programs, can continue to meet the health needs of their communities.

Amending element 3.7 to *Program content and subject learning outcomes prepares students to supply and administer under a structured prescribing arrangement* will provide crucial support for the creation of authorisations for registered nurses to supply and administer under protocol under Queensland legislation.

3.11 Program resources are sufficient to facilitate ~~support~~ student achievement of the Registered Nurse Standards for Practice, with attention to human, physical and financial resources supporting all teaching and learning environments, including simulated practice and professional experience placements.

Note probable typographical error.