



NEWSLETTER 13: DECEMBER 2009

THE NURSE PRACTITIONER ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF NEW ZEALAND (NPAC-NZ)

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 Charlotte Thompson (Professional Nursing Advisor) via email at charlottet@nzno.org.nz or Georgina Araboglos (Administrative Support) georginaA@nzno.org.nz.

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

New NPAC-NZ Committee Member

NPAC-NZ welcomes Orana Harris this year to the committee. Orana introduces herself as follows:

Kia ora koutou katoa my name is Orana Harris. I am of Ngati Kahu and Te Rarawa descent and was born in Kaitia in the far North. I am married with 2 adult children and 2 fantastically exciting, amazing mokopuna. I have extensive experience in both the secondary and primary health sectors and I am currently the Director of Nursing at Nga Mataapuna Oranga Kaupapa Maori PHO in Tauranga where I have been employed for almost 4 years.

I trained at Rotorua Hospital and my academic journey started with completing a BHSc (Nursing), PG Cert Palliative Care and finally a Masters (Applied) at Victoria University of Wellington. Victoria was certainly a great place to study and I am now spending time concentrating on my golf handicap.

I am a member of the National Screening Advisory Committee and the Health Practitioners Tribunal to which I have been recently reappointed to both committees.

I am passionate about growing and developing Maori nurses and even more passionate about growing the number of kaupapa Maori Nurse practitioners in Aotearoa. Tatau Tatau.

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 Forde-Paus, *Nurse Practitioner*, & Alex Craig, *Director of Nursing* – representatives College of Mental Health Nurses.
- Orana Harris, *Director of Nursing at Nga Mataapuna Oranga Kaupapa Maori PHO* – representative National Council of Maori Nurses

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES - DECEMBER 2009

▪ **Legislative Barriers**

Sixty nine pieces of legislation have been identified as potential barriers to NP practice. Fourteen different government departments are involved. Currently restructuring is occurring within the Ministry of Health, for example the establishment of the National Health Board, which affects the ability to progress discussions on these barriers. This issue continues to be work in progress for Mark Jones (Chief Nurse, Ministry of Health) and Helen Snell with the current government.

▪ **Update of Nursing Council of New Zealand (NCNZ) Guidelines**

NCNZ requested that NPAC-NZ assist with the review its NP guidelines for applicants, with the intention of combining two documents into one. This significant piece of work was facilitated by NPAC-NZ Committee Member Bernadette Forde – Paus. As a result of this collaboration, the publication entitled *Nurse Practitioner Scope of Practice Guidelines for Applicants* was released by NCNZ in September this year. It is available to download on www.nursingcouncil.org.nz.

- **Celebrating the first 50 Nurse Practitioners in New Zealand**

Mark Jones, (Chief Nurse, Ministry of Health), commissioned a publication that celebrates the pioneering spirit and experiences of the first 50 Nurse Practitioners in NZ. This publication was a collaborative piece of work between the Ministry of Health, Nurse Practitioner Advisory Committee of NZ, DHBNZ Nurse Practitioner Facilitation Programme and the Nursing Council of NZ and was released on 7 December 2009.

- **Design of a registration medal for Nurse Practitioner**

NPAC-NZ have been working on a design for a medal to represent the Nurse Practitioner scope of practice. Two designs are being considered by the Nurse Practitioners of New Group and the preferred design will be forwarded to Nursing Council for their consideration.

- **The Nurse Practitioner Frequently Asked Questions Brochure**

This brochure was updated by NPAC-NZ and kindly printed by NCNZ. Anecdotal feedback from specialty interest groups has been that it is a valuable source of information. It is available to download from The College of Nurses Aotearoa website ([http://www.nurse.org.nz/nurse_practitioner/NP - FAQs.pdf](http://www.nurse.org.nz/nurse_practitioner/NP_-_FAQs.pdf)), and hard copies are available (while stocks last) from the New Zealand Nurses Organisation (www.nzno.org.nz).

- **DHBNZ Nurse Practitioner Facilitation Programme (NPF)**

The DHBNZ NPF programme held its last meeting in November as the Ministry of Health has not committed funding for the group into 2010. Bernadette Forde-Paus and Sue Wood represented NPNZ and NPAC-NZ respectively on the NPF group. The group was chaired by Dr Elaine Paaps and Liz Manning was the project manager. The group is to be congratulated on meeting all of its deliverables which has included the production of the NP DVD last year and the just released promotional posters and Innovations publication. NPAC-NZ will be scoping work that will need to be continued and will have an ongoing relationship with Liz Manning at DHBNZ.

A Nurse Practitioner website page will continue to be maintained by DHBNZ which is www.nursepractitioner.org.nz.

- **Review of the NPAC-NZ Business Case Tool Kit to establish the position of Nurse Practitioner.**

A review of this 2005 Guideline is being undertaken by NPAC-NZ, and due for completion in 2010. The current copy is available on the following link: http://www.dhbnz.org.nz/Site/Future_Workforce/Nursing-Midwifery/Nursing-Projects/overview.aspx

- **Nurse Practitioner Candidate Training Programme**

A draft service specification for a Nurse Practitioner Candidate training programme is being developed and will be out for consultation in the New Year. The service specification focuses on the direct clinical practice component of NP preparation and aims to provide consistency to formal NP Candidate training.

- **Nurse Practitioner Mentor Programmes**

NPAC- NZ is aware of the various informal mentoring programmes available in New Zealand, and will continue discussions in 2010 as how best to support and educate mentors, and standardise the information NP candidates receive.

For further inquiries please contact Georgina Araboglas administration support for NPAC-NZ. DDI: (04) 494 4237 EMAIL: GeorginaA@nzno.org.nz, PO Box 2128, Wellington 6140