



Australian College of Nurse Practitioners response to:

Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia

- Guidelines for privately practising nurses

Contact:

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Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia
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By email: nmbafeedback@ahpra.gov.au

- subject line 'Guidelines for privately practising nurses'
- word document format

Dear Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the 'Guidelines for privately practising nurses' consultation.

The Australian College of Nurse Practitioners (ACNP) is the national peak organisation for Nurse Practitioners, advancing nursing practice and consumer access to health care. A key focus for the role and scope of practice development for Nurse Practitioners is on unmet needs within the community and increasing access to health care.

The ACNP supports the development of these guidelines, which will:

- Provide clarity and accessibility for nurse practitioners working in primary care and other private healthcare settings, as well as other healthcare practitioners and the public. It is essential to strike a balance between safeguarding the public, streamlining regulations, and providing flexibility for privately practising nurses (PPN).
- Deliver transparent and appropriate compliance requirements.
- Ensure the quality-of-care delivery and regulatory adherence within the healthcare system are upheld.

Our responses to the consultation questions are as follows.

1. Is the content of the proposed Guidelines for privately practising nurses helpful, clear and relevant?
If no, please explain why.

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The content of the proposed Guidelines for privately practising nurses is relevant, well-structured, and aligned with best practice in nursing.

2. Is there any content that needs to be changed, removed or added in the proposed Guidelines for privately practising nurses? If yes, please provide details.

Section 3.5 “Wellness and integrative medicine” – suggested section title could be Evidence-based practice, referring to the practice rather than the practice setting.

In reference to Standards that should be considered, under the box on page 9, for clarity, the National Safety and Quality Primary and Community Healthcare Standards 2021 should be mentioned first, then the RACGP and NDIS standards. We also suggest that the opportunity to be accredited to these standards be mentioned.

3. Would the proposed guidelines result in any potential negative or unintended effects for consumers, clients or patients including vulnerable members of the community who may choose to access PPN services? If yes, please explain why.

No negative or unintended consequences are identified.

4. Would the proposed guidelines result in any potential negative or unintended effects for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples? If yes, please explain why.

No negative or unintended effects are identified.

5. Would the proposed guidelines result in any potential negative or unintended effects for PPNs? If yes, please explain why.

No negative or unintended effects are identified.

6. Are there any other potential regulatory impacts that the NMBA should consider? (refer to the NMBA statement of assessment at Appendix B) If yes, please explain why.

No potential regulatory impacts are identified.

7. Do you have any other feedback on the proposed Guidelines for privately practising nurses?

No.

Thank you again for the opportunity to participate in this important review. We are happy to be contacted to participate further or provide clarification.

Yours sincerely

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Chief Executive Officer

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