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Nurses Practitioners at the Alfred

Ms Natasha Jennings
Emergency Nurse Practitioner
Emergency & Trauma Centre
The Alfred

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Evolution of the Nurse Practitioner role

- 350 authorized NP's nationally
- 50 in Victoria, 50% are within the Emergency scope of practice
- Each Emergency NP model is unique and organisation specific
- NP Model is dependent on the service need and patient group
- Initially CPG based- limited drug formulary – 50/140 drugs
- Moving towards continued professional development frameworks and credentialing

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NP Definition

- NP candidate vs endorsed NP
- Practices at advanced level
- Autonomous, independent and collaborative
- Leads and delivers health assessment, formulates diagnoses' and management plans
- Clinical practice includes prescribing, requesting and interpreting diagnostic investigations, referral to specialists and other allied health professionals, clinical management for admission and discharge, health education and promotion
- Clinical leadership
- National standards of practice

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Alfred ED Model

- Funded initially by DHS in 2004 as part of HDM strategy
- Started with 2 NP's in training
- 9 NP's- 6 authorised and 3 in training
- Consultant/ Senior ED Reg support & supervision clinically
- NP's assess, diagnose, treat, discharge/refer
- 7 day a week cover 0700-2330
- Rostered Non clinical hours

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Alfred ED Model

• INJURY SPRAIN/STRAIN	758	• UTI/CYSTITIS	79
• INJURY OPEN WOUND	738	• ABDOMINAL PAIN	66
• INJURY FRACTURE	525	• POST OP COMPLICATION	56
• MISCELLANEOUS	430	• NPEP/PEP	56
• CELLULITIS	219	• EYE PROBLEM	56
• REVIEW	155	• BITE - NON VENOMOUS	47
• WOUND MANAGEMENT	151	• POP PROBLEM	38
• ENT	132	• D & V	36
• RASH	94	• BACK PAIN	25
• SUSPECTED URTI	92	• ANAL PAIN	25
• INJURY BURN	91	• RENAL COLIC	25
• ABCESS	91	• MINOR HEAD INJURY	18
• INJURY FOREIGN BODY	88	• SUSPECTED DVT	15
• JOINT PAIN	87	• HEADACHE	11

Source VEMD – 2009/10 Alfred Hospital

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Impact of NP Role

Organisational

And.....

Department and patient care



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How do you know if a NP is authorised to prescribe?

You are a pharmacist that needs to dispense medicine from a script provided by a nurse practitioner. How do you know if the NP is authorised to prescribe?

The nurse practitioner can provide you with evidence of this authority. You can also check the nurse practitioner's notation details on the public register¹. Once you find the nurse practitioner's name, click on the name for details and scroll down to the notation section of the register. The nurse practitioner will have a notation of a category that they are able to prescribe. The approved drug list for each category is published on the Drugs and Poison Control Section of the Victorian Government Department of Health²

<http://www.ahpra.gov.au/Registration/Registers%20of%20Practitioners.aspx>
<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/dpu/prescriber/index.htm>

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Prescribing challenges

- Legalities
- Access to PBS
- Awareness of the role
- Keeping abreast of new treatment regimes and medicines
- Accountability
- Increasing scope of practice

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Questions

N.Jennings@alfred.org.au