

Date: 02/10/2025

CDNM Celebrates RN Prescribing Milestone

The Council of Deans of Nursing and Midwifery (Australia and New Zealand [CDNM]) celebrates the commencement of Registered Nurse (RN) prescribing in Australia, effective 30 September. This is one of the most significant advancements for the profession in more than two decades and a milestone that will reshape both education and workforce capacity. This development is in keeping with the new [international definition of nurse and nursing](#) and with work in Australia looking to maximise use of our health workforce.

For Australian universities and education providers, this reform creates new opportunities to:

- Embed prescribing knowledge and skills into nursing curricula and postgraduate programs.
- Strengthen career pathways for nurses, particularly in primary health care, aged care, and rural and regional settings.
- Prepare graduates for expanded scope of practice, ensuring a workforce ready to meet evolving community health needs.

Australian higher education institutions will now be seeking accreditation of programs to enable Registered Nurses to become eligible to prescribe. This reform places education at the centre of change, preparing the next generation of nurses to deliver timely, person-centred care. International experience shows that nurse prescribing is safe, effective, and enhances job satisfaction, making it a vital advancement for patients, the profession and the health system.

CDNM congratulates all those who have worked to make RN prescribing a reality. We look forward to supporting our 37 Australian member institutions as they integrate this historic reform into education and practice – to strengthen the nursing and midwifery professions and improve access to care for communities across Australia.

About the CDNM

The Council of Deans of Nursing and Midwifery (Australia & New Zealand) (CDNM) is the peak organisation representing universities and other higher education institutions that offer undergraduate and postgraduate programs in nursing and midwifery throughout Australia and New Zealand.

Media Enquiries:

Chair, Council of Deans of Nursing and Midwifery (Australia & New Zealand)

comms@cdnm.edu.au

www.cdnm.edu.au/contact-us