

SCHOOL OF NURSING, MIDWIFERY AND PARAMEDICINE

GUIDELINE

INHERENT REQUIREMENTS

These inherent requirements apply to the Master of Nurse Practitioner (MNP) course and have been developed to ensure that all enrolled students and prospective students understand what will be expected of them to meet the nurse practitioner endorsement requirements set by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (AHPRA).

Introduction

Curtin School of Nursing, Midwifery & Paramedicine meet the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council (ANMAC) requirements and provides graduates with the necessary qualifications that are eligible for endorsement as a nurse practitioner. Students should be aware they must provide the necessary health and legal checks prior to clinical placement. This information can be located on the School website. This document provides prospective students with information about the inherent requirements that are required for them to complete the course.

It is recognised that there are certain inherent requirements or abilities that are necessary to progress through the curriculum and successfully complete the MNP course. They also form the foundation for future career options and continuous self-directed learning.

The following are the skills and abilities that the School considers essential for enabling each graduate to transition from the registered nurse to the role of the nurse practitioner. These requirements are what students must demonstrate to meet the standards of nurse practitioner education, and hence the educational pre-requisites for entrance, progression and graduation.

Students intending to enrol in the MNP at Curtin School of Nursing, Midwifery & Paramedicine are expected to review the following statements to assess the challenges they may experience in meeting these requirements. These statements are not intended to preclude individuals with a disability.

The inherent requirements should be read in conjunction with other course information as well as Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) publications such as: Nurse Practitioner Standards for Practice; Safety and Quality Guidelines for Nurse Practitioners; Code of Ethics for Nurses; Code of Professional Conduct for Nurses; Professional Boundaries for Nurses.

INHERENT REQUIREMENTS

With appropriate support and reasonable accommodation, a MNP student must possess the ability to develop the inherent requirements discussed below in order to successfully complete the nurse practitioner course.

Professional and Ethical Behaviour	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adhere to the applicable Codes, Guidelines and Policies of the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia other relevant statutory authorities at all times to enable safe delivery of care. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comply with relevant legislative and regulatory requirements. • Comply with professional conduct and health organisation policies and procedures. • Adhere to infection control procedures and testing and immunisation requirements. 2. Behave ethically at all times including in times of significant stress. Place patient care above own interests and maintain high ethical standards and professional boundaries. 3. Apply good judgement and achieve timely completion of all responsibilities for the diagnosis and care of patients. 4. Respond appropriately to feedback and have appropriate insight and judgements into own abilities, limitations and health. 5. Maintain life-long learning behaviours. 6. Dress appropriately and safely in the clinical workplace.
Communication Skills	<p>Communication skills required include speech, hearing, observation, reading and writing.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communicate in English accurately and efficiently verbally, in writing and using electronic devices, with patients and members of health care teams. 2. Communicate with and observe patients in order to effectively and efficiently elicit information, describe mood, activity and posture, and perceive non-verbal communication (such as cues including emotional changes and distress), as well as establish rapport and trust with patients and colleagues. 3. Communicate effectively and sensitively with others irrespective of their sex, age, culture, lifestyle, sexual orientation, spiritual beliefs or disabilities, including patients, families and any member of the health care team and display respect, empathy and compassion. 4. Provide clinical documentation in an accurate, concise and timely fashion that meets professional standards. 5. Understand and participate effectively in educational and clinical discussions.
Knowledge and Cognitive Skills	<p>Consistent and effective knowledge and cognitive skills must be demonstrated to provide safe and competent medical care.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Process, recall and apply appropriate and relevant information in a timely manner. 2. Measure, calculate and reason in order to analyse and synthesise information. 3. Solve complex problems by obtaining, synthesizing and evaluating appropriate and relevant information. 4. Comprehend three-dimensional relationships and understand the spatial relationships of structures. 5. Engage in scientific and clinical reasoning.
Mobility and Motor Skills	<p>Demonstrated motor skills for the coordination of gross and fine muscular movements are a core inherent requirement of this course.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safely perform a physical examination on a patient, including palpation, auscultation and percussion so that the important and relevant findings are

	<p>discovered. The examination must be done in a timely manner.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Safely and effectively perform basic and advanced life support on a patient. 3. Use common diagnostic aids or instruments either directly or in an adaptive form (e.g. sphygmomanometer, stethoscope, auroscope, otoscope and ophthalmoscope). 4. Provide general and emergency clinical care to patients. 5. Safely perform clinical procedural skills. 6. Perform actions that require coordination of both gross and fine motor muscular movements, equilibrium and functional use of the senses of touch and vision.
Sensory Abilities	<p>The core requirements of the course will require students to demonstrate the sensory ability in the areas of vision, hearing, smell, taste and touch for the clinical assessment of patients.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Observational skills including vision, hearing, smell, taste and touch to allow clinical assessment: physical examination, recognising and interpreting sensory stimuli relating to visual colour differentiation, hearing, smell and touch are core requirements of the course.
Interpersonal and Social Interactions	<p>Behavioural and social skills are core requirements of the course.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tolerate the physical, emotional and mental demands of the course and function effectively under stress. (i.e. manage own physical and mental health effectively). 2. Develop mature, sensitive and effective relationships with patients. 3. Adapt to changing environments, display flexibility and learn to work effectively when faced with the uncertainties inherent in the clinical problems of many patients. 4. Display personal qualities of compassion, integrity, concern for others, interest and motivation. 5. Respect personal and professional boundaries. 6. Adapt to changing environments and function when faced with the uncertainties that are inherent in the care of patients.

Students with Disabilities

Curtin University strongly supports the inclusion and assistance of students with disabilities by providing reasonable adjustments to teaching and assessment processes and the rights of all people who wish to pursue the nurse practitioner course at the School of Nursing, Midwifery & Paramedicine. The University is committed to making reasonable adjustments to teaching and assessment processes, clinical practice and other activities to address the impact of students' disability so that they can participate in their course. Students who feel they may not be able to meet any or some of these inherent requirements are advised to discuss their personal circumstances with a University Disability Advisor to investigate whether this is a suitable career pathway for them. Refer to the following link for more information:

http://life.curtin.edu.au/health-and-wellbeing/accommodating_students_with_disabilities.htm

Source of Information

Curtin University Medical School: Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) Inherent Requirements; Flinders University Bachelor of Nursing and Bachelor of Midwifery Programs Inherent or Core Course Requirements; Flinders University Medical Course Fact Sheet: Inherent Requirements Statement (Dec 2014); University of Adelaide Inherent Requirements Statements for the MBBS Program; Medical Deans of Australia and New Zealand (MDANZ) Review of Inherent Requirements in Medical Education (including University of Western Sydney Inherent Requirements for Medicine and the Higher Education Occupations Physicians/Practitioners document on Medical Students Fitness Standards); Harvard Medical School Technical Standards for Medical School Admission, Continuation and Graduation Policy; The University of Sydney Inherent Requirements for Course in Medicine

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Initial Reference Group	Leadership Team
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