



## Nursing and midwifery practice

### It is the policy of the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation that:

1. Nurses and midwives practice in therapeutic and professional relationships with individuals or a defined population group to reach and/or maintain specified and attainable health goals.
2. Nursing and midwifery practice is based on person-centred and evidence based practice and involves physical, mental, social, cultural and spiritual care as well as supporting the individual's family and friends as required.
3. Nursing and midwifery practice is provided in a variety of settings in urban, regional, rural and remote locations in both the public and private sectors, including hospitals, health, aged and community health services, general practice clinics, schools, universities, the armed forces, statutory authorities, local government, prisons, offshore territories, industry and in the home.
4. Nurses and midwives understand the importance of and incorporate into all aspects of their practice, the principles of cultural safety and respect.
5. Nursing and midwifery practice encompasses: assessment of the care of individuals and groups as well as preventative strategies to promote, maintain and improve health through;
  - planning nursing and midwifery practice;
  - implementing and delegating nursing and midwifery practice in order to achieve the best possible outcome for the individual or group;
  - providing continuity of care;
  - evaluating nursing and midwifery practice outcomes and instituting further nursing or midwifery interventions as necessary;
  - implementing research methodologies to continually advance nursing and midwifery practices; and
  - the environment.
6. The nursing and midwifery professions contribute to the development of policy on issues such as: practice, professionalism, regulation, health and aged care, community services, veterans' affairs, education, training, workforce, socio-economic welfare, occupational health and safety, industrial relations, social justice, human rights, immigration and migration, foreign affairs and law reform.
7. Not all persons with a direct or implied obligation or responsibility for caring for individuals or groups are necessarily engaged in nursing or midwifery. For example care by an unpaid carer or relative in the home environment is not considered to be nursing or midwifery.
8. Nursing and midwifery practice is undertaken by registered nurses, midwives, enrolled nurses and nurse practitioners, who are regulated to practise as nurses and midwives. Assistants in nursing are delegated aspects of nursing care by registered nurses and provide that care under the direct or indirect supervision of registered nurses. Assistants in midwifery are delegated aspects of midwifery care by midwives and provide that care under the direct or indirect supervision of midwives. <sup>1</sup>



9. Individual's practising nursing or midwifery are required to undertake relevant education and possess the appropriate accredited qualifications for registration. Registered nurses, midwives and enrolled nurses comply with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia National Standards for Practice<sup>2</sup>.

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reviewed and re-endorsed November 2008  
reviewed and re-endorsed November 2011  
reviewed and re-endorsed August 2015*

#### References

1. A National Framework for the Development of Decision-making Tools for Nursing and Midwifery Practice. September 2007.  
<http://www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au/Codes-Guidelines-Statements/Codes-Guidelines.aspx#dmf>
2. Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia Registration Standards. Available at  
<http://www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au/Registration-Standards.aspx>.