

Practice Scope of the Nurse Practitioner

Self employed and all other cases

The Practice Scope of the Nurse Practitioner is a condition of the Drug Therapy Protocol for Nurse Practitioners in Queensland. The Practice Scope relates to the position in which the nurse practitioner is employed (not the individual nurse practitioner). As such, more than one nurse practitioner may practice within the defined Practice Scope. The Drug Therapy protocol for Nurse Practitioners applies to all registered nurses who:

- hold a current endorsement as a nurse practitioner under the Health Practitioner Regulation Law Act 2009; and
- are engaged in practice as a nurse practitioner in Queensland.

The authorising legislation for the Drug Therapy Protocol for Nurse Practitioners is the Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996.

The approved practice scope will be published on the Queensland Health internet site.

Practice environment

Facilities/facility where nurse practitioner position is located

North West Private Hospital (NWPH) and Medical Center and Brisbane Private Hospital Consulting rooms

Name of Health Service

Healthy Weight Clinic, Dr P Lockie - General and Bariatric Surgeon.

Health Service address

North West Private Hospital: 137 Flockton Street, Everton Park, Brisbane.
Brisbane Private Hospital: Level 7, 258 Wickham Terrace, Brisbane.

Health Service setting

NP Clinic, Specialist rooms and Private Hospital consultation.

Clinical service capability

Weight Loss Clinic and Perioperative services

Clinical service

Specialist area of clinical nursing practice

Assessment, diagnosis, and management of obese patients and surgical patients.

Target population for service

Adult patients over the age of 16 years
Pre and post operative patients at NWPH.
Obese patients - pre surgery, IVF or medical conditions impacted by weight gain.

Major diagnostic areas and types of clinical presentations managed autonomously by the nurse practitioner service

Obesity clinic - Assessment, ordering of interventions for diagnosis of weight gain to plan individual programs of weight loss. Using guidelines and best practice to plan interventions with patient education, health promotion to change behaviour.
Pre surgery risk assessment, diagnosis and interventions to improve the outcome of surgery - this includes patient education and preventive prescribing of medication. Includes referral to specialist when outside NP scope.
Post operative monitoring, interventions and support of surgical patients in collaboration with surgeon to improve the surgical outcome of the patients by education, pain management, Post Operative Nausea and Vomiting , wound management and fluids management. This includes support and education of the surgical nursing staff as required.

Please note: The nurse practitioner will provide life saving measures as appropriate and refer when outside of the practice scope of the nurse practitioner position.

Prescribing arrangements (eligibility for PBS)

Obesity clinic - for management of comorbidities associated with weight gain and review of medication as required with weight loss. All prescribing as per guidelines, AHM, TGe, QUM, collaborative agreement and best practice for condition. Pre and post surgical prescribing will be as per guidelines, in consultation and collaboration with the surgeon.

Exclusions: A nurse practitioner must not prescribe, give a written or oral instruction or supply or administer medicines (1) that have not been approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (2) outside the terms of the manufacturer's product information ('off-label') unless sufficient evidence to demonstrate safety.

Prescribing blood and/or blood products

As per guidelines and in consultation and collaboration with surgeon for surgical patients

Included Excluded

Procedural activities required for the clinical service

Ordering of sleep studies and support of obstructive sleep apnoea patients.
Surgical assisting - including suturing and infiltration of local anaesthetic when closing surgical site.

Key clinical practice guidelines utilised by the nurse practitioner

Management of obesity, diabetes, pain, hypertension, blood transfusions, and Lipids by associated guidelines. ACORN standards for perioperative areas. Quality Use of Medicines, Australian Medicine Handbook and Therapeutic Guidelines for all prescribing with the associated guidelines. Optifast guidelines to management of Very Low Calorie Diet. Australian Resuscitation Council for management of emergency events.

Clinical service audit (annual requirement)

Evidence that the nurse practitioners clinical practice and use of medicines is audited annually by an interdisciplinary team

Clinical audit activities

Dr Phil Lockie practice - Obesity surgery completes monthly patient audits and the Healthy Weight Clinic patients will join this audit process. Healthy weight clinic patients will also complete regular customer survey and progress assessment to monitor outcomes. All practice in the private hospital will be monitored in the ISO quality system at the hospital including medication audits and chart audits. An annual quality report will be completed and submitted if requested by any governing body including the QLD NP Advisory Committee. The Healthy Weight Clinic will also participate in research activities to improve weight management practice.

* For the purpose of the Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996 and may be required to be produced to an inspector under section 153N of the Health Act 1937 .

Final Approval for self employed and all other cases

We the undersigned approve this practice scope, which has been developed by the named interdisciplinary team in accordance with the stated condition of the Drug Therapy Protocol for Nurse Practitioners and the provisions of the Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996, for the use of the named nurse practitioner(s).

Named medical practitioner	National Registration No.	Signature	Date
Dr Phil Lockie [signed 02.11.12]	MED0000966439		

Named pharmacist	National Registration No.	Signature	Date
Jacqueline Betteridge [signed 02.11.12]	PhA0001398468		

Named nurse practitioner	National Registration No.	Signature	Date
Catherine Smith [signed 02.11.12]	NMW0001434289		

	National Registration No.	Signature	Date
enter name	enter registration no.		

	National Registration No.	Signature	Date
enter name	enter registration no.		

How to submit this form

Please follow these steps to complete and submit this form:

- Type your details into the interactive fields;
- Save and print the form for consultation with the multidisciplinary team;
- Submit completed form by email using the button provided;
- Seek required signatures/approvals from the Approving Entity (Named medical officer/s, Named Pharmacist and Named nurse practitioner/s and relevant Chief Executive officer);
- Submit the original signed completed form via mail to: Nursing and Midwifery Office Queensland, GPO Box 48, Brisbane, QLD, 4001; and
- Email a scanned copy of the original signed completed form to QNPAC@health.qld.gov.au

Review period

This practice scope which has been approved by the named interdisciplinary team (the approving entity), in accordance with the condition of the Drug Therapy Protocol for Nurse Practitioners and the provisions of the Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996, is valid for a maximum period of three years from this date.

	Signature	Date
Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer	QCOS/019912 Dr F Hughes Chief Nursing & Midwifery Officer	08 / 11 / 2012

The Nursing and Midwifery Office Queensland is required to publish the approved practice scope on Queensland Health's internet site.