



AUSTRALIAN NURSE PRACTITIONERS ASSOCIATION Western Australian Chapter INFORMATION SHEET

Western Australian nurse practitioners and nurse practitioner candidates first met in February 2006, and decided to establish a Chapter of the Australian Nurse Practitioners Association (ANPA). ANPA was formed in NSW in 2004 and is affiliated with The College of Nursing.

In Western Australia, a nurse practitioner (NP) is an experienced registered nurse who is authorised to work at an advanced level of clinical practice in a designated area. This practice is based on a legislative framework requiring completion of specified postgraduate education (Masters Degree) and registration by the Nurses Board of Western Australia. According to the Guiding Framework for the Implementation of Nurse Practitioners in Western Australia¹, nurse practitioners are responsible for their own practice and “practice within the Nurse Practitioner Code of Practice 2004, and within specific policies and clinical protocols that apply to the designated area of practice”.

The purpose of ANPAWA is to provide a forum for nurse practitioners to contribute to the further development of the NP role through dissemination of information, participation in State and National decision-making, and mentoring new NPs. It is intended that a strategic plan will be developed after the ANPA constitution has been amended to formally include State Chapters (possibly later in 2006).

Participants at ANPA meetings include authorised nurse practitioners, nurse practitioners who are registered but not yet authorised to practice in a designated area, nurse practitioner students and nurses involved in nurse practitioner education. Meetings are held bi-monthly.

Enquiries about the ANPAWA are welcome and should be directed to the Secretary, Bev Scott, at bevms@inet.net.au

¹ <http://www.ocno.health.wa.gov.au/practitioner/index.cfm>