

Nursing and Midwifery Council Circular

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Replaces: It will replace NMC Circular 28/2006 which will be withdrawn with immediate effect.

Category: Public Health/ District Nurse/V100 Prescribing Information and Upload
Status: Action

Title:

Integrated V100 prescribing within Specialist Community Public Health Nursing Programmes and SPQ District Nurse Upload

For Action by: Higher Education Institutes
Student Nurses
Nurse Preceptors

For Information to: Directors of Nursing

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Summary

- The NMC has the responsibility to set standards for educational practice for programmes leading to registration and for prescribing qualifications.
- The Circular follows a Council decision to enable V100 prescribing from the community practitioner formulary to be an optional part of the programme for all students undertaking the specialist community public health nursing programme irrelevant of the pathway. Although the majority of health visitors will continue to undertake the V100 element of the programme it is no longer mandatory. HEI's should note in the future they should upload the RSCPHN and the V100 programme separately.
- It will replace NMC Circular 28/2006 which will be withdrawn with immediate effect.
- This circular should be read in conjunction with the Standards of Proficiency for nurse/midwife prescribers and the standards of proficiency for specialist community public health nursing.

Integrated V100 prescribing within Specialist Community Public Health Nursing Programmes and SPQ District Nurse Upload

Paragraphs describing the detail of the circular 'Educational preparation to prescribe from the Community Practitioner Prescribers Formulary' have been integrated within health visiting programmes since its introduction in 1999. The 'Standards of Proficiency for Specialist Community Public Health Nursing' (NMC, 2004) came into effect on 1 August 2004. The standards replace the Specialist Practice Qualifications in health visiting, school nursing, occupational health and family health nursing.

Following discussion at the Specialist Community Public Health Nursing Committee the NMC have agreed that it should be optional for any registrant who undertakes the programme of preparation as a specialist community public health practitioner to undertake the integrated V100 prescribing programme. Commissioners of programmes may choose for all practitioners on any pathway to undertake V100 prescribing preparation if they so wish.

This decision will come into immediate effect, however commissioners should be mindful when commissioning programmes that some job descriptions for health visitors include prescribing from the community practitioner formulary.

Where registrants are undertaking a specialist practitioner qualification in district nursing, this will continue to incorporate V100 prescribing as a mandatory element of the programme. District Nurses with a V100 qualification should continue to be uploaded as a combined qualification SDNP (DN).

Action Required

- HEI's should be aware that V100 prescribing can be offered as an optional part of the RSCPHN programme for all pathways
- On uploading the qualification of RSCPHN this should be uploaded separately to the V100 prescribing qualification.
- SPQ in District Nursing with V100 prescribing remain as an integrated upload

This circular may be reproduced by all to whom it is addressed

This circular has been issued by:

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