

## **Domains of Practice**

There are 6 Standards; grouped under the four Domains defined in the *Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council's National Competency Standards for the Registered Nurse* (2006). These are:

- Domain 1: Professional practice
- Domain 2: Provision and co-ordination of care
- Domain 3: Collaborative and therapeutic practice
- Domain 4: Critical thinking and analysis

## **Domain 1: Professional practice**

### **Standard 1**

#### **Demonstrates and maintains specialist knowledge in ophthalmic nursing**

##### **Element 1.1**

Demonstrates a specialist body of knowledge and clinical expertise in the provision of patient centred nursing care

##### **Performance Criteria**

- Demonstrates specialist body of knowledge and clinical expertise in the provision of care to a range of ophthalmic patients; including knowledge of:
  - Anatomy and physiology of the eye and orbit that have the potential for ocular damage across the life span
  - Healing processes in relation to the eye and vision and their connection to general health
  - Abnormal ocular pathology
  - Pathophysiological presentation of conditions
  - Signs and symptoms of common ophthalmic conditions
  - Ophthalmic management and surgical procedures
  - Impact of the senses, particularly vision in the communication process
  - Vision care technologies and surgical equipment, eg: diagnostic equipment, low vision aides
- Demonstrates an understanding of visual function, including
  - Normal vision
  - Vision loss and vision impairment
  - Principles of quality of life assessment for visual impairment, including the emotional and psychological aspects of vision

## **Standard 2**

### **Engages in legal and ethical nursing practice**

#### **Element 2.1**

Demonstrates specialist knowledge and understanding of legal and ethical principles in the provision of nursing care

#### **Performance Criteria**

- Applies knowledge of current legislation interfacing with ophthalmic practice, and in line with recognized international standards, including:
  - Documentation using internationally standardized ophthalmic terminology
  - Consent processes
  - The supply, administration and management of ophthalmic medications.
- Demonstrates knowledge of legislative definitions and requirements of persons with vision loss and associated limitations on their careers
- Provides safe surroundings, particularly related to vision impairment, mobility and visual functioning
- Maintains a safe environment by adhering to guidelines and regulations applicable to the area of practice, for example hazardous substances (cytotoxics), laser and radiation safety
- Understands and complies with infection control standards, including those pertaining to Creutzfeldt – Jakob disease (CJD)
- Undertakes mandatory reporting of ophthalmic conditions as required
- Participates in activities to ensure standards of care are maintained eg. appraisals, peer review, file audits and other quality improvement activities
- Informs management of deficits and participates in the development and review of policies and procedures

## **Domain 2: Provision and co-ordination of care**

### **Standard 3**

#### **Manages patient's ophthalmic health care**

##### **Element 6.1**

Provides evidence based Ophthalmic Nursing care

##### **Performance Criteria**

- Assesses, plans, implements and evaluates evidence based nursing care, including:
  - Assessment of the needs of the visually impaired person
  - Accurate history taking
  - Adjusting assessment; taking into account the life span, gender and culture of the presenting patient
  - Assessment of the ability and motivation of the patient/carer to manage care
  - Demonstration of effective techniques in eye examination
  - Assessment of visual function
- Assimilates the information gathered at assessment to provide a rationale for clinical decision making
- Administers and provides advice on pharmacology of commonly used drugs
- Engages in patient teaching
- Understands the possible effects of an eye condition on a person, their family and their carer
- Operates a range of equipment
- Demonstrates awareness of organizational policies and guidelines relating to clinical practice

## **Domain 3: Collaborative and therapeutic practice**

### **Standard 4**

#### **Engages in health promotion and education activities**

##### **Element 3.1**

Provides education and health promotion activities in the ophthalmic setting

##### **Performance Criteria**

- Acts proactively as an educator and resource person for less experienced staff
- Shares information and ideas in ophthalmic practice
- Assesses, plans, develops, implements and evaluates health promotion activities
- Facilitates care/support groups for individuals
- Participates collaboratively in education and health promotion activities
- Answers inquiries about current practice in ophthalmic care

## **Domain 4: Critical thinking and analysis**

### **Standard 5**

#### **Acts to enhance the continual development of individual practice and that of the specialty**

##### **Element 4.1**

Engages in critical review/enhancement of individual practice and that of the specialty of ophthalmic nursing

##### **Performance Criteria**

- Contributes to the development of ophthalmic care and knowledge through reflection on practice
- Engages in peer review/supervision
- Participates in professional development and clinical leadership activities
- Participates in and initiates the development of policy and guidelines to improve care in line with the latest available evidence
- Develops and maintains a professional portfolio
- Participates in and supports quality improvement processes and incorporates outcomes into nursing practice
- Promotes a supportive collegial environment, eg. Nursing networking
- Responds to issues identified through performance review activities eg. Reflective practice, peer review, supervision of case studies
- Evaluates actions implemented through performance review activities
- Provides advice and constructive criticism to others where appropriate

##### **Element 4.2**

Contributes to the enhancement and clinical leadership of the ophthalmic specialty

##### **Performance Criteria**

- Participates in the activities of professional organisations
- Increases the profile of ophthalmic nursing, eg. Conference presentations and journal articles
- Collaborates and networks with other health professionals/service providers and organisations
- Acts as a mentor

## **Standard 6**

### **Advancing the specialist body of knowledge in Ophthalmic Nursing**

#### **Element 5.1**

Engages in research activities to advance Ophthalmic Nursing

#### **Performance Criteria**

- Identifies issues/problems in ophthalmic practice as the basis for review and research
- Critically evaluates existing evidence for relevance to practice
- Participates in the implementation of changes to clinical practice based on the outcomes of the evidence, eg. development of clinical guidelines
- Participates in the evaluation of changes to clinical practice
- Disseminates the outcomes of research findings, eg. Journal club

#### **Element 5.2**

Participates in the evaluation of competency standards for Ophthalmic Nursing practice

#### **Performance Criteria**

- Accesses competency standards to inform practice, professional development and as an educational resource
- Accesses competency standards to develop specialty clinical skills assessment tools