

## WHY BECOME A MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER?

A Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (MHNP) is a registered nurse with specialist skills and education that enables them to provide quality mental health care.

The expanded skills of a MHNP includes:

- Advanced biopsychosocial assessment
- Diagnosis and treatment of health conditions
- Clinical investigations which can involve ordering and interpreting pathology and other diagnostic tests
- Prescribing medications
- Referral to medical specialists
- Sickness certificates

MHNP services can assist with recovery goals and during times of crisis and transition. MHNPs are able to offer interventions and support in partnership with families, significant others, and the community.



**Mental Health Nurse Practitioners are educated at a Master's Degree level with extensive clinical training, a minimum of 5000 hours of advanced practice nursing, and endorsed by AHPRA to function autonomously and collaboratively in advanced and extended clinical roles.**

**Nurse Practitioner is a protected title in legislation, endorsed and regulated by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia, AHPRA.**

For more information:

**Australian College of Mental Health Nurses**  
[www.acmhn.org](http://www.acmhn.org)

**Australian College of Nurse Practitioners**  
[www.acnp.org.au](http://www.acnp.org.au)

**Australian Health Practitioner Registration Agency**  
[www.ahpra.gov.au](http://www.ahpra.gov.au)



**Australian College**  
**of Mental Health Nurses**



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**of Mental Health Nurses**

## MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER

Offering an affordable, quality choice in specialist mental health care in the public, private and primary health care systems.



## ENHANCING MENTAL HEALTH

- MHNPs can improve access to mental health services in private hospitals, your home, health clinics and medical practices, community agencies, schools or the nurse practitioner's private consulting rooms.
- Medicare rebates are available when you receive nurse practitioner services outside the public health system.
- A MHNP can prescribe your medications under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.
- Direct access with no referral needed for MHNPs in primary care.
- Unlimited MBS-rebated consultations.



### PHYSICAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

Wholistic advance assessment, clinical investigations, diagnosis & prescribing

### EMOTIONAL & PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH

MHNPs have advance therapeutic skills in a wide range of talk based therapies

## MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER

### SOCIAL HEALTH

MHNPs work with individuals, families, couples and groups

### ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

MHNPs work collaboratively with doctors, health professionals, multiple services and settings

