



Workforce Development Project: Postgraduate Education Pathway for Occupational Health Nurses

After almost 18 months of work the NZOHNA Education and Career Pathway team are thrilled to inform you that we have an expression of interest from Massey University ('The University') to develop a new postgraduate course in the specialty of Occupational Health Nursing. The University has proposed a specific postgraduate pathway for nurses who want to become Nurse Practitioners - Master of Nursing (NP). The Master of Nursing degree has flexibility and allows alternative pathways to, for example, registered nurse prescribing or clinical occupational health and safety management.

We are in the initial stages of discussions but we, and the University, are committed to collaborating on the pathways and development of content for the new postgraduate Occupational Health Nursing course in 2022. The intention is to offer this course in 2023. Development will occur with planned consultation at multiple stages. Massey University has a 'Recognition of Prior Learning' policy, which will allow OHNs to have their previous courses assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Stair casing qualifications (see below) - nurses can exit at any stage of the path.

Postgraduate Certificate in Nursing: in OHN, 2 postgraduate courses (60 credits). A blended learning approach, which will include online and in-person attendance.

Courses: 168.000 OH Nursing Practice (to be developed in 2022) and 168.731 Advanced Occupational Health and Safety (available, with specific revisions in 2022 for OHNs).

Postgraduate Diploma in Nursing: in OHN, 4 postgraduate courses (120 credits). A blended learning approach, which will include online and in-person attendance.

Courses: 168.000 Occupational Health Nursing Practice; 168.731 Advanced Occupational Health and Safety; 168.733 Physiology and Pathophysiology; and 168.728 Assessment and Clinical Decision-Making (which will accommodate OHNs practice and experience).

Registered Nurse Prescribing: in OHN, an additional 60 credits is required for RN prescribing, which could be situated within a Master of Nursing or by enrolling in a separate Postgraduate Certificate. Courses: 168.734 Clinical Pharmacology and 168.750 Prescribing & Advanced Practice for Nurse Practitioners.

Master of Nursing: in OHN (240 credits): Postgraduate Diploma: in OHN (120 credits); plus 168.713 Evidence-Based Practice or 168.711 Health Research Design & Methods (30 credits); plus 168.734 Clinical Pharmacology (if considering RN prescribing) or another 30 credit course, such as Long Term Conditions or Primary Health Care; plus a final 60 credits: 168.861 Clinical Project for Nurses or 168.890 Research Report (required for a PhD pathway).

Master of Nursing (Nurse Practitioner):

Nurses on the NP pathway must have already completed the following postgraduate courses: 168.728 Assessment and Clinical Decision-Making (30 credits); 168.733 Physiology and Pathophysiology (30 credits); 168.734 Clinical Pharmacology (30 credits); 168.713 Evidence-Based Practice (or variation) or 168.711 Health Research Design and Methods (30 credits); plus: two additional elective courses: 168.000 Occupational Health Nursing and 168.731 Advanced Occupational Health and Safety. The final step is the Master of Nursing (NP) is course: 168.860 Prescribing and Advanced Practice for Nurse Practitioners (60 credits), which includes 300 hours clinical practicum component.

After students have completed the MN (NP) degree they must apply to the Nursing Council of New Zealand to become a Nurse Practitioner, submit a portfolio and be assessed against the competencies for NP and pay the required fee.

A **doctoral (PhD) programme** is also offered by the School of Nursing.

The Education and Career Pathway Project team will continue to keep you informed of progress. We will be seeking interest from OHN to participate in development and/or review of new OHN course. Massey University recognises the knowledge, skills and experience within the OHN specialisation and want to partner with us.

We encourage you all to think about how you would like to progress your nursing education and have a look at the Massey University Post Graduate Nursing School website.

https://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/explore/nursing/nursing-home.cfm?gclid=Cj0KCQiAkNiMBhCxARIsAIDDKNVDCpkFzfnzye2mDTN02-A5AxCSfBVYTwu-VBKxgtM2nnljh3EPtpoaApsXEALw_wcB&gclidsrc=aw.ds

This is an exciting for the NZOHNA and the future of Occupational Health Nursing. If you think you might consider enrolling in the new OHN course in 2023 or 2024, we would like to hear from you. Specifically, what advice would you give us? Do you have any reservations? Your views are important and will help us work with Massey University to provide nursing education that meets your needs. Please refer any comments or questions to nicky@nzohna.org.nz .

Thank you for your time and consideration.