

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

---

## NATIONAL DIABETES NURSING KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS FRAMEWORK

---

# 2009



These frequently asked questions provide the latest information regarding the development and implementation of the NDNKSF.

1. What is the NDNKSF?
2. Why is the NDNKSF needed?
3. What is included in the NDNKSF?
4. When and how will it be available?
5. Which nurses should engage in the NDNKSF?
6. Is it mandatory?
7. What are the employers obligations?
8. What is the cost?
9. Who will assess?
10. How will the framework be monitored and evaluated?
11. What is the role of Diabetes Nurse Specialist section of the New Zealand Nurses?
12. How does it link with the Nursing Council of New Zealand Competencies for Registration?

## 1. WHAT IS THE National Diabetes Nursing Knowledge and Skills Framework (NDKSF)?

---

All nurses, regardless of practice setting, are likely to have contact with people with diabetes. The NDNKSF provides an outline of the specific knowledge and skills registered nurses need to provide care and education for people with diabetes. The NDNKSF is not a programme – rather, it is a toolkit to guide the professional development of nurses working with people with diabetes.

## 2. WHY IS THE NDNKSF NEEDED?

---

In 2000, the estimated number of people in New Zealand with known diabetes was 115,000, and this was predicted to increase to over 160,000 by 2021 (Health Funding Authority, 2000). Diabetes is a major contribution to inequalities in life expectancy and compromised health outcomes particularly for Maori, Pacific peoples and Asian populations. Current local and national data indicates that management of diabetes could be significantly improved. Peoples' knowledge of diabetes and its management depends, to a large extent, on the quality of the diabetes-related care they receive. As the largest health workforce group, nurses require a fundamental level of knowledge and skills related to diabetes, in order to provide up to date care and education, and contribute to improved health outcomes for this client group.

## 3. WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE NDNKSF?

---

The NDNKSF contains :

- National Diabetes Nursing Knowledge and Skills Framework
- Quality Monitoring Framework and Health Gains
- Treatment and Management Guidelines
- Orientation and Professional Development Principles
- Fundamental knowledge and Skills for
  - All Nurses
  - Nurses who Provide Regular Care to People at Risk of or With Diabetes or Who Are Entering the Specialty
  - Nurses Providing Care for People with Diabetes who are at High Risk
  - Specialist Diabetes Nurses: Clinical Nurse Specialist/Diabetes Nurse Leaders
- Clinical Indicators
- Continuing Education Resources
- Websites for General Information

## 4. WHEN AND HOW WILL THE NDNKSF BE AVAILABLE?

---

The NDNKSF will be launched mid-February 2009. It will then be available:

- in hard copy by emailing [diabetes@midcentraldhb.govt.nz](mailto:diabetes@midcentraldhb.govt.nz) Cost \$15 inc GST
- on the web :

<http://www.nzno.org.nz/Site/Sections/Sections/diabetes/diabetes.aspx>

<http://www.nzssd.org.nz>

<http://www.midcentraldhb.govt.nz> - Nursing page

## 5. WHICH NURSES SHOULD ENGAGE IN THE NDNKSF?

---

It is recommended that:

- All nurses complete the 'Fundamental Knowledge and Skills' section of the framework.

- Nurses who provide regular care to people at risk of or with diabetes or who are entering the specialty should complete the 'Generalist Diabetes Nurse' section of the framework, as well as the Fundamental Knowledge and Skills section of the framework.
- Nurses who provide care for people with diabetes who are at high risk should complete the Specialty Diabetes Nurse section of the framework, as well as the Generalist Diabetes Nurse and the Fundamental Knowledge and Skills sections of the framework.
- Clinical nurse specialists/diabetes nurse leaders should complete the Specialist Diabetes Nurse section of the framework, as well as the Specialty Diabetes Nurse, Generalist Diabetes Nurse, and Fundamental Knowledge and Skills sections of the framework (see Figure 1).

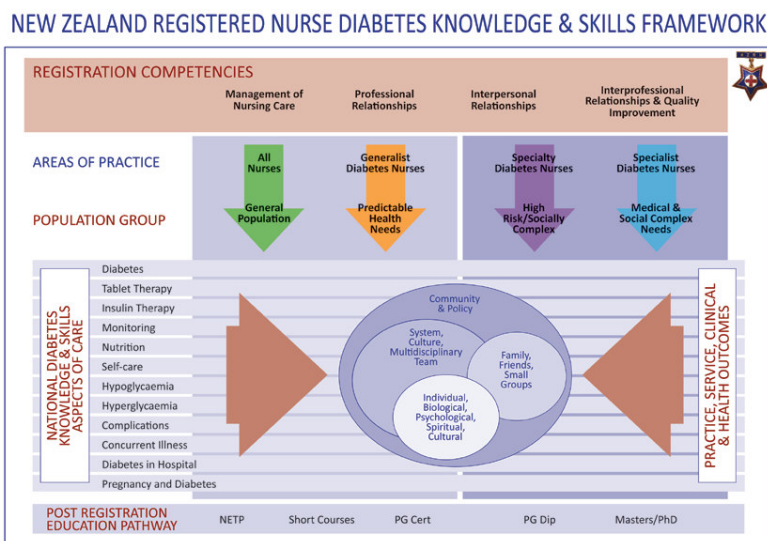


FIGURE 1 NATIONAL DIABETES NURSING KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS FRAMEWORK

## 6. IS IT MANDATORY?

For the majority of nurses, attainment of the knowledge and skills within the NDNKSF is recommended but not mandatory. However, if attainment of the knowledge and skills within the NDNKSF is identified in the National Service Specifications for Diabetes: Tier One and/or Tier Two, then the employer and nurse will be required to abide by the requirements of these Specifications.

## 7. WHAT ARE THE EMPLOYERS OBLIGATIONS?

Nurses require access to ongoing professional development opportunities to enable them to develop the level of knowledge and skills in diabetes care that they require within their area of practice. The nature and scope of the learning experience each individual nurse requires will be determined by the level of capability required. It is the responsibility of the employer and the nurse to identify and source relevant professional development opportunities that will assist them to meet the knowledge and skills within the NDNKSF.

## 8. WHAT IS THE COST OF THE NDNKSF?

The NDNKSF costs \$15 inc GST for a hard copy or can be obtained free from the websites as above.

## **9. WHO WILL ASSESS ?**

---

It is the responsibility of the nurse, the employer and/or the provider of the education programme (be it the organization or a tertiary education provider) to identify how knowledge and skills within the NDNKSF will be assessed and by whom. It is recommended that assessment is conducted by a health practitioner at a similar or higher level of practice. For nurses at Specialty or Specialist level, assessment can be conducted as part of the Diabetes Nurse Specialist section of the New Zealand Nurses Organisation (DNSS NZNO.) For further information and costs, contact <http://www.nzno.org.nz/Site/Sections/Sections/diabetes/diabetes.aspx>

## **10. HOW WILL THE FRAMEWORK BE MONITORED AND EVALUATED?**

---

The monitoring and evaluation process will be developed to include uptake, completion of and satisfaction with the NDNKSF.

## **11. WHAT IS THE ROLE OF DIABETES NURSE SPECIALIST SECTION OF THE NEW ZEALAND NURSES ORGANISATION?**

---

The DNSs of NZNO has endorsed this Diabetes Nursing Knowledge and Skills Framework as a national document. They see it as providing an important platform for nurses to demonstrate their level of knowledge in diabetes nursing practice, and one that should be used in conjunction with their national accreditation process. The DNSs of NZNO will maintain oversight of the roll out, uptake and review of the NDNKSF.

## **12. HOW DOES IT LINK WITH THE NURSING COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND (NCNZ) COMPETENCIES FOR REGISTRATION?**

---

The NDNKSF cross references each aspect of care and level of knowledge and skill to the Nursing Council of New Zealand (NCNZ) competencies for registration. This can provide evidence of Professional Development hours and competency for renewal of Annual Practicing Certificates.