



IMMUNISATION  
COALITION



## Primary Care and Vaccination: A nurse perspective

1:20 pm

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# Primary Care and Vaccination: A nurse perspective



## Declarations

Advisory Board Member – Seqirus, Pfizer, GSK, Sanofi, MSD, Moderna

Honoraria received from the mentioned companies

Immunisation Coalition - Member

Immunisation Coordinator - Adelaide PHN

# Primary Care and Vaccination: A nurse perspective

## WHO definition of 'Nursing and Midwifery'

Nursing encompasses autonomous and collaborative care of individuals of all ages, families, groups and communities, sick or well and in all settings.

It includes the promotion of health, the prevention of illness, and the care of ill, disabled and dying people.

Nurses play a critical role in health care and are often the unsung heroes in health care facilities and emergency response.

They are often the first to detect health emergencies and work on the front lines of disease prevention and the delivery of primary health care, including promotion, prevention, treatment and rehabilitation.

# Primary Care and Vaccination: A nurse perspective



Florence Nightingale



WE  
Can't Do What  
WE  
do without  
YOU!

# Primary Care and Vaccination: A nurse perspective

- Residential health care
- Community health care
- General Practice
- Correctional facilities
- Schools and Colleges
- Aboriginal health services
- Australian defence forces



# Primary Care and Vaccination: A nurse perspective

The 2022 APNA Workforce Survey identified<sup>1</sup>:

- 3 of the top 5 daily activities PHC nurses perform involve the immunisation program:
  - Immunisation cold chain management
  - Adult immunisation administration and management
  - Use of recall/reminder systems



How many vaccines do PHC nurses administer?

# Primary Care and Vaccination: A nurse perspective

- Nurses have a lot of touchpoints with patients
  - Planned health checks
  - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health checks
  - Chronic disease management plans/Health assessments
  - Wound care
  - Cervical screening
- Seed planter: opportunities to have discussions about vaccination
  - overcome hesitancy

# Primary Care and Vaccination: A nurse perspective

- Registered Nurses can (AND SHOULD) vaccinate using a standing medication order where legislation permits → nurse-led vaccination clinics (no involvement of GP's)
  - Convenience for patient
  - Free up GPs time for other patient visits that require MO review
  - **The downside..... Current funding model controls MBS claiming**
- Nurses are educated on childhood and adult vaccination
  - Standard expectation that nurses can vaccinate
  - Nurses attend immunisation education events



## Primary Care and Vaccination: A nurse perspective

### Primary care nurses:

- guarantee the safe storage and administration of vaccines
- contribute to promoting vaccination and increasing vaccine uptake
- help design and conduct efficient vaccination campaigns
- have been a crucial factor for the success of routine and pandemic
- are problem solvers/solution finders
- are one of the most trusted health care professionals
- **Nurses are an integral part of the PHC team**



# Primary Care and Vaccination: A nurse perspective



In summary:

Nurses form the backbone of Australia's primary health care (PHC) system and are fundamental to ensuring the health and wellbeing of the Australian population.

**NURSES**  
**may not be**  
**ANGELS,**  
**but they are the next**  
**BEST THING**