

Differentiating the Diabetes Registered Nurse Prescriber and the Nurse Practitioner – Diabetes & related conditions.

	RN with prescribing	Nurse Practitioner
Regulated scope of practice	Registered nurse	Nurse Practitioner
Expanded practice?	No as prescribing is covered by legislation	N/A
Spectrum of practice* See appendix A	Nursing practice utilising proficient nursing knowledge and complex nursing judgement to assess health needs and provide care, and to advise and support people to manage their health to people with defined health conditions (NZ NNO Glossary of terms, 2011)	Nursing practice incorporating expert knowledge and skills whilst providing independent speciality services for a wide range of conditions within a specific area of practice
Academic preparation	Two level 8 postgraduate papers. Six-twelve week prescribing practicum in practice* subject to change	Master of Nursing Degree, including full semester prescribing practicum
Diagnostic ordering	By arrangement	By right.
Medical diagnosis	Provisional	Definitive and differential
Prescribing range	Supervised prescribing from a limited formulary (26) of medicines	Independent prescribing from extensive formulary (1379) of medicines
Supervision	Requires supervision of medical diagnosing and prescribing (primarily through retrospective case review)	No supervision required
Autonomy/professional accountability	Autonomous practice/full accountability	Extended autonomy and authority & full accountability
Purchase units	Nurse-led (NL) Clinic; Education and Management	First Specialist Assessment; Follow up, NL Clinic
NCNZ requirement for practising certificate renewal	Annual assessment of prescribing competence by authorised prescriber	Three yearly assessment against NP competencies by prescribing peer

Appendix A	Spectrum of prescribing practice for RN practising in diabetes health	Nurse Practitioner diabetes and related conditions across the lifespan
Regulated scope of practice	Registered nurse	Nurse Practitioner
Prescribing range	Can prescribe a limited range of medicines for people with diabetes with known health conditions under supervision of authorised prescriber:	Can independently diagnose and prescribe full range of medicines relevant to each of these conditions (inclusive but not limited to):
Examples of range of conditions	<p>Glycaemia – prescribing limited to insulins, sulphonylureas and biguanide</p> <p>Hypertension – prescribing limited to thiazide diuretic, ace inhibitors, angiotension receptor blockers and calcium channel blockers</p> <p>Dyslipidaemia – prescribing limited to statins</p> <p>Blood glucose testing strips and meters</p> <p>Insulin needles and pen needles</p> <p>GlucaGen Hypokit</p>	<p>Glycaemia</p> <p>Diabetes in pregnancy</p> <p><u>Microvascular disease</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nephropathy • Retinopathy • Peripheral neuropathy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pain management • Autonomic neuropathies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Postural hypotension ○ Gastroparesis ○ Gustatory sweating ○ Neurogenic bladder ○ Sexual dysfunction <p>Gum, mouth and dental disease</p> <p>Diabetes specific skin conditions</p> <p><u>Macrovascular disease</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hypertension • Dyslipidaemia • Cerebrovascular • Peripheral vascular <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ulcers <p><u>Common co-existing conditions:</u></p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anxiety, distress &/or depression • Obstructive sleep apnoea • Gout • Polycystic ovary syndrome • Urinary tract infections • Carpel tunnel syndrome • Gastroesophageal reflux • Coeliac disease • Primary hypothyroidism • Pernicious anaemia • Addison's disease <p><u>Conditions or their treatments commonly contributing to hyperglycaemia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease & asthma • Cancer • Cystic fibrosis • Cushing's syndrome • Pancreatitis
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