



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MELBOURNE

Department of  
General Practice  
and Primary Care



# Graduate Certificate in Primary Care Nursing

## About the Course

Developed by experienced Primary Care Nurses and General Practitioners, the Graduate Certificate in Primary Care Nursing offers tailored and relevant education for Nurses working in the Australian Primary Care Setting.

This course will assist nurses to develop and consolidate professional and clinical knowledge in chronic disease management and preventive health. The elective offers nurses the chance to explore a specialty related to primary care. Examples of electives include immunisation, sexual health, youth health, mental health or women's health. The course complements previous workplace experience and reflects the latest policy and practice developments in Primary Care.

## Outcomes

Completion of the Graduate Certificate provides nurses with the clinical skills and theoretical knowledge to increase their scope of practice and provide comprehensive and evidence-based patient care.

A Graduate Certificate is required for entry into the Master of Nursing programs including the Nurse Practitioner program at the University of Melbourne.

The elective Nurse Immuniser (GENP90017) has been assessed by Health Education Services Australia (HESA) as meeting the curriculum content requirements of the National Immunisation Education Framework for Health Professionals (National Framework). The subject is recognised as a nurse immuniser program of study in all states.

Please note that some states require nurses to undertake further competencies prior to practicing as an immuniser. Students can complete an optional clinical placement at a local immunisation venue. This must be arranged by the student.

## Course Structure

The Graduate Certificate in Primary care Nursing is a 50-credit point, part-time, coursework program consisting of three core subjects and one elective subject. It can be completed on a full time (six months) or part-time basis (1-2 years).

The course has been developed for nurses working in primary care or transitioning to this area of practice. It can be completed fully online depending on the choice of elective.

Subjects that include a clinical audit or patient interview as a component of the assessment will require students to have clinical contact with patients in a primary care setting.



## Selection Criteria

Applicants must have:

- completed a three year degree in nursing (or approved equivalent in hospital training)
- a minimum of one year full time clinical practice as a Registered Nurse (Div 1)
- National Registration as a Division 1 Nurse

## Enrolment Requirements

Where a clinical placement is required students must comply with the Faculty Policy.



Single subjects can be taken via the Community Access Program (CAP)

