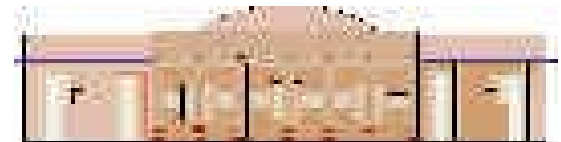
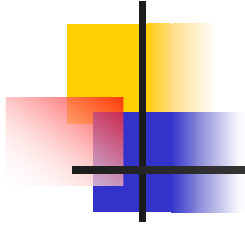


PRACTICE NURSES ...
THEIR CRITICAL ROLE in
EVERY GENERAL PRACTICE

Dr Milton Hart

Trish Taylor RN





-
- St Agnes Surgery background
 - Roles of our practice nurses
 - Trish – the nurses perspective
 - How to make it work / pay
 - More comprehensive and ?complex range of services
 - Future directions

St Agnes and Tea Tree Surgeries



Our team





Our nurses – their roles....

- Clinical support for the GP
- Telephone and emergency triage
- Patient education
- Treatment area management
- Specific programs esp CDM
- Direct service provision



Clinical support for the GP

- Working under direction and supervision of the GP...
- Vital signs (bp, temp, wt, ht, vision, urinalysis, BSLs)
- ECGs, spirometry, ear syringes, dressings, audiometry, venepuncture, injections / immunisation, nebuliser
- Chaperone, monitoring unwell patients, assisting minor surgery, ROS

Telephone triage and patient education



- Phone triage – urgent / uncertain
- Triage within the surgery
- Education – asthma, BSL monitoring, wound care, home care (gastro, fever etc)



Treatment area management

- Large, complex treatment areas (7 treatment rooms, 2 nurse stations and 11 consulting rooms)
- Meeting standards (cold chain, DDA's etc)
- Sterilisation
- Stock management incl ordering
- Maintenance of treatment areas – education materials, samples, vaccines, doctors bags etc



Specific programs esp CDM

- Diabetes mini-clinic
- Asthma program
- Senior's (aged) assessments incl home visiting
- Enuresis program
- CVD program

Direct service provision



- Well Baby Clinic incl Immunisation
- Wound Management and Immunisation Clinic incl spirometry, ecg's etc



Trish Taylor RN ---

- The nurse's point of view



Making it work...

- Adequate treatment area and equipment
- Adequate training – general practice needs are unique
- Self funding either ..
 - Directly (new items, spirometry etc)
 - More complex care (minor surgery, EPC)
 - * Frees GP time to see additional patients



Comprehensive Care ...

- General practice team (more than nurses + doctors)
- Coordinator / service accessor also key
- Comprehensive care, manage higher acuity – almost low level hospital emergency, OPD



The future for General Practice

- Systematic, comprehensive, evidence based quality care
- Provided by a practice team in which the practice nurse is integral
- Nurses providing increasing range of CDM and independent activities (standing orders, defined protocols)
- Need more funding – directly or via additional specified services (e.g. PBS listed injections)
- ? The solution to the workforce shortage.



Practice nurses ...

- We couldn't survive without them!

- www.stagnessurgery.com.au

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