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| FACTSHEET: NURSE PRACTITIONER TRAINING | March 2025 |

**Description:**

Up to 120 nurses will be funded to train as nurse practitioners specialising in primary care, supporting more nurses to upskill.

# Expected benefits:

* Nurse practitioners will be able contribute even more to health care in communities.
* This initiative provides incentives to nurses to upskill.
* Nurse practitioners can provide complex care to patients and prescribe medicines, helping reduce workforce pressures in primary and community health care.
* This supports better continuity of care for patients and shorter wait times.
* New Zealanders will have better access to care in their communities, particularly in rural settings. Nurse practitioners may be the lead carer in some settings.

# Facts and figures:

* This initiative will cost $34.245 million over five years.
* Nurse practitioners are a fast-growing workforce, with 859 registered as of December 2024 working across the New Zealand health system, more than one-third of them in primary health care.
* Nurse practitioners complement the work of specialist GPs.
* The incentive payment will cover nurse practitioner training support, course-related costs as well as costs such as employer costs to backfill nurses, clinical supervision, study time, and mentoring.